The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health invites applications and nominations for the position of executive director of the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association.

The Opportunity

The University of Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) cultivates relationships with medical alumni and MD students to support and strengthen the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH). The successful candidate will help implement a strategic plan aimed at engaging 14,000 alumni members, fostering loyalty, and helping to advance the mission and vision of the association and the school.

WMAA programming engages MD students as early as their first year of medical school as part of the White Coat ceremony and builds relationships with current students throughout their studies. The association connects students with alumni through initiatives like the Student and Alumni Partnership Program, which matches alumni to students who have an interest in a defined specialty.

The alumni association hosts and collaborates on the production of numerous alumni and donor events each year. These include local, regional, and national SMPH meetings, reunions, and recognition and engagement events such as Alumni Weekend and Homecoming Weekend.

In close partnership with the Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association (WFAA), the WMAA engages in fundraising efforts, including management of an annual campaign and a need-based class scholarship challenge. The association works to increase support for a variety of scholarships, including scholarships for students from backgrounds historically underrepresented in medicine.

The executive director will be an innovative leader of a cross-functional team that includes SMPH staff direct reports, as well as colleagues from WFAA and UW Health. The successful incumbent will work to build productive, collaborative relationships with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and external stakeholders to optimize medical alumni relations and advancement efforts.
Organization Overview

UW–Madison

“The University of Wisconsin–Madison is distinctive in its scale and breadth, the premium we place on our relevance to society, and our commitment to inclusivity in the broadest sense.” — Rebecca M. Blank, Chancellor

Since 1848, this campus has been a catalyst for the extraordinary. As a public land-grant university and one of the most prolific research institutions in the world, UW–Madison is home to those who are driven by a desire to both explore new worlds and to apply new ideas to real-world problems.

With a total annual budget of over $3.1 billion, including more than $1 billion in annual research expenditures, UW–Madison has been in the top 10 in national research spending every year since 1972. The campus is home to more than 23,000 faculty and staff and 45,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree students. Members of the student body represent all 50 states and 127 countries. The university is ranked 26th worldwide by the Center for World University Rankings and 13th among public U.S. universities in the 2021 Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education rankings.

The Wisconsin Idea—the principle that the university should improve people's lives beyond the classroom—has been guiding the efforts of UW–Madison Badgers for more than a century. The university has been dedicated to studying poverty and social inequity for 50 years, is ranked #1 among large schools for producing Peace Corps volunteers, and boasts 19 Nobel Prize winners among its faculty and alumni.

School of Medicine and Public Health

The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) is recognized as an international, national, and statewide leader in education, research, and service. Founded in 1907, it transformed into the nation's first School of Medicine and Public Health in 2005 to integrate the principles and power of interwoven medical and public health approaches in all of its missions.

Powered by more than 4,500 employees, including over 1,800 faculty, the school's engagement spans the entire state of Wisconsin and includes a deep commitment to improvement of the health of the population. This commitment manifests itself in innovative models that serve as paradigms for the rest of the country.

Members of the school rapidly translate discovery into application and continually foster synergies between clinical care, education, and research. Consistently ranked among the nation's top medical schools, SMPH has established high-performance academic programs that are intentionally distributed across the entire spectrum of academic medicine. Its faculty members hold appointments in 27 departments—17 in the clinical sciences and 10 in the basic sciences. The faculty is composed of some of the nation's leading researchers, educators, and clinicians. This includes several National Medal of Science recipients and National Academy of Science honorees.

Mission and Values

UW SMPH strives to carry out its mission of advancing health and health equity through remarkable service to patients and communities, outstanding education, and innovative research. It upholds the values of integrity and accountability, compassion, diversity, equity and inclusivity, and excellence. The school’s Shared
Guidelines for Professional Conduct help the SMPH community embody these values in their daily activities.

Fostering a diverse and inclusive community is important both as an end in itself and also as a valuable driver of eliminating health disparities. The school is comprised of a diverse, inclusive academic community committed to excellence and equity in health; wellness through teaching and learning, clinical service, and advocacy; and research in all forms of biological science, population health science, and health care.

SMPH is dedicated to creating an inclusive, collaborative, respectful, and welcoming environment in which all faculty, students, and staff will thrive. This effort is referred to as Building Community, and includes a call to action for every SMPH member to examine not only our intent, but our impact—“Every Person. Every Action. Every Time.”

**UW Health**

UW Health is the integrated health system of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, serving more than 600,000 patients each year in the Upper Midwest and beyond with 1,750 physicians and 21,000 staff at seven hospitals and more than 80 outpatient sites. UW Health is governed by the UW Hospitals and Clinics Authority and partners with UW School of Medicine and Public Health to fulfill patient care, research, education and community service missions. UW Health Hospitals, which includes both University Hospital on the UW–Madison campus and UW Health at The American Center on the east side of Madison, has been ranked No. 1 in Wisconsin for nine years in a row by U.S. News and World Report. University Hospital is one of only 25 U.S. hospitals named to Newsweek’s “Top 100 Global” list, which includes hospitals in 11 countries around the world. American Family Children’s Hospital is also nationally ranked as a top children’s hospital. UW Health has been designated by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation as a Leader in LGBTQ Healthcare Equality in the Healthcare Equality Index.

**Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association**

The origins of the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association (WMAA) date to 1956 and participation remains a strong tradition among MD students and alumni. Throughout the decades, the organization has continued to devise innovative approaches to constituent engagement using a range of tactics from mass communication and large events, to personalized outreach and donor development and stewardship.

The association’s programming establishes relationships with students early in medical school, continues seamlessly to their residencies and early careers, and persists into later career and retirement. This approach results in robust alumni participation, board leadership, and donors. WMAA highly prioritizes engaging its alumni from backgrounds historically underrepresented in medicine. A key approach is linking alumni with current students through initiatives such as the Student Alumni Partnership Program, which helps students explore specialties, and stewardship programs for donors who support scholarships.

The WMAA is governed by a board of directors. The board consists of 25 alumni with balanced representation from four Wisconsin districts and from cities where a large number of MD alumni live, such as Minneapolis-St. Paul, Chicago, Boston, New York City, and San Francisco.

The organization’s team includes professional staff devoted to alumni events, outreach, communications, and donor development and stewardship. Partners include directors of development at the Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association (WFAA) and an editor at UW Health devoted to Quarterly, the school’s alumni
Examples of current successes and initiatives include:

- 14,000 MD alumni are members of WMAA
- 1,300 alumni belong to the WMAA Student Alumni Partnership Program (SAPP)
- More than 100 MD students are members of the WMAA Student Ambassador Program
- The Middleton Society, a philanthropic organization established by WMAA to honor SMPH’s most generous donors, with more than 4,500 members
- Quarterly, the school’s alumni magazine, with a print distribution of more than 17,000 copies
- WMAA gifts a stethoscope to every incoming medical student, funded by alumni
- Donor support for student scholarships and awards in the 2020-2021 academic year totaling more than $3 million
- Launch of a $500,000 matching scholarship program in 2020
- 850 scholarships and awards distributed to 360 students in 2020-21

Qualifications and Attributes of Leadership

The successful candidate will have a compelling vision for the future of the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association that builds on existing strengths, including its setting within a complex academic medical system and its well-established relationships with students, alumni, and donors. The executive director will possess proven leadership and management skills. They will direct strategic planning initiatives and goals in conjunction with the WMAA Board of Directors.

The executive director must serve as a liaison between the SMPH Dean and the WMAA President and Board of Directors, and advise the WMAA executive committee, members of the WMAA Board of Directors, WMAA subcommittees, and Student Alumni Partnership Program (SAPP) volunteers.

A bachelor’s degree is required. An advanced degree is preferred. Higher education or academic medical center experience is strongly preferred. A minimum of five years of professional leadership experience in alumni relations and advancement is required, including the development and implementation of integrated strategies in support of organizational objectives.
The Community

Located on an isthmus between two lakes, Madison is the capital city of the state of Wisconsin. Madison has been voted #3 Best Place to Live (Liveability, 2020), among the Best Small Cities in America (National Geographic, 2018), #1 City for Most Successful Women Per Capita (Forbes, 2019), #1 City for Best Work-Life Balance (SmartAsset, 2020), #8 Best Area for STEM Professionals (WalletHub, 2020), #2 Best State to Practice Medicine (WalletHub, 2020), #2 Best City for Biking (People for Bikes, 2020), #2 Most Walkable City (Expedia, 2018), #4 Fittest City in the U.S. (ACSM American Fitness Index, 2020), #5 Best City for Young Professionals (Forbes, 2016), #1 Best Place in the U.S. for Raising Children (DiversityDataKids.com 2020), and #1 Best College Football Town in America (Sports Illustrated, 2019). Madison's technology economy is growing rapidly, and the region is home to the headquarters of Epic Systems, Exact Sciences, American Family Insurance, American Girl, Sub-Zero, and Lands' End, as well as many biotech, healthcare IT, and health systems startups.

Madison is the second largest city in the state, with a city population of approximately 260,000 and regional population of over 1 million. The city is within easy driving range of Chicago and Milwaukee. Madison offers numerous unique neighborhoods and commercial areas including the Capitol Square, State Street, Willy Street, Shorewood Hills, Maple Bluff, and Hilldale. Suburbs and surrounding smaller communities include Sun Prairie, Middleton, McFarland, Verona, Cottage Grove, Waunakee, and Fitchburg.

Madison is home to one of the strongest local food scenes in the country with several James Beard Award winners, gastropubs, and farm-to-table restaurants. From April to October, the Capitol Square hosts the impressive Dane County Farmers' Market, the largest producer-only farmers' market in the country. The city is rich with cultural offerings such as the Overture Center for the Performing Arts, Orpheum Theatre, Concerts on the Square, Jazz at Five, UW-Madison Mead Witter School of Music Hamel Music Center, Madison Symphony Orchestra, Madison Opera, Madison Ballet, UW-Madison Chazen Museum of Art, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Wisconsin Historical Museum, and Madison Children's Museum, among others.

The city has a dedicated athletics fanbase which largely centers around the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Sports venues include Camp Randall Stadium, the Kohl Center, LaBahn Arena, Wisconsin Field House, and the Alliant Energy Center. Madison is home to Forward Madison FC, the first professional soccer team in the city, as well as the Madison Mallards, a college wood-bat summer baseball league team. Marquee endurance sports and specialty sporting events include IronMan Wisconsin and IronMan 70.3, Reebok CrossFit Games, Madison Marathon, and many national and international championship competitions.
The Application Process

Please send nominations to Gwenevere C. McIntosh, MD, MPH, and Kristen Seguin, MBA, co-chairs of the executive director of the Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association Search Committee, c/o Benjamin Schultz-Burkel, DMA, 4299C HSLC, 750 Highland Avenue, Madison, WI, 53705-2111, drbenjamin.schultzburkel@wisc.edu.

To apply, visit go.wisc.edu/wmaadirector and click the “Apply Now” button. Applicants will be asked to upload a CV and personal statement/cover letter.

The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health has a deep and profound commitment to diversity both as an end in itself but also as a valuable means for eliminating health disparities. As such, we strongly encourage applications from candidates who foster and promote the values of diversity and inclusion. The Wisconsin Medical Alumni Association takes seriously its role in fostering the participation of diverse alumni and in helping diversify the field of medical professionals.

Applications from Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) individuals, women, and LGBTQ+ and non-binary identities are strongly encouraged. To receive full consideration, please apply by April 28, 2021.

Unless confidentiality is requested in writing, information regarding applicants must be released upon request. Finalists cannot be guaranteed confidentiality. The University of Wisconsin is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

For more information, visit med.wisc.edu and med.wisc.edu/alumni. To learn more about life in the city of Madison, visit madison.wisc.edu.

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