HIGH-IMPACT TEACHING & LEARNING

The La Follette School creates an active, collaborative environment where students, faculty, and practitioners interact closely and draw upon the outstanding scholarly resources of UW–Madison.

SERVICE-LEARNING

- Students in the required Workshop courses collaborated with local, national, and international clients to produce research-based, analytical, evaluative, and prescriptive reports on challenging issues.
  - At the request of the Moravian Church of North America, five students evaluated the sustainability of a clinic in Honduras, including the creation of a questionnaire they administered during a week-long visit to the remote region. They offered administrative, operational, and fundraising recommendations to help sustain the clinic.
  - Students assisted the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Division of Medicaid Services with its evaluation of the FoodShare Employment and Training program and offered short-, medium-, and long-term recommendations.
  - Cost-Benefit Analysis students applied the tools of political, economic, and statistical analysis for public, nonprofit, and private clients, including a study of 3D imaging technology as a crime scene investigation tool for the Living Environments Lab at the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 27 students visited potential employers, networked with La Follette School alumni and friends, and learned what it is like to live and work in Washington, DC, during the school’s two-day La Follette in DC program.
- 14 students and two prospective students participated in the second La Follette in Milwaukee program. The day-long program featured panel discussions with staff from the city of Milwaukee and policy professionals as well as a tour of the Kinnickinnic River Rehabilitation and Neighborhood Plan.
- 96 percent of 2018 graduates secured employment in their field within six months of graduation.

PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIPS & INTERNSHIPS

- During the 2017–18 academic year, more than half of La Follette School students served as interns or project assistants with on- and off-campus entities.
  - One second-year student immersed herself in health care policy as a project assistant for WPS Health Solutions, a not-for-profit insurer with federal contracts to provide Medicare and other benefits.
  - Five students served as project assistants for La Follette School faculty members who received funding from the Herb Kohl Public Service Research Competition.
  - Master of International Public Affairs student Ryan LeCloux collaborated with Professor Menzie Chinn on a paper discussing the challenges to assessing the economic outlook at the state level.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES & HONORS

- The Society of Benefit Cost Analysis honored Professor Dave Weimer with its Outstanding Achievement Award.
- U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson answered wide-ranging questions from students on topics such as gun violence, drug use and addiction, immigration, and data privacy regulation.
- With support from the William Fitch Fund, Board of Visitors member Curt Culver spoke about his career in the mortgage insurance business and his philosophy for making a difference through leadership in the workplace.