

# Business Leaders to Wisconsin Legislators WE NEED MORE ENGINEERS

## CEOs Call for Urgent Action on New UW-Madison College of Engineering Building

To the Wisconsin State Legislature:

As Wisconsin employers, we are deeply disappointed by the decision of the Joint Finance Committee to not include the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Engineering expansion in the 2023-25 capital budget. The UW-Madison College of Engineering has a significant impact on the state and its workforce. These engineering graduates are vital to the state's economic development needs, but we need more of them to meet the increasing demand from our companies. In the past five years, 1,235 graduates have accepted engineering employment in Wisconsin. In the last year alone, 445 employers recruited engineers through the College of Engineering career fairs, where the number of job offerings far outnumber available students.

A new, state-of-the-art building will provide the college the space needed to educate more engineering students and grow its undergraduate population by 1,000 students. This expansion will enable the university to serve more Wisconsin students and employers and will assist in the recruitment and retention of top-tier faculty members, sustaining its excellence in research and education.

We are asking the state to enumerate this important project during this legislative session. Of the \$347 million total project cost, UW-Madison has committed to raising \$150 million from private gifts and grants. We understand that more than \$100 million in gifts has already been pledged from donors, contingent on state support of the project this session. Delaying this project to the next state budget would increase the total cost to approximately \$400 million, with no guarantee that donor funds will still be available.

Please help us make sure that the state's top engineering program remains competitive for years to come by passing legislation to construct this much-needed new building.

**Dan Ariens**, Ariens

**Chris Osborn**, Amcor

**Bill Westrate**, American Family Insurance

**Nick Rinaldi**, Blue Line Battery, Inc.

**Michael Gratz**, Boyle Fredrickson

**Bradley Brown**, Brownfield Environmental Engineering

**Sean Cleary**, Cleary Holdings, Inc.

**Ted Hansen**, Convergen Energy

**Troy Berg**, Dane Manufacturing & Dantherm Cooling

**Tyler Gould**, Eaton

**Judy Faulkner**, Epic Systems

**Ken Pavett**, Flexografix

**Patrick Sullivan**, Flux XII

**Eric Broten**, Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce

**John Schiessel**, Generac

**Betsy Metzger**, Glenroy

**John Kissinger**, GRAEF

**Duncan Furrh**, Greenlight Insurance Agency

**Eric Senn**, Johnson Controls

**Will Hsu**, Hsu's Ginseng Enterprises, Inc.

**Wendy Harris**, Intelligent Water Solutions

**Laura Kohler**, Kohler

**Andy Platz**, Mead & Hunt

**Jeff Ihnen**, Michaels Energy

**Chuck Romensko**, Miller Electric Mfg

**Steven Richman**, Milwaukee Tool

**Dan Johnson**, Mortenson

**Jake Gavin**, MTERA

**James Harvey**, NorthStar

**John Gosling**, NTD

**John Pfeiffer**, Oshkosh

**Todd Kelsey**, Plexus

**Christopher Haag**, Radius Packaging

**Ashok Menon**, Radom Corporation

**Kieran Furlong**, Realta Fusion

**Jenny Nieuwenhuis**, Hardel REI Engineering

**Mark Marchi**, Rice Engineering, Inc.

**Michael Cook**, Rockwell Automation

**Ben Ryan**, Ryan Incorporated Central

**Steve Malchow**, Trek

**Sean Rezin**, USEMCO, Inc.

**Kurt Bauer**, Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce

Contact Your  
Legislator



## Invest in Wisconsin's Workforce

Act Now on a New UW-Madison College of Engineering Building