La Follette School faculty, students, and staff take great pride in the Wisconsin Idea – the principle that education should influence people’s lives beyond the boundaries of the classroom – and practice it throughout the state and the world.

**FAMILY IMPACT SEMINARS & COMMITTEE CONNECT**

- During the 2017–18 academic year, La Follette School staff members engaged with 65 of Wisconsin’s 132 legislative offices, including matching 43 legislators with 37 UW–Madison researchers through Committee Connect.
- Legislators gave the 2018 Family Impact Seminar on strengthening Wisconsin’s workforce an objectivity rating of 4.9 (1=poor, 5=excellent).
- Since 2015, Committee Connect has brought together 63 legislators with 92 UW–Madison researchers.

**OTHER LEGISLATOR & POLICYMAKER OUTREACH**

- Office Hours at the Capitol, a new drop-in event for legislators and legislative, gubernatorial, and legislative service agency staff. Eight UW–Madison faculty members shared their expertise on three high-priority issues.
- Legislative Staff Professional Development Training in Public Affairs for 23 Wisconsin Assembly aides
- Evidence-Based Health Policy Project, led by Sam Austin (MIPA ’08)

**CAMPUS & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

- Director and Professor Susan Yackee moderated Town Hall discussions about key issues during the 2018 midterm elections with six La Follette School faculty members, in Madison and Milwaukee.
- Associate Professor J. Michael Collins and former Associate Director Hilary Shager (MPA ’05, PhD ’12) are among the leaders of the Alliance for the American Dream: DreamUp Wisconsin, a new community-university collaboration aimed at promoting shared prosperity and increasing American competitiveness.
- The Wisconsin Women in Government organization received a Community-University Award in June 2018 because of its 20-year partnership with the La Follette School.
- Twenty-seven organizations benefitted from student research and analysis during the 2017–18 academic year.
- The La Follette School brought more than 400 people to campus through the:
  - Public Affairs Journalist in Residence program, featuring Matthew Yglesias of Vox Media, and Sarah Stillman of the New Yorker;
  - Wisconsin Journalist in Residence program, which hosted former radio host Charlie Sykes, who gave an impassioned and thoughtful account of how the conservative movement in the U.S. has changed over time; and
  - Annual Paul Offner Lecture, which featured Katherine Baicker, dean of the University of Chicago’s Harris School of Public Policy, who discussed the evidence and implications for Medicaid reform.

**ENGAGEMENT WITH ALUMNI AND FRIENDS**

- More than 70 alumni and friends participated in mock interviews and speed networking with first-year students as part of the required Professional Development Workshop.
- The Wisconsin Alumni Association honored alumnus Raul Leon (MIPA ’07) with a Forward Under 40 award for his efforts to improve educational policy and student experiences.
- Led by Director Susan Webb Yackee, the La Follette School Board of Visitors has grown to 15 members.