The Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement will host its semi-annual Engagement Poster Day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 4 in Velzy Commons in Ullsvik Hall. This event is free and open to the public.

Approximately 500 UW-Platteville students participated in a PACCE project this semester. These students gained first-hand experience and got a head start on their career by engaging with a community and faculty partner to complete a PACCE project. Ranging from ag to art, from education to engineering, each and every project benefited a community partner in some way.

Congratulations to all the participating students, faculty and community partners on amazing work. Here are a few of the projects you can learn more about at Poster Day.

**PACCE Faculty Partner: Tim Swenson**

Teaching Students with Exceptional Abilities in Health and Physical Education

Community Partner: Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

From the College of LAE, Tim Swenson’s Adaptive Learning Class partnered with the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Janesville, Wis., to work directly with students with disabilities. UW-Platteville’s students placed auditory beepers on disks which enabled participants to locate their disk while playing disk golf. Chains rattled on the holes so participants could successfully play an entire disk golf game. This direct interaction allowed UW-Platteville students to gain experience before entering their job field and to develop and implement lesson plans based on an individual student’s level of performance. To view a video about this project, visit uwplatt.edu/pacce.

**PACCE Faculty Partner: Yan Wu, Ph.D.**

Design and Simulation of Micro-electromechanical Systems

Community Partner: Madison Audubon and the Prairie Enthusiasts

Faculty member, Yan Wu, of the College of EMS gave her class a hands-on experience while teaming up with Madison Audubon and the Prairie Enthusiasts. Students were able to use scanning electron microscopes and atomic force microscopes to take detailed images of seeds in Driftless areas. Images captured show the beauty and uniqueness of the seeds, which also explains how they were distributed. This experience allowed students to understand the imaging process from shooting an object with electrons to the image displayed as a gray scale product on a computer screen and learn how to use a micro scale machine to visualize something very small through the image.

**PACCE Faculty Partner: Krista Hardyman, DVM**

Dairy Cattle Management

Community Partner: Pioneer Farm

BILSA students had the opportunity to investigate elevated somatic cell counts at the Dairy Center located at the Pioneer Farm. Students began by analyzing the Pioneer Dairy Enterprise’s herd and individual somatic cell count records from the previous 12 months by searching for trends and groups of animals that may be responsible for the elevated SCC. Students also submitted bulk tank milk cultures to the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Lab to evaluate the types of pathogens present in the herd. After assessing, students agreed upon the best course of action to further investigate the problem. This opportunity allowed students to put into action what they have learned about the common causes of elevated SCC and common mastitis pathogens.

**Upcoming Events**

Business Planning Workshops – Feb. 4 and March 4, 2014
Elevator Pitch Competition – Feb. 18, 2014
Business Plan Competition – April 16, 2014
PACCE Engagement Poster Day – April 23, 2014

For more information about engagement and entrepreneurial events at UW-Platteville, contact Kevin Bernhardt, Director, at 608.342.6121, or Kathy Neumeister, Senior Marketing Specialist, at 608.342.6020, or visit the website at www.uwplatt.edu/pacce.
Students Meet ‘n Eat with an Entrepreneur

On Oct. 23, the Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement hosted its fourth annual “Meet ‘n Eat with an Entrepreneur.” This year’s keynote speaker was Carl Babler, Principal of Atten Babler Commodities. A self-described “farm boy,” Babler has pursued varied entrepreneurial opportunities beginning at age 8 when he set up a roadside stand to sell garden seeds. The seed was planted early … he discovered the joys of selling on commission and the risk/reward associated with running his own business. And he’s been doing it ever since.

Entrepreneurs joining Mr. Babler were Gary David and his 15-year-old son, Tyler, of Gary David Woodworking and Design; Dr. Sarah Fox and Julie Stephenson, authors of Super Snacks for Super Kids; David Den Herder of Marceco Ltd.; Melissa Pahl, Platteville Area Industrial Development Corp and Twenty Marketing; Jeremy Patnaude, State Theatres LLC; Lou Schweigert, GroAlliance; Darin Shireman, Badger Brothers Coffee; and Adam Weigmann, 4x Innovations. Approximately 50 students attended the event.

Campus Entrepreneurs’ Organization at UW-Platteville

The Campus Entrepreneurs’ Organization (CEO Club) is a group of UW-Platteville students who have organized to practice and promote entrepreneurship. They are creative innovators who are interested in business ownership and are driven by their passion to be entrepreneurial in everything they do. Several members even had the chance to test-drive the Google Glass.

Entrepreneurship Minor Underway

For the first time at UW-Platteville, this year’s incoming class of freshmen can choose a minor in entrepreneurship. And about 30 UW-Platteville students already have. The minor in entrepreneurship is open to all majors and includes both a business and a non-business track. There are no pre-requisites for beginning the minor. Students can choose from a variety of electives that align with their own personal entrepreneurial interests.

Assistant UW-Platteville professor Dr. Marcia Harr Bailey is coordinating the entrepreneurship minor. To learn more, visit uwplatt.edu/entrepreneurship.

CEO Club Hosts Google Glass Demo

He’s a glass explorer. He’s a podcast coach. He’s a YouTube partner. Mostly, he’s a self-described geek. Jeffrey Powers and his Google Glass visited campus on Oct. 29 where he shared his story with UW-Platteville students.

Glass has become an integral part of how he navigates his world … including finding his way from Madison to Platteville. Powers typically wears his Google Glass 18 hours a day and has found that it connects you even more with the outside world. You can find out more about Powers at www.geekazine.com.

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Pioneer Launch Lab Home to UW-Platteville Entrepreneurs

The Pioneer Launch Lab at UW-Platteville helps its members plan, start, and expand their businesses. The lab is open to students, alumni, and faculty/staff and works with each member, or group, on a tailored basis. Our role is to be the consultant who helps members find their focus, understand what needs to be done, and locate resources to achieve their business goals. We have members from each of the three colleges, from freshman to alumni, and at various stages in their business formation. The networking the launch lab members have with each other is an important part of the experience, because it allows students to network with other students with similar interests and to learn from one another’s successes and mistakes.

Pioneer Launch Lab members this semester include Christopher Letherwood, Cody Wiederholt, Craig Lafferty, Erica Lamers, Jacob Oomens, Jonathan Geissler, Josh Terrill, Josh Ingllett, Josh Joseph, Micah Binns, and Roger Coleman. For more information, contact Brock Waterman at watermanb@uwplatt.edu, coordinator of the Pioneer Launch Lab. To apply for Pioneer Launch Lab membership, visit uwplatt.edu/entrepreneurship.