

ALLIANT ENERGY

Erroll B. Davis, Jr.
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

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James R. Underkofler
EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

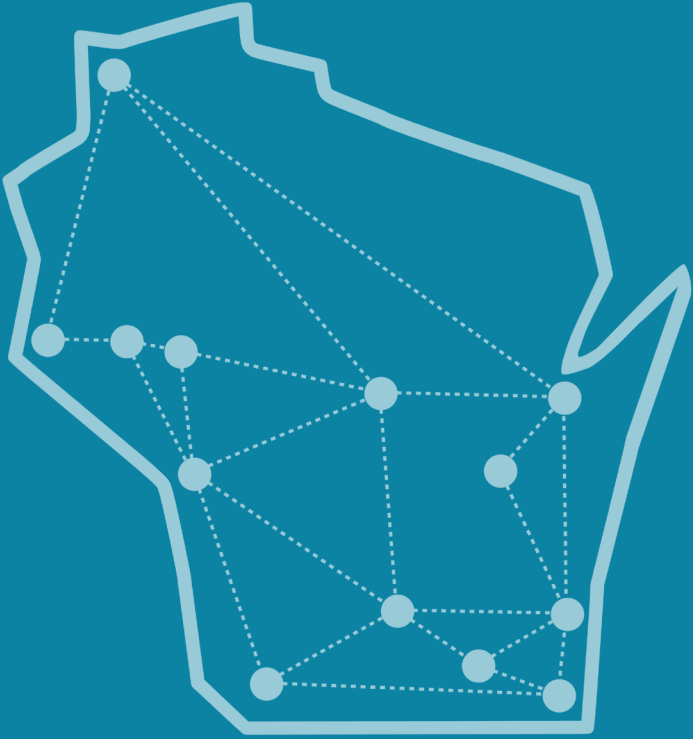
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ALLIANT ENERGY
FOUNDATION
AWARD
CEREMONY



**Alliant
Energy™**
Foundation

Thursday, October 24, 2024
Pyle Center, Alumni Lounge, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.
702 Langdon St, Madison, Wisconsin



Program Highlights

Ceremony 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. | Award Presentation 2:30 p.m.

In Attendance:

Julie Bauer, Executive Director, Alliant Energy Foundation

Andy Kitslaar, Senior Community Affairs Program Manager, Alliant Energy Foundation

WELCOME

Johannes Britz, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Universities of Wisconsin

ERROLL B. DAVIS, JR. ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Award History

Benjamin Bilitz, Chief Accounting Officer and Controller, Alliant Energy

Award presentation with remarks by recipients

Johannes Britz, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Universities of Wisconsin

Student Recipients

Jaime Campos, Computer Engineering, UW-Madison

Leonardo Covarrubias, Business Administration, UW-Madison

JAMES R. UNDERKOFLEK EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

Award History

Benjamin Bilitz, Chief Accounting Officer and Controller, Alliant Energy

Award presentation with remarks by recipients

Johannes Britz, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Universities of Wisconsin

Faculty Recipients

Patricia Coffey, PhD, Teaching Faculty III, Department of Psychology, UW-Madison

David F. Krugler, PhD, Professor, History, UW-Platteville

Florence F. Obielodan, PhD, Instructional Academic Staff, Mathematics, UW-Platteville

Michael W. Wagner, PhD, Professor, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, UW-Madison

ERROLL B. DAVIS, JR. ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

In 2006, the Alliant Energy Foundation established an endowed fund, the Alliant Energy Erroll B. Davis, Jr. Achievement Awards. These awards annually honor outstanding scholarship and community service of undergraduate students from traditionally underrepresented minority groups pursuing a degree in Business or Engineering at UW-Madison. The award is being presented this year to two students selected by UW-Madison during the spring semester of their junior year. The students receive the award upon graduation.

Alliant Energy established these awards to recognize and honor Erroll B. Davis, Jr., former CEO of the Alliant Corporation. Mr. Davis was the first African American to head a “Business Week 1000” company. He was also named one of the “50 Most Powerful Black Executives in America” by Fortune magazine in 2002.

From 1987 to 1994, Mr. Davis served as a member of the Board of Regents for the University of Wisconsin System.

JAMES R. UNDERKOFER EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

In 1990, the Wisconsin Power and Light Foundation (Alliant Energy's Wisconsin Utility) established an endowed fund, the Alliant Energy James R. Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Awards. These awards honor outstanding faculty and academic staff whose dedication to teaching and ability to inspire students exemplify the best values of the Universities of Wisconsin. The awards are presented annually to up to four recipients who teach at UW universities within the company's service area. Candidates are selected by their home universities.

These awards were established to recognize and honor James R. Underkofler (1923–2015), who served Wisconsin Power and Light for more than 48 years, retiring as CEO and Chairman of the Board in 1990.

Mr. Underkofler was a staunch supporter of teaching excellence and believed in the importance of connecting public and private educational systems to enhance learning and motivate young minds. The James R. Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Awards reflect Alliant Energy's strong historical dedication to education and support the Universities of Wisconsin's longstanding commitment to excellence in teaching and providing high-quality education to people from throughout Wisconsin and the world.



2024

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Erroll B. Davis, Jr.
Achievement Awards

RECIPIENT BIOGRAPHIES



JAIME CAMPOS

Jaime Campos plans to graduate in May 2025 from UW-Madison with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering. Growing up, Jaime always had a strong interest in the STEM field. However, it wasn't until high school that he solidified his interest in computers after building one for a school project.

At UW-Madison, Jaime had the opportunity to be a teaching assistant for an introduction to computer engineering class, where he helped students learn about basic logic design, computer organization, and assembly-language programming. Later, he worked as a computer architecture research assistant under Professor Joshua San Miguel's STACS Lab. These experiences helped him secure an internship at Advanced Micro Devices as a product development engineering intern, where he designed test programs for the next generation of server computer chips. He also worked at NVIDIA on an ASIC Verification team, optimizing run time on their builds.

Through working in professional environments at these technical companies, Jaime has improved his teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills. These experiences have also deepened his understanding of the semiconductor industry. He looks forward to pursuing a career in this field, working on the future of computing.

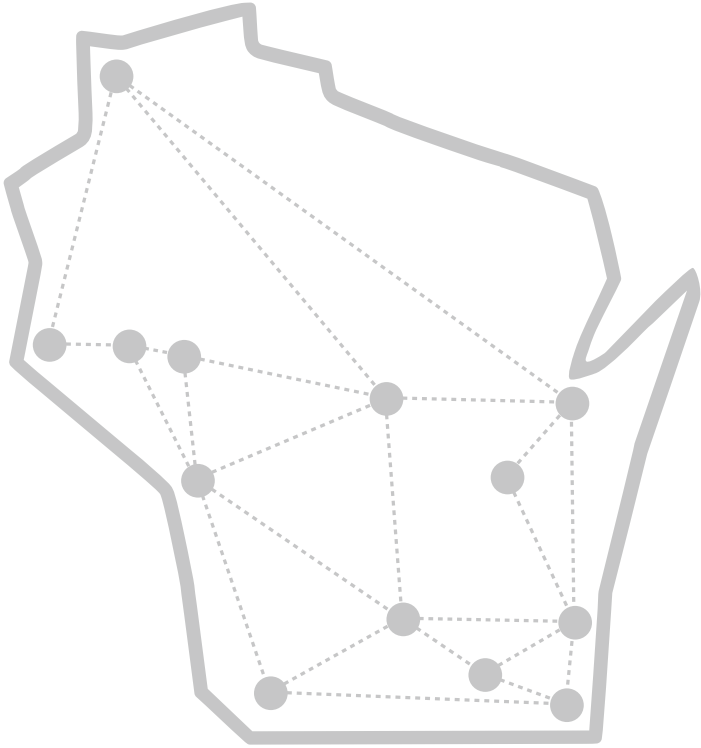


LEONARDO COVARRUBIAS

Leonardo Covarrubias plans to graduate in May 2025 from UW-Madison with a Bachelor of Business Administration, majoring in finance and investment banking. As a PEOPLE Scholar, Leonardo has embraced leadership opportunities on campus. He currently serves as a College Readiness Mentor in the PEOPLE scholarship program, where he supports high school students with their academic needs. Previously, as treasurer of the Association of Latino Professionals for

America at UW-Madison, Leonardo successfully managed the organization's budget and assets, ensuring accurate tracking of all income and expenditures. He collaborated closely with other executive board members to allocate funds responsibly and efficiently.

Leonardo's ability to juggle multiple responsibilities while remaining focused on professional growth highlights his dedication and efficiency as a leader among his peers. His previous experience includes working as a Financial Analyst Intern at General Mills, interning at Cornerstone Wealth Management, and serving as a Launch Leader for Business Badger Launch. He is also an active participant in multicultural organizations across campus. In each of these roles, Leonardo applies his academic knowledge while gaining valuable experiences to advance his professional development. He is eager to pursue a career in finance, with a focus on making a meaningful impact on the lives of people in his community.





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Excellence in Teaching
Awards

RECIPIENT BIOGRAPHIES



PATRICIA COFFEY

Dr. Patricia Coffey is a forensic psychologist and UW-Madison Department of Psychology faculty associate. She earned her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of Vermont in Burlington.

Dr. Coffey has extensive forensic evaluation and trauma and cognitive behavioral treatment experience. She specializes in assessment of sexual and violent offenders and has worked with survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

Dr. Coffey's career has been motivated by a strong commitment to evidence-based approaches to addressing violence and the associated trauma through effective interventions for offenders and effective strategies to help survivors. In 2014, she started working full time in the UW-Madison psychology department teaching *The Criminal Mind: A Forensic and Psychobiological Perspective*, *Introductory Psychology*, and *Service Learning* courses. She recently added a capstone course, *Issues in Prisoner Reentry*. Dr. Coffey has helped train clinical psychology PhD students in forensic assessments for juvenile courts and the UW Legal Assistance for Institutionalized Persons program. She is committed to evidence-based assessment and treatment and enjoys teaching and providing community-based learning opportunities for students interested in criminal justice and clinical service-related careers.

A quote by human rights attorney Bryan Stevenson exemplifies a guiding core belief of her teaching: "It's that mind-heart connection that I believe compels us to not just be attentive to all the bright and dazzling things but also the dark and difficult things." It is Dr. Coffey's goal with each class for students to leave with that "mind-heart" connection to guide them.



DAVID F. KRUGLER

Dr. David F. Krugler is a professor of history at UW-Platteville, where he has taught since completing his PhD at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is also a historian and novelist, authoring four books on modern U.S. history and two novels. A historian of the modern United States, he has published books on several different topics: Cold War propaganda, nuclear warfare, and racial conflict in the United States.

Dr. Krugler has served as a faculty leader for teacher education programs at the Newberry Library in Chicago and the Master of American History and Government program at Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio. He is the past recipient of research grants and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Organization of American Historians, and the White House Historical Association. In Spring 2011, he was a fellow at the Institute for Research in the Humanities at UW-Madison. In 2010, he appeared in the National Geographic Channel documentary *American Doomsday*. He has written for *TheDailyBeast.com* and has been interviewed by the *New York Times*, *CNN*, *Associated Press*, *Slate.com*, and numerous other media outlets.

In January 2020, he organized a history course on the Vietnam War around shared, student-led research. Working with two alumni, they identified the UW-Platteville students and graduates who lost their lives in the Vietnam War and created a campus memorial to them, unveiled in November 2022.

“We’ll find a way” succinctly captures the heart of his teaching and learning philosophy, as well as the ever-evolving strategies he uses as an educator. He is always striving to find a way to guide students to an important discovery because “history surrounds us, history matters.”



FLORENCE F. OBIELODAN

Dr. Florence F. Obielodan, senior lecturer, has been teaching mathematics at high school and college levels for 31 years and at UW-Platteville for 13 years. Dr. Obielodan earned her PhD in 2022 from the University at Buffalo, NY. Because fear of mathematics often deters students from pursuing STEM-related majors, she emphasizes developing students' self-esteem, increasing their motivation for learning, and achieving success. She encourages students to embrace

positive attitudes toward learning and to not be afraid of failing. She does this by recognizing and celebrating student achievements in class, seeing herself as not just an instructor, but also as a counselor, cheerleader, tutor, and trusted friend.

One strategy she uses is one-on-one tutoring. During office hours, she clarifies topics that students are attempting to master and shares her success stories to inspire them to pursue their dreams. This has proved productive from feedback she receives from past and present students. She also celebrates diversity of reasoning by encouraging her students to come up with different ways of solving problems. To promote a sense of belonging, she encourages active participation. During lectures, she gives each of her students the opportunity to answer questions in an organized fashion, affording everyone time to prepare for their turn to contribute. She supports group work to promote peer-assisted, collaborative learning. Learning together develops soft skills including team spirit, communication, and conflict resolution.

Dr. Obielodan continuously reviews her curriculum and teaching methods to make positive changes based on student feedback and assessment tools. She approaches teaching in a flexible manner that best meets the learning needs of her students.



MICHAEL W. WAGNER

Dr. Michael W. Wagner is a professor of journalism and mass communication at UW-Madison, where he is the Director of the Center for Communication and Civic Renewal and the Director of Graduate Studies. He earned his PhD in political science from Indiana University Bloomington.

A popular and demanding instructor, Dr. Wagner teaches and mentors students across undergraduate and graduate levels. He has given more than 350 public talks about his scholarship around the state, nation, and globe and has participated in more than 500 media interviews since he started working at UW-Madison in 2012.

Dr. Wagner challenges students to integrate research across disciplines into their scholarship, projects, and discussions so that they can apply their knowledge outside the classroom. Each year, he mentors two or three Undergraduate Research Scholars. He recently gave a keynote for the UW Teaching Academy about integrating student research into teaching practices.

Dr. Wagner's deep belief in the Wisconsin Idea resulted in the creation of The Observatory, a fact-checking website that reviews claims made by Wisconsin elected officials and candidates for office. Funded by a Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Grant in partnership with the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism, his students have conducted more than 80 fact checks of state lawmakers – fact checks that have been read by more than 37,000 people. Students in his fact-checking course have gone on to work for 60 Minutes, 20/20, Bloomberg, the Wall Street Journal, WisPolitics, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Capital Times, Wisconsin State Journal, and Wisconsin Watch.

Dr. Wagner is co-author of one of the most widely used political behavior undergraduate textbooks in the country, Political Behavior of the American Electorate. The book mirrors his classroom style in terms of deep scholarly engagement, conversational communication, and thoughtful discussion questions.



