



Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology

The Vision

The Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology will provide the necessary infrastructure the paper, forestry and biofuels industries need to be global leaders in the 21st century.

The Benefits

The Institute will stimulate the regional and state *economies*, benefit the *environment*, enhance *energy* production world-wide, and provide state-of-the-art *education* for Wisconsin's students and practitioners.

The Institute will build on the current strengths of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources: Forestry, Paper Science and Engineering, Waste Management, Soils, Water Resources and Outreach Education programs to create a research, outreach and teaching center that will

- Lead the world in developing technology needed for sustainable resource utilization.
- Provide critical support for the future of Wisconsin's paper and wood industries.
- Develop, manufacture and bring to market new natural resource based products, services and business opportunities.
- Educate leaders capable of positioning Wisconsin to compete in the coming bio-based economy.

The Need

Wisconsin has grown healthy forests, protected water and soil resources and has produced paper and other forest products effectively in the economy of the past century. However, global competition, emerging energy technologies, and environmental protection require a fresh approach in research, outreach and education. Currently all of the elements necessary for creating this fresh approach do not exist in one place or in any coordinated fashion anywhere in the Midwest. The Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology will meet this critical need by integrating expertise in the areas of forestry, paper production, waste management and energy independence in partnership with the business community.



Why UWSP?

The UWSP College of Natural Resources is uniquely positioned to house the Institute. We get things done. The graduates of our paper science and engineering program are leaders in the paper industry. Our forestry faculty and graduates occupy positions of leadership at all levels of government and in all forestry-related industries. The College has a proven track record in working effectively and efficiently with public and private partners in many arenas. This track record has been supported by the collaborative attitude of the larger UWSP educational and research community. UWSP's award winning science programs are important to the capabilities of the College. Other partners will come from the Division of Economics and Business.

Our waste management program is building a new set of laboratories this year. The Paper Science program has its own paper machine on campus. It is used for teaching, research, and outreach education. We have three field stations and numerous forested tracts of land which can also be used for research and demonstration. In short we have many of the elements needed to bring a critical new perspective to the economic, energy, and environmental challenges of this century.

Resources Needed

The cost of creating and insuring the success of the Institute will require a capital investment of \$12.8 million and a continuing annual operating budget of \$2 million.

The capital investment will build state of the art laboratory, education and communication facilities. The operating budget will cover the cost of faculty staff, supplies and transportation. These investments will be in the area of engineering to provide expertise not already in the college. Those areas are biorefining, biofuels, and additional expertise in the area of waste engineering, business and economics, chemistry and biology, and forestry.

Energy production and efficient utilization of processing byproducts are critical to the future of the forest products industry. An investment in laboratories, staff and equipment to round out the energy and waste management end of the Institute would create an opportunity to build on the unique and extensive resources of the UWSP College of Natural Resources that has effectively served the forestry and paper industries of the state for 60 years. This investment would position the College to fill a role that is not being filled and cannot be filled by anyone else in Wisconsin.

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