The Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement program has been active since fall of 2008. PACCE provides funding for community projects that support student growth through engagement, teaching and reinforcing classroom learning. Since 2008, 128 community projects have been completed, involving 1,746 students and 173 community partners.

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, April 27, the Pioneer Student Center will be flooded with students, community partners and local business leaders for the University of Wisconsin-Platteville’s semiannual Engagement Poster Day. Students will celebrate and share their projects with community members, fellow students, faculty and staff.

This year’s Poster Day will showcase the 473 students who participated in 33 different projects this semester. They will have the opportunity to explain to others what they did, how they did it and why it was important.

Following Poster Day, from 1-2 p.m., there will be an “Intellectual Property” panel discussion in the Platteville East and West Rooms of the Pioneer Student Center. UWP faculty, students and community members are invited to be a part of this conversation.

Alumni and community members are invited to come explore the project posters and share in the excitement alongside PACCE project members. For more information on Engagement Poster Day or PACCE, visit www.uwplatt.edu/pacce.
Students from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, in collaboration with the city of Platteville, have assisted the implementation of a Federal Highway Administration program called Safe Routes to School. The program works to improve safety and encourage more children to safely walk and bike to school. The Safe Routes to School Program is a FHWA program focused on the engineering, enforcement, education and encouragement of providing safe walking and bicycling routes to K-8 schools.

The university’s program, funded by the UWP Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement, will be presented at the UW System President’s Summit on Excellence in Teaching and Learning, which will take place Thursday, April 29, through Saturday, May 1.

The President’s Summit, which will replace or expand upon several smaller spring conferences, will bring together over 200 faculty and staff across the disciplines to share their experience, knowledge, practice and scholarship. The intentional relationships between teaching, learning and making excellence inclusive will be highlighted throughout this event.

“This project is a great illustration of how PACCE can meet a community need and it’s also a great opportunity for interdisciplinary work among our students,” said Kathy Neumeister, UWP PACCE communications and events coordinator. “I think many community members have had a personal interest in seeing this project succeed because many of us have children who walk or are within walking distance to school.”

UWP students in both education and engineering courses have participated in the project. The engineering students conducted walk-ability and bike-ability audits on the city streets and roads, determining where the safest and most pedestrian-friendly paths should be. Students from the UWP School of Education, some of whom are student teachers at Neal Wilkins Elementary and Westview Elementary School, educated the children about the importance of being active while also stressing safety issues concerning walking and biking. To date, 78 UWP students have been a part of this project.

The project was presented at Marquette University in October and continues to expand, added Neumeister.

Don Shaw, principal at Westview Elementary School, felt that the word was spreading and was happy to see an initiative that gets more of his students walking. “A number of our parents already walk their kids and a few bike them to school and we want to continue to work with students from UWP to educate kids and parents about the program.”

Kristina Fields, UWP professor of civil engineering and faculty advisor for the project, said, “The project started when a senior design team wrote a grant to implement the planning of such a program, which we have received and completed. We are now heading in the direction of writing a grant to support the program’s infrastructure. How a person gets from place to place impacts the quality of their life daily. It is a great opportunity for our students to know how they, as future civil engineers, can help people in such an important way.”

Fields also appreciated the effort put forth by Amy Seeboth, a consultant who worked with Fields and PACCE. Her help, according to Fields, made all the difference and is immeasurable as the project continues to grow.

For more information about the President’s Summit, go online at www.uwsa.edu/vpacad/summit.

---

**PACCE video**

See PACCE in action on youtube: www.youtube.com/user/UWPlatteville

This video provides a brief history of the program, explains projects, global engagement, student involvement and benefits of getting involved!