INSTITUTION PROFILE

Academic Profile | Physical Profile | Student Profile
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184 Majors and Degrees | 104 Acres (Main Campus) | 22,260 Full Time Equivalent Fall 2015
76 Minor Programs | 570 Acres (Non-Contiguous) | 27,119 Headcount
417 Concentration Areas | 74 Buildings (Total) | 4,215 Non-Residents
106 Certificate Programs | 8,356,470 Gross Square Feet (Total) | 22,904 Residents (Total)
5,158 Degrees Granted (2014-15) | 2,844 Parking Spaces (Total) | 3,155 Residents (On Campus)

Preceding table reflects data from Fall 2015

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

Early history

In 1885, the Milwaukee State Normal School opened for classes at 18th and Wells in downtown Milwaukee. Over the next 42 years, the Milwaukee State Normal School saw 7 different presidents, the addition of music and liberal arts programs and rapid growth from an initial enrollment of 46. In 1909, the Milwaukee State Normal School moved from downtown to the current location near the lakefront when a new building, now Mitchell Hall, was completed.
In 1927, The Milwaukee State Normal School changed its name to the Milwaukee State Teacher’s College in an effort by the State Normal School Regents to refocus on the instruction of teachers. The college became one of the nation's top teacher's training colleges in the 1940s. In 1951, the Legislature empowered all state colleges to offer liberal arts programs. The Milwaukee State Teacher's College consequently became Wisconsin State College of Milwaukee, which became part of the then University of Wisconsin 5 years later.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee was founded with the belief that Milwaukee needed a great public university to become a great city. In 1955, the Wisconsin state legislature passed a measure to create a large public university that offers graduate programs in Wisconsin's largest city. The current University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee was established in 1956 as a result of the merger between the old University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State College of Milwaukee (WSCM).

The new university consisted of the WSCM campus near the lakefront and the University of Wisconsin extension at downtown Milwaukee. The first commencement of the new University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee was held on June 16, 1957. In April 1960 UWM consisted of 7,000 students and six buildings when the Board of Regents approved the first campus development plan projecting an enrollment of 20,000 by 1975. During the 1960's, campus expansion consisted of purchasing neighboring institutions including Downer Seminary, Downer College and University School. Enrollment growth continued and in a new campus master plan was completed by Caudill-Rowlett-Scott in 1972. Construction of eight new buildings occurred during the 1970's and seven of the eleven Downer buildings were renovated in the 1980’s.

In 1988 UW System designated eight Centers of Excellence at UWM. UWM was designated as a Research II University (now a Doctoral/Research University-Extensive) by the Carnegie Foundation. New facilities for Business Administration and Architecture and Urban Planning were constructed during the 1990’s.

In the 50 years since adding the Milwaukee campus to the UW System, UWM has expanded to 14 schools and colleges and more than 70 centers, institutes and laboratories. UWM offers 93 undergraduate programs, 56 graduate programs and 34 doctoral degrees, plus may cross-disciplinary certificate programs, with a university-wide focus on academic research, teaching and community service.

The UWM Master Plan Report, conducted by HGA Architects in association with Sasaki Associates and completed in April 2010, identified an existing space deficit of 844,000 asf / 1.2 million gsf with a future deficit forecast at 1.1 million asf / 1.7 million gsf. These calculations were based on benchmarks of other urban higher education, research institutions.

Concurrently, The 2010 Campus Development Plan expanded the campus planning boundaries to include the 11 acre Columbia Hospital site, which included over 800,000 gross square feet of building space. Unfortunately, more than 50% of this space remains unoccupiable by modern building and life safety codes; and remains vacant to date.

