The School of Information Studies is on a mission to advance knowledge and prepare students from diverse backgrounds to be successful information professionals. Our goal is to elevate our status as a premier, international information school that shapes knowledge and information technology through cutting-edge research and informative teaching.

We value community and encourage collaboration among colleagues, students, community members, practitioners, and organizations. We value research that expands our knowledge, methods, theories, techniques, paradigms, and applications. We value excellence in everything we do, from research and teaching to service and reflection. We value education as we shape students to be lifelong learners. We value innovation in our work and in our service. And we value respect for the diverse roles, voices, and contributions of each member of the school and community.

This campaign will fortify our strong position as a leader among our peers, and it will provide more opportunities to students who are eager to learn and grow. Your support of this campaign will help empower a new generation to disseminate knowledge and share ideas.

Tomas A. Lipinski, Dean

CAMPAIGN GOAL: $1.5 MILLION
THE POWER OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Students are our top priority at UWM, and scholarships often play an integral part in their success. Through this campaign, we aim to strengthen our student assistance and bring our school’s scholarship support in line with the national average. A key priority of this campaign, scholarships for undergraduates and graduate students provide critical support to those in need and help us attract and retain promising scholars seeking a career as information professionals. Scholarships, which may be awarded based on academic achievement or financial need, help our school stand out in an increasingly competitive world.

GOAL FOR STUDENT SUPPORT: $500,000

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS
Make a contribution or a planned gift to fully endow a scholarship fund and name it after yourself, a loved one, a mentor, or an esteemed faculty member.

EXISTING SCHOLARSHIPS
Help a new generation of students achieve success by giving to the same scholarship you once received, or fortify an existing scholarship that reflects your interests and passions.

CURRENT-USE SCHOLARSHIPS
Establish a fund to be used immediately to provide scholarship support for a specific amount of time, such as three to five years.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT
Provide internships and professional mentoring opportunities that allow students to gain real-world insight and experience in their chosen field.

LIFE-CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES

Molly Dunlap Scheibler toured UWM with her high school son and decided she would be the one to enroll here. After 25 years, she was back in a university classroom, pursuing her Master of Library and Information Science degree. Because she lives in Illinois, Scheibler spends a significant amount of time each week commuting to campus. Thanks to scholarships, she’s able to work less so she can devote the extra time to pursuing her education.

“Scholarships made it possible for me to pursue my master’s degree at UWM. These generous donors truly change lives.”
MOLLY DUNLAP SCHEIBLER ‘17

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"If it weren’t for scholarships, there would be no way for me to take the classes I wanted because they were only offered on-site," Scheibler says. "I am so grateful to have received the STAR Scholarship, which allowed me to enjoy the true student experience. It’s been life-changing."

Changing lives is exactly what alumna Mary McAndrews set out to do when she created a scholarship at the School of Information Studies. A former English teacher and current librarian of Milwaukee’s Irish Cultural and Heritage Center, McAndrews explains, “I went to a UWM graduation recently, and I saw such a variety of people who were tremendously excited about being the first in their families to achieve degrees. I want to help UWM give this opportunity to more students.”

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“The need for scholarships is so great. One’s donation might feel like a drop in the bucket, but eventually all of those drops fill the bucket.”
MARY MCANDREWS ‘76
LEADERS IN RESEARCH

The faculty of the School of Information Studies is renowned for its productive research activity. Our interdisciplinary community of scholars ranks second in the U.S. and Canada—and fourth in the world—for its contribution to library and information science literature. Our students are encouraged to conduct research of their own, furthering the creation of new knowledge within our field.

Our school houses several research centers and groups designed to stimulate inquiry and advance discoveries within a variety of disciplines. Philanthropic support helps promote the work being done by the Center for Information Policy Research, the Research Group for Information Retrieval, the Knowledge Organization Research Group, and the Social Studies of Information Research Group.

Support for research is critical to maintaining our high rankings, retaining our excellent faculty members, and attracting new scholars to our faculty.

PROFESSORSHIPS

Endowed professorships provide perpetual income for faculty salaries and associated expenses, such as research costs, activities, and conference support. A great honor to the faculty member, professorships allow the school to direct money that would have been spent on salaries toward other school needs.

FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowships are awarded to promising faculty members or guest lecturers for a designated period of time, typically one to three years. Used for salary and associated expenses, these fellowships allow students to learn from a range of scholars who have expertise within a particular aspect of information studies.

STUDENT ASSISTANTSHIPS

Students pursuing their BSIST, MLS, MSIST, and PhD degrees gain valuable teaching and research experience through student assistantships. The opportunity to teach and gain professional experience as an instructor of record can be a deciding factor for graduate students choosing among offers from UWM and other universities.

GOAL FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT: $500,000

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION STUDIES

PRIVACY IN A SHIFTING WORLD

Cyber security, big data, the Internet of things—these terms might seem new in headlines, but they’re familiar ground to Michael Zimmer, associate professor at the School of Information Studies. Zimmer is a privacy and Internet ethics scholar known for his work in online privacy, the ethical dimensions of social media and Internet technologies, libraries and privacy, and Internet research ethics. He is also director of the school’s Center for Information Policy Research.

