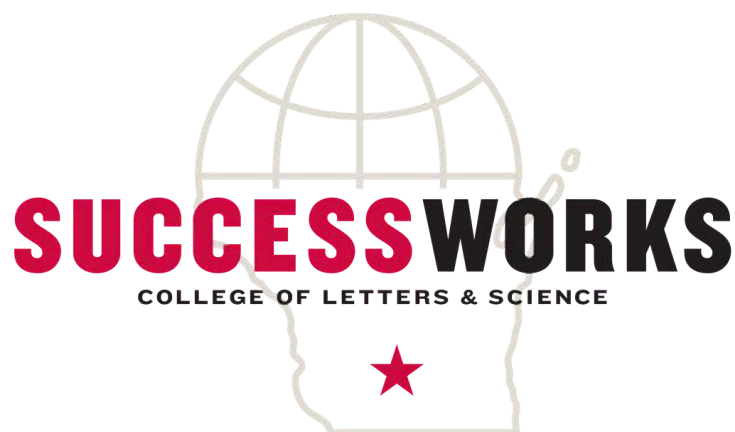
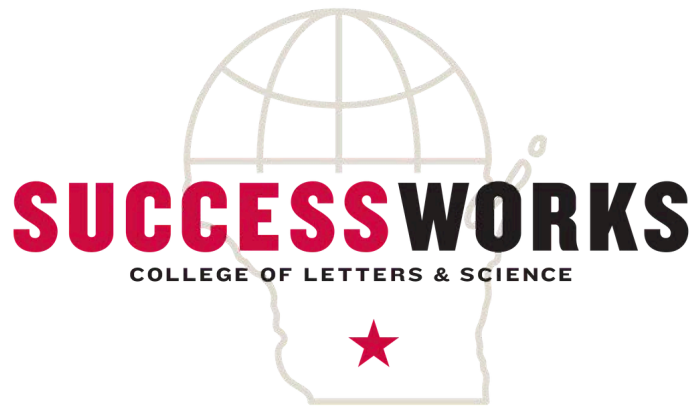


2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

IMPACT REPORT





OUR MISSION

To empower every student in the College of Letters & Science to graduate prepared for fulfilling careers & lifelong success.

.....

OUR VISION

Students realize the full value of their degrees by making career development an integral part of their Wisconsin Experience, joining a community of alumni & employers partnering with L&S in support of future generations.



PREPARING STUDENTS FOR **WHAT'S NEXT**

As the workforce for new graduates continues to evolve and change in unexpected ways, the value of an L&S education becomes more evident. Employers need people who can think critically, communicate clearly, understand complex problems, and adapt to change. With AI and other forces reshaping how work gets done, SuccessWorks is helping students recognize those strengths and connect what they are learning in L&S to the opportunities ahead.

We are doing that work at significant and growing scale. In 2025–26, SuccessWorks recorded more than 36,000 student engagements, including more than 29,000 with L&S students. L&S engagement is up about 30% since 2022, and by fall 2025 we were reaching roughly 59% of L&S undergraduates. We are also continuing to see strong growth among first-generation and low-income students, helping ensure that access to career development is broad and equitable.

That growth reflects a larger shift: career development is becoming a more embedded part of the L&S student experience. Through Career Integration, we are partnering with faculty and departments to help students recognize and articulate the skills they are already developing through their coursework.

This fall, that commitment to access became visible in a new way with the opening of the Baumann Family SuccessWorks Gateway at Irving & Dorothy Levy Hall. Just inside the building's main entrance, the Gateway gives students an inviting place to drop in, ask career advisors questions, and explore what their L&S education can make possible. We are already seeing students stop in throughout the day, often long before they have a specific internship or job in mind.

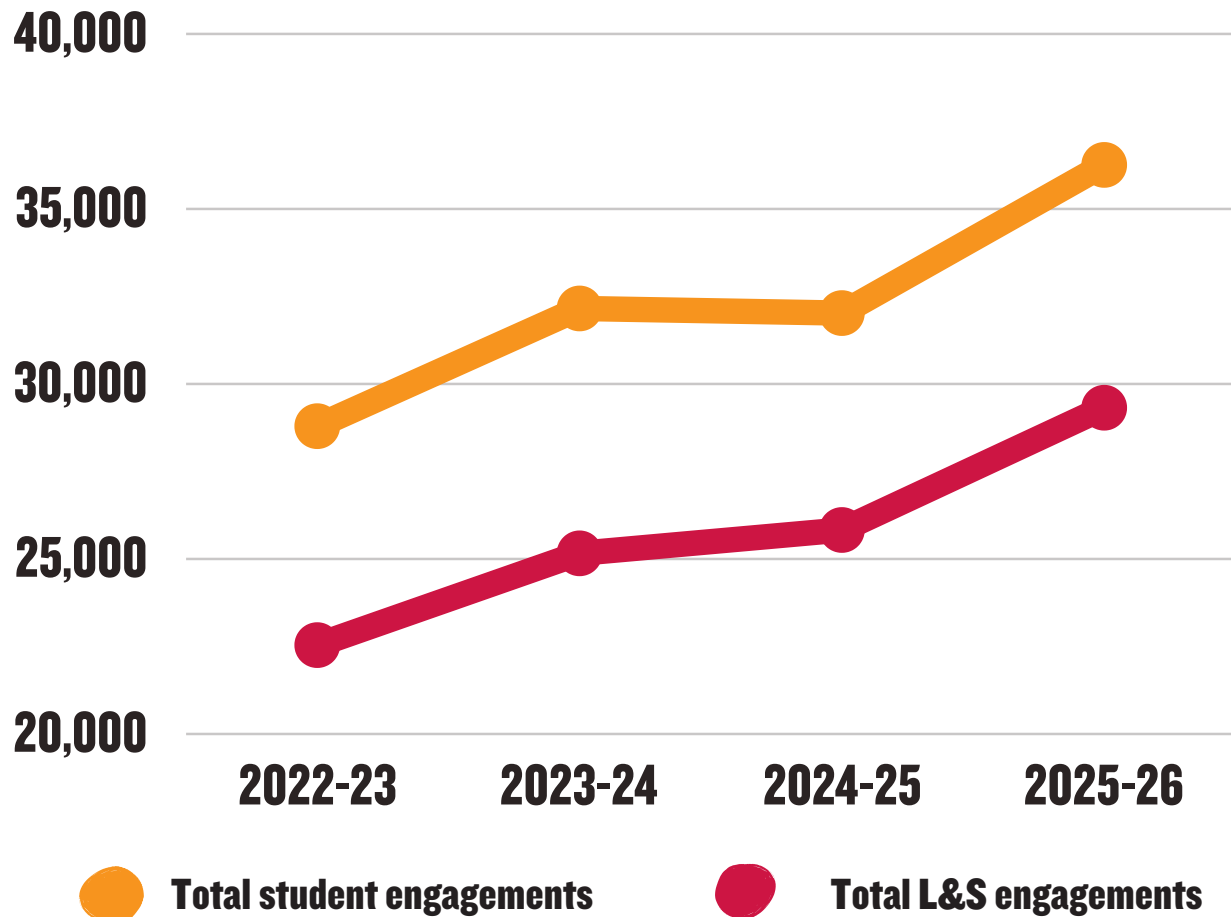
Together, these efforts are helping more students understand the value of their education, build connections beyond the classroom, and confidently pursue the many paths their degree makes possible. Our alumni, donors, employers, and friends are essential partners in making that vision possible, and I am as grateful as ever for your support.

ANGIE WHITE
Executive Director
SuccessWorks



BUILDING

2025-26 Student Engagement Trends



36,258 total student engagements

29,321 L&S student engagements

7,868 low-income engagements

6,867 first-generation engagements

MOMENTUM

SuccessWorks is reaching more L&S students, earlier and more consistently across their college experience.

30%

increase in L&S
student engagement
since 2022

59%

of L&S undergraduates
reached in fall 2025

HOW STUDENTS CONNECT

69%

Programs

14%

Career Fairs

7%

Advising

10%

Courses

SHARE YOUR



SUCCESS

ADVISING & CAREER COMMUNITIES

Career Communities offer students circles of career support, built around clusters of occupations that spark their interests. Every Community is anchored by an expert advisor who crafts programs & resources tailored to the needs of students in every L&S major.



CAREER COMMUNITIES FOR EVERY INTEREST



**CONSULTING, FINANCE
& BUSINESS ROLES**



**ENVIRONMENT,
SUSTAINABILITY &
CONSERVATION**



**COMMUNICATIONS,
MEDIA & THE ARTS**



**HEALTHCARE &
WELLBEING**



**GOVERNMENT, POLICY,
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS & LAW**



**SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH**



**TECHNOLOGY, DATA
& ANALYTICS**



**NONPROFIT &
EDUCATION**

CAREER LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

Career Integration is our strategy for helping L&S students identify, articulate, and apply the foundational skills they are developing through their coursework. With quick and easy resources and partnerships with faculty, SuccessWorks connects students' classroom learning with future opportunities.

880

students enrolled in an L&S Career Course in 2025-26

2,743

students reached with Career Integration resources, across 78 courses and sections

56

faculty & instructors from 30 departments and programs requested 115 Career Integration resources



NEW: Alumni Course Speakers

SuccessWorks now helps instructors bring vetted L&S alumni into classes to speak about the skills they gained through their L&S degree, and how those skills supported their career journey.

In the first year, more than 50 alumni were brought into courses in **Botany, English, History, International Studies, Social Work, and INTER-LS** courses.

Sign up to volunteer: successworks.wisc.edu/alumni

Additional Career Integration Resources



Course
Materials



Presentations
& Videos



Canvas
Modules



Syllabus
Language

successworks.wisc.edu/facultystaff

FACULTY PARTNERS

“ I learned that our career center, SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science, is more than ready and willing to partner with departments and to provide materials and bring in alumni to facilitate this career integration. Now all we need is departments to get on board with making this integration a priority.

We have to help students translate what they learned in the classroom to the next step in their career.”



Anja Wanner

Enid H. Anderson Professor of English
Department of English

.....

“My major takeaway from my conversations with students after sharing the SuccessWorks resume-building resources with them is that they want more space to talk with other majors. That surprised me, but makes sense. They just want to hear what has worked for other people in a similar situation. When I gave them the time in class to listen to each other about their job search strategies, they shared info like networking strategies, gave some cheerleading to each other, and shared specific businesses and government agencies to try.

I'll be encouraging other instructors to do the same. ”



Kathy Cramer

Natalie C. Holton Chair of Letters & Science
Virginia Sapiro Professor
Department of Political Science

CAREER CLOSET

The SuccessWorks Career Closet provides free professional and business-casual attire to L&S students, helping remove financial barriers to successful interviews, career fairs, networking, internships, and jobs.

424

students used the
Career Closet during the
2025-26 academic year

“

Getting professional clothing for free was a lifesaver because I have a couple of professional presentations coming up. I'm glad I didn't have to spend a lot of money on suits.”

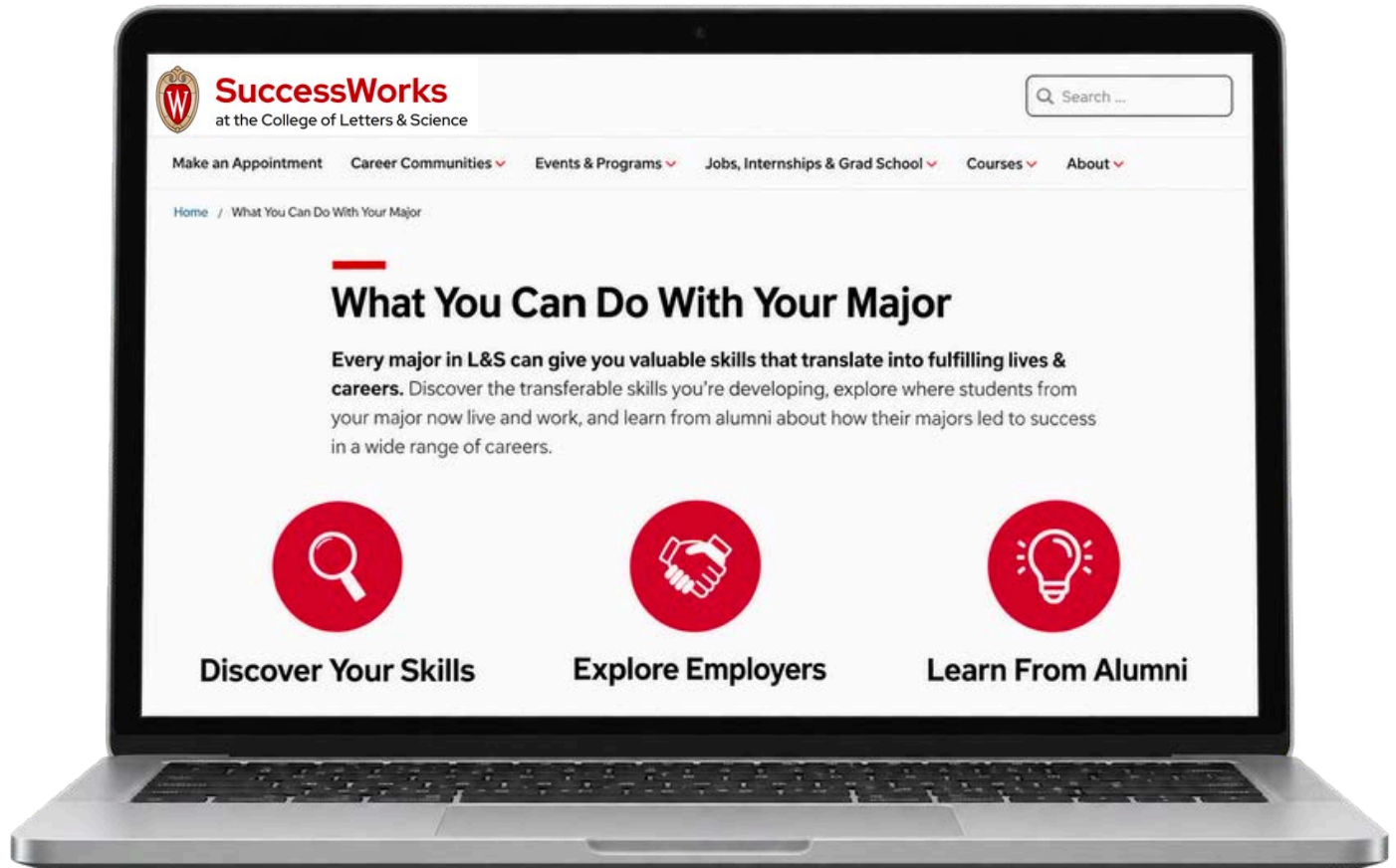


MAJOR POSSIBILITY

SuccessWorks collaborates with academic departments to help students understand how to articulate and use the skills they develop in their majors. Skills & Outcomes Resources show them what's possible with info on each major's transferable skills, common jobs & employers, and words of advice from alumni.

60

L&S majors with dedicated Skills & Outcomes resources



successworks.wisc.edu/majors

INTERNSHIPS



The SuccessWorks Internship Fund makes life-changing experiences possible for students who face financial challenges. In 2025-26, generous donors funded 96 students with more financial support than ever, helping students connect their classroom learning with valuable experience beyond campus.

96

students supported in
summer 2026

\$198,000+

awarded to support
internship experiences

WITHIN REACH

“ This support has made accepting my internship role not a burden to bear, but instead the opportunity that I wanted and hoped it could be.

I am no longer stressed about what my hourly wage would have been, and I do not feel that working here was a massive opportunity cost anymore. It has alleviated a large financial and mental burden from my shoulders and for that I am infinitely grateful.

The most impactful part of my internship experience has come from the fact that I play an integral role to a place where young talented student musicians get to shine. I've watched them, alongside our professional faculty who are often professors at great university music programs, perform countless times. I'm consistently amazed by the caliber of music that is played in a barn in Door County. It is truly a testament to how crucial support for the arts is. As humans we all feed off the energy it creates, one way or the other, playing or listening.

Opportunities like this are not always the most financially incentivizing, but so often they have a great impact on ourselves and the community.”

Allie Waino, '26

Communication Arts & Journalism
Internship: Birch Creek Music Performance Center
Egg Harbor, WI



Give to support student internships

Scan and search for “SuccessWorks Internship Fund”



L&S TALENT

SuccessWorks creates meaningful opportunities for students and employers to connect. Through fairs, networking events, workshops, treks, mock interviews, and other programs, students build relationships and gain exposure to the people & experiences that shape what comes next.

6,000+

student engagements with
employers in 2025-26

365

employers
participating

35

fairs &
programs

RECRUITING AT SCALE

SuccessWorks connects employers with one of UW–Madison’s largest talent pools. L&S students make up nearly half of undergraduates, and we help employers recruit them through tailored strategy, consultation, and access across the college.



EMPLOYERS IN THE CLASSROOM

In fall 2026, we’re expanding our pilot approach to bringing employers directly into the classroom, giving students another way to connect what they learn to the world of work with real employers hiring UW-Madison students.



MEETS OPPORTUNITY



**Government, International Affairs & Nonprofit
Career Resource Fair**



Employer Trek to Epic



Inclusive Community Career & Internship Fair



Capital One Tech Interview Workshop



L&S ALUMNI

Alumni volunteers bring the value of an L&S degree to life. By sharing their own paths, experiences, and practical advice, they help students connect what they are learning now with the many directions it can lead, while offering encouragement and support as students explore options and build confidence in what comes next.

2,996 student engagements
with alumni programs
in 2025-26

379 alumni volunteering
for mentorship &
programs



How Alumni Connect with Students

Career Panels

Candid career stories help students imagine their own paths forward.

Course Visits

Real-world perspectives bring the possibilities of an L&S degree to life in class.

Major at Work Events

Students see the surprising places their majors can take them.

One-on-One Mentoring

Personalized perspective builds confidence and helps students move forward.

SHOW THE WAY

“

SuccessWorks was a fantastic resource throughout my undergraduate experience, especially because it connected my L&S education and interests to real-world opportunities and careers. I always appreciated opportunities to interact with alumni, and now I'm motivated to provide that same experience for other students. When I volunteered for Psychology at Work, I was surprised by how many students wanted to hear about my research experience. Having been a student during COVID-19, that engagement reminded me how strong the UW-Madison community is.

Mentoring through SuccessWorks is a rewarding, relatively low-lift way to give back,

and I always leave these events feeling energized and hopeful about the students entering the workforce. They've also given me opportunities to connect with other alumni and continue learning from people in different fields and stages of their careers.”



Lydia Bliss, '22

Psychology

Current UW-Madison MPA-MPH student

Project Assistant, UW School of Medicine & Public Health

“

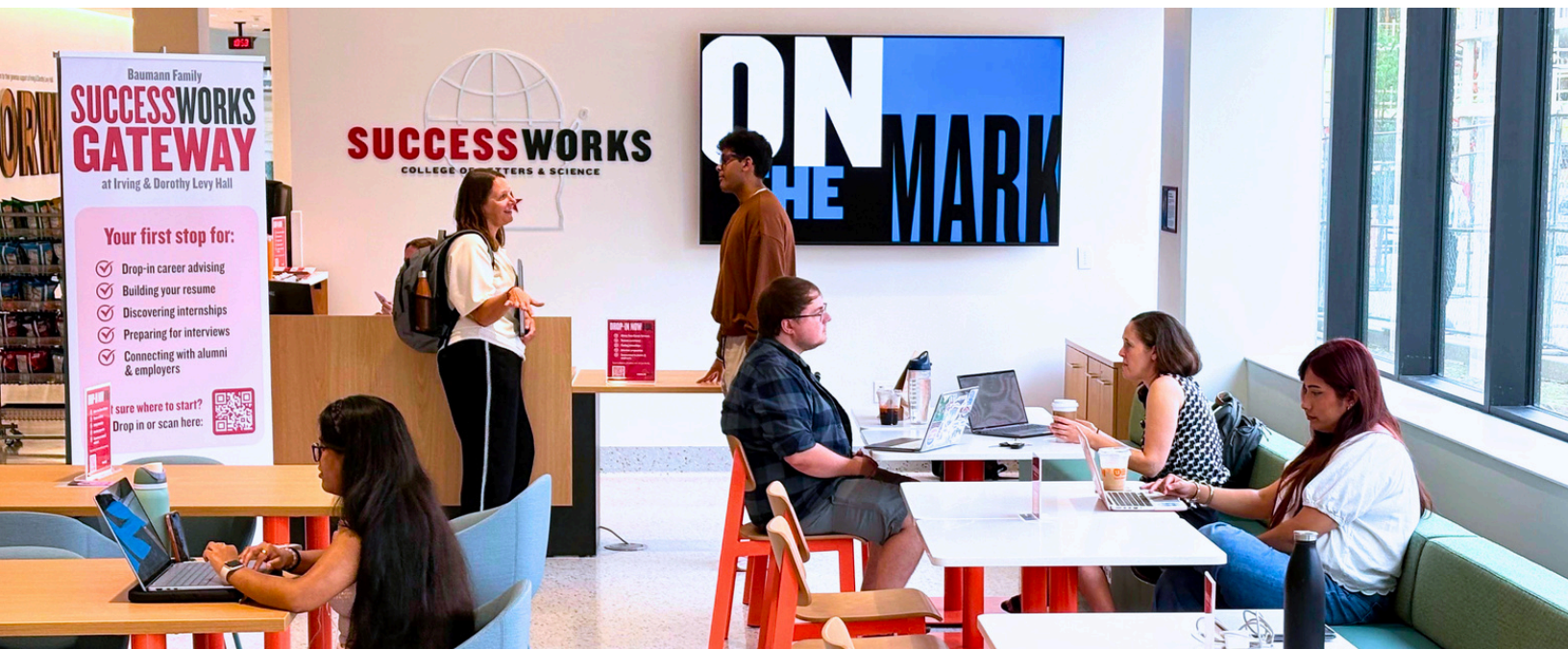
I liked how the alumni had a very wide range of occupations. It helped me see how a degree in psychology can be applied in many different fields, which is really helpful for me because I don't yet have a set plan on what I want my future to look like.”

Student Participant | Psychology at Work | October 2025

Volunteer to mentor students:
successworks.wisc.edu/alumni

SUCCESSWORKS FRONT AND CENTER

The new Baumann Family SuccessWorks Gateway at Irving & Dorothy Levy Hall brings career support directly into the everyday L&S student experience.



L&S students have a new way to kickstart their career development at the Baumann Family SuccessWorks Gateway, located just inside the main entrance of the brand-new Levy Hall. Students can drop in for quick advising, ask career exploration questions, discover what they can do with their majors and interests, and connect with SuccessWorks resources. The Gateway is designed to make it easier to start those conversations early, before students necessarily have a specific internship, job, or career in mind.

Nearly every L&S student will take a class in Levy Hall during their time at UW-Madison

Still at Home in the University Book Store Building

SuccessWorks is still open on the third floor of the University Book Store for in-depth advising appointments, workshops, and the Career Closet.