In 2011, the UWM Real Estate Foundation purchased 72 acres of land adjacent to the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center to develop the Innovation Campus for UWM faculty and researchers to collaborate and share ideas with nearby medical professionals. The first facility, the Accelerator Building opened in the spring of 2014. UWM was elevated to the elite status of R-1 doctoral research university on the 2015 Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education list, placing it among an elite group of 115 top-tier research institutions in the nation.
CHARACTER

The 104 acre UWM main campus is located in a pleasant residential area near the Lake Michigan shoreline in Milwaukee’s Upper-East Side. The campus is comprised of an attractive combination of historic and modern buildings, and is less than a ten-minute drive from downtown Milwaukee. Nearby bike paths and other bicycle amenities allow quick and safe alternative transportation options to surrounding communities, while several Milwaukee County Transit System bus routes provide the campus with easy access to the entire metropolitan area.

The University’s location in the state’s business center also provides many prospects to explore career paths through internships, clinical experiences, and hands-on learning. The city provides a rich resource for these activities, while UWM's professors and instructors frequently tap their own real life experiences to extend their students' learning beyond textbooks.

UWM provides students with more than 180 academic program options, a wide range of research projects, and many ways to broaden their education through involvement with student organizations and volunteer opportunities in the surrounding community.

UWM reaches into the Milwaukee area in many ways, extending its services and socio-economic influence to the people, agencies, businesses, and governments of our local and global communities through education, partnerships, and applied research. Milwaukee is a dynamic laboratory for study and offers many opportunities for students and graduates.
The UW-Milwaukee main campus is confined to 104 contiguous acres, of which only 85 acres can be developed. Approximately 19 acres, known as the Downer Woods, are protected under Wisconsin Statutes. The enlarged campus footprint evolved between 1956 and 2010 through a series of purchases of neighboring buildings and institutions.
NON-CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY

Alumni House

The Alumni House, formerly known as the Kenwood Conference and Alumni Center, was purchased in 1949 by the Milwaukee State Teachers College for $80,000. The English Tudor mansion, on 3.9 acres on the lake bluff at the end of Kenwood Boulevard, was built for Mrs. Myron T. MacLaren. The building was used as a women's dormitory until July, 1964, when it was converted to a conference center. The building also housed the Center for Great Lakes Studies (1966 to 1974) and the Office of Continuing Education for Adults (1969 to 1975) and the Development and Alumni Offices until 2010. It served as the first home for the Zilber School of Public Health from 2011 to 2012. Currently, the building is home to UWM's Innovative Weather program, Alumni Association, and serves as overflow location for several programs which cannot be housed on the main campus.

Cambridge Commons Residence Hall

Located on North Avenue, on the east bank of the Milwaukee River, Cambridge Commons welcomed its first residents in Fall 2010. This LEED-Certified building features a green recreation area, two green roofs, and access to the beautiful Milwaukee River Cafeteria. Classrooms, fitness rooms, study and social lounges on each floor, kitchen facilities and a laundry will provide a first class housing option for students.

Continuing Education Plankinton Building

Strategically located in the heart of Milwaukee's business and commercial district, the Center occupies the top two floors of the historic Plankinton Building overlooking the Grand Avenue Mall. Originally called the University Center for Continuing Education when purchased in 1995, the 110,000 square-foot facility contains multimedia classrooms, meeting rooms, computer labs, dining facilities and offices. Modern technological resources create an innovative environment equipped for distance learning, educational training and teleconferencing.

Great Lakes Research Facility

The Great Lakes Research Facility was purchased from the Allen-Bradley Company for $1.6 million in May 1973. It was built in 1966 for the manufacture of ceramic tile, but was only operational for 5-years before being sold to UWM. It is the primary home of the UWM School of Freshwater Sciences, and also houses a federally funded biomedical and environmental research laboratory and DNR offices. In 2012, a $53 million project added 94,000 square feet of research, conferencing, and office space to the facility. The addition opened in the spring of 2015.