“With the proliferation of the Internet, cell phones, and social media, the way in which we share information has evolved,” Zimmer says. “It’s important to think about privacy as our information ecosystem changes. I explore challenges to privacy online, privacy in public, and intellectual freedom.” He also examines how web-based tools and services in library settings affect ethical issues like patron privacy and intellectual freedom.

In 2016, Zimmer was awarded a National Science Foundation grant to collaborate with U.S.- and Netherlands-based researchers on topics related to privacy while using mobile apps. Zimmer’s research, including his involvement in this cross-cultural project, have made UWM’s School of Information Studies a prime source of expert knowledge for topics that are challenging us more each day.

“Support for research at the School of Information Studies gives faculty the tools we need to focus on creating new knowledge and imparting it to our students.”

MICHAEL ZIMMER
FAR-REACHING IMPACT

The students and faculty at the School of Information Studies collaborate with local nonprofits, businesses, professional organizations, and international colleagues. These relationships provide dynamic perspectives, benefit the community, and enrich our students’ experiences.

Our graduates hold the keys to information and their influence is felt by generations of people who rely on their expertise. Philanthropic support for our engagement efforts produces results that are felt throughout our city, region, and world.

GOAL FOR ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT: $500,000

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Our award-winning App Brewery provides solutions for the Milwaukee community in the form of mobile applications, while Nonprof-IT offers tech support to local organizations. These partnerships help strengthen UWM's relationships with the surrounding community and foster collaborative opportunities with local businesses. Your support will increase the number of helpful solutions we are able to provide.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES & STUDY ABROAD

Opportunities to study outside the United States allow students to grow personally, professionally, and socially. An international experience with an intimate look at the global information economy helps prepare students to be leading information professionals. Support for these opportunities helps students learn about topics from information poverty in Africa to archival work in the United Kingdom.

VISITING SCHOLARS

Each year, the school welcomes scholars from around the world to visit, research, and collaborate with our students, faculty, and staff. Gifts help defray travel expenses and enrich educational experiences at the School of Information Studies.

HELPING NONPROFITS THRIVE

Since 2014, students in the School of Information Studies have been giving local organizations a boost through the school’s Nonprof-IT program. Adam Hudson, the instructor who co-founded the program, says UWM students have helped more than 20 Milwaukee nonprofits expand their Web presence with new sites that enhance visitor engagement.

“We were looking for experiences that would help students succeed after they graduate,” he said. “At the same time, we saw an opportunity to make a contribution to the community.”

Organizations helped by the program include All Hands Boatworks, Milwaukee Riverkeepers, Running Rebels, and Spotted Eagle Inc. Local businesses have also gotten involved as mentors to the students.

Currently, the number of organizations asking for help and the number of students wanting to participate both exceed the capacity of the program. Thanks to a recent gift from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, the program can help more organizations step into the information age.

“I am thrilled by the support from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation,” said Hudson. “Their investment makes a statement about the value of Nonprof-IT for our community.”

KATIE EDER
Founder of Kids Tales
Living in Milwaukee, I find it hard to conceive of a world without libraries, yet good libraries are scarce in many places. If we want to see our libraries prosper, we will need to have good quality librarians. UWM’s School of Information Studies is where the future of libraries begins.

MARTY LIDDY ’91
LIBRARIAN AT MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The School of Information Studies has a wonderful degree program focused on helping bright minds find their passion within the information sciences. Through our Misix Scholarship, we are helping UWM provide Milwaukee and the world with some very talented IT professionals and leaders.

DAN MARTENS
PRESIDENT AND CEO OF MISIX

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CAMPAGN PRIORITIES

1. STUDENT SUCCESS $500,000
2. RESEARCH EXCELLENCE $500,000
3. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT $500,000

WISCONSIN’S HIGHEST-RANKED LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES GRAD SCHOOL —U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

WISCONSIN’S ONLY FLEXIBLE DEGREE PROGRAM IN INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS IN AUSTRIA, SOUTH AFRICA AND SCOTLAND

FREE TECH SUPPORT FOR LOCAL NONPROFITS

4TH IN THE WORLD 2ND IN THE U.S. FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE LITERATURE —JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR INFORMATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY—

RANKED 9TH IN THE NATION FOR ARCHIVES AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM —U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT—

Direct further inquiries to:
Richard Kessler, Development Director
School of Information Studies
2025 E. Newport Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 229-3084 • kassle23@uwm.edu • uwm.edu/give/what/information-studies

WISCONSIN’S HIGHEST-RANKED LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES GRAD SCHOOL —U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

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The future is technology and communication, and it is important that our students keep pace with technological growth and tomorrow’s demands. I encourage you to give to SOIS programs that develop minds and connect our world. Your support can give talented students the chance to maximize their capabilities.

– DAVID WANKOWSKI ’06
GLOBAL SAP VC LEAD BUSINESS SYSTEMS ANALYST AT GARDNER DENER

As a student, the School of Information Studies gave me the theoretical background that I continue to use today. As an employer of the students coming through SOIS, I can say they are among the best and the brightest, and the research being undertaken by the faculty has led the school to be among the top in the nation. I find it rewarding to give back to the school that gave me so much.

– PAULA KIELY ’87, ’92
DIRECTOR OF THE MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY