Two Initiatives to Support 2013-2015 Performance Goals
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Pathway to
Distinction
2012-2017 Strategic Plan
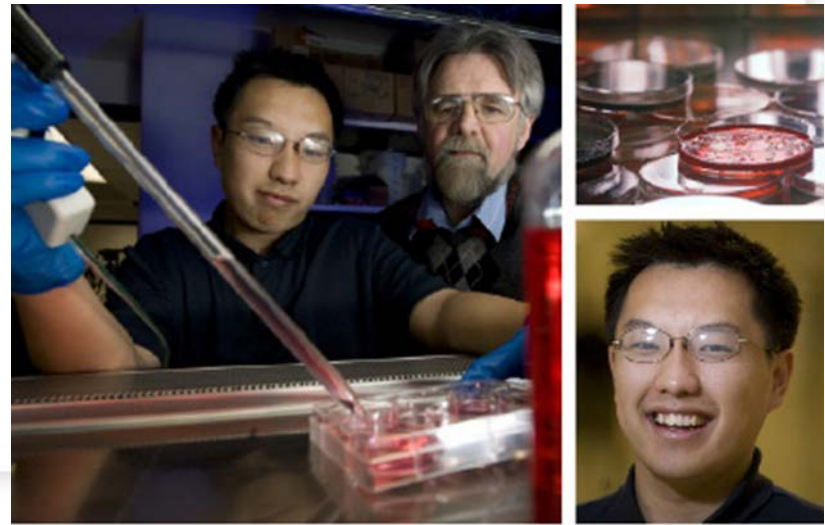
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN **River Falls**

Strategic Goals

1. Distinctive Academic Excellence

2. Global Education and Engagement

3. Innovation and Partnerships

Supporting 2013-15 Performance Goals

- Goal: **Increase student work with faculty on research projects**

    – Initiative: **Expanding Undergraduate Research**

Undergraduate Research

- A High-Impact Educational Practice leading to increased retention rates and student learning

- Builds on a strength of UW-River Falls—a strategic and student priority

- Examples of Critical Needs to Support Undergraduate Research:

  - Student support (stipends, projects, travel)
  - Faculty support (time, project support, professional development, grant writing support)—impacts faculty recruitment and retention
  - Infrastructure (e.g. faculty director and support)

Supporting 2013-15 Performance Goals

- Goal: Increase **Foundation scholarship dollars (with need component)**

  – Initiative: **Falcon Scholars Challenge**

Falcon Scholars Challenge

- $1,000/year, four-year scholarships (donated funds)
- $2,000 for study abroad or UGR in junior/senior year (student funds)
- Goal: Support 80 new freshman/year having financial need and high potential for success

Will positively impact recruitment, retention, and student success

The Vision and the Challenge

- 320 Falcon Scholars at UWRF by 2016

- A fundraising priority of *Rising to Distinction* campaign (announced April, 2012)

- Necessary charitable support to UW-River Falls Foundation

  - Year 1 $80,000
  - Year 2 $160,000
  - Year 3 $240,000
  - Year 4 $320,000

Total: $800,000

- Progress to Date: $625,882

- Arlin ('58) and Marilyn ('56) Albrecht commit $400,000 to Falcon Scholars as challenge gift to UW-River Falls alumni and friends