Hefter Conference Center

The Hefter Conference Center, originally known as Marietta House, was built for A.A. Schlesinger and later acquired by the Brumder family. It was purchased from the Brumder family by Milwaukee State Teachers College in 1946 for $80,000, and was used as a women's cooperative dormitory until the summer of 1970. It was renamed the Edith S. Hefter Conference Center in 1989 for the wife of Bert Hefter, retired vice president of Milprint, Inc., who donated funds toward its renovation and restoration completed in 1995. The facility currently houses the Office of Development and Alumni Relations and is used as a conference center for meetings and special events.
**Innovation Campus, Accelerator Building**

The Accelerator Building was the first facility to open on the newly established Innovation Campus in the spring of 2014. In close proximity to the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center, this facility is targeted to build products that solve health care problems and then bring them to the marketplace. It features a rapid prototyping center for use by both UWM faculty and research and business partners. Innovation Campus not only offers technology transfer and business incubation services, but incorporates the academic and research enterprise of the university directly into the development of a private sector park. This powerful combination of industry, academia and nonprofit research organizations working in partnership at the same location will both attract companies to the region and leverage the intellectual property from the academic research to spinout new companies.

**Kenilworth Building**

The Kenilworth Building was turned over to UWM by the U.S. General Services Administration as surplus property in 1971. The land at that time was valued at $1 million. The building, valued at $5 million, was built by the Ford Motor Company in the 1920s and later was owned by General Motors Corporation. During World War II and later it was used by GM's A.C. Spark Plug, Inc. to manufacture bombsights, and was known as U.S. Air Force Plant #58. For years, various UWM entities have occupied the Kenilworth Building, from Physical Plant Services to The School of the Arts. In 2006, the building was reopened as two distinct facilities. The western portion is called Kenilworth Square Apartments, with 173 units housing upper-class and graduate students. Kenilworth Square East provides creative research space for faculty, staff, and graduate students in UWM's Peck School of the Arts as well as an Art Gallery and event space.

**Purin Hall**

Purin Hall was used as an apartment house from 1956 to 1963, when it was purchased by the university from a private owner for $270,000. It was used for housing Peace Corps trainees for two years, and at that time was called Kenwood Manor. Because of the confusion with the Kenwood Conference Center (now Alumni House) the name was changed to Purin Hall in 1965, named for Charles M. Purin (1872-1957), outstanding scholar and linguist. He was a language professor at the Milwaukee Normal School (1915-1921), director of the Milwaukee Extension Division (1927-1942), and was teaching at the former Milwaukee University School at the time of his death. After the Peace Corps moved out, the building was used by different university units including the Graduate School, Auxiliary Enterprises, and Summer Sessions. More recently, the facility is used as an ROTC Living Learning Community and overflow general population housing.

**RiverView Residence Hall**

Located on North Avenue, on the west bank of the Milwaukee River, RiverView welcomed its first residents in January 2008. First-year students choosing this environment are part of an exciting community, enjoying modern facilities, a variety of dining options, beautiful river views, and the opportunity to attend class within this residential learning community.

**University Services and Research Building**

Acquired in 2005 when the Kenilworth Building closed for redevelopment, this facility was originally known as the University Services Building and housed the Facility Services administration, physical plant shops, mail services and campus printing. In 2009 this facility was renamed to University Services and Research
Building to reflect the introduction of engineering and health sciences research activity into the building. USRB is located approximately two miles northwest of the main campus.

**UWM Field Station**

The UWM Field Station is used as an outdoor laboratory by researchers from various disciplines, including plant and animal ecology, evolutionary biology, ethology, taxonomy, geology, hydrology and climatology. Located in the Town of Saukville, Wisconsin, about 30 miles north of Milwaukee, the main station has about 2000 acres including a wide variety of habitats available for research and teaching. UWM owns approximately 320 acres, most of which were donated by the Nature Conservancy in 1965. Research at the Station has produced hundreds of scientific publications and theses since 1970.

**Zilber School of Public Health Building**

This facility is part of the redevelopment of the historic Pabst Brewery located on 10th Street in downtown Milwaukee. This five story structure was purchased by the State in 2012 and contains 34,000 assignable square feet, serving as the primary home for the Zilber School of Public Health. The project was made possible by a $10 million gift from Joseph J. Zilber’s Brewery Project LLC. This facility houses mediated classrooms, a teaching kitchen, Community and Behavioral Health, Epidemiology and Bio Statistics and Public Policy and Administration space. As a model for sustainability practices, the overall Brewery redevelopment has received a LEED Platinum award for a Neighborhood Development program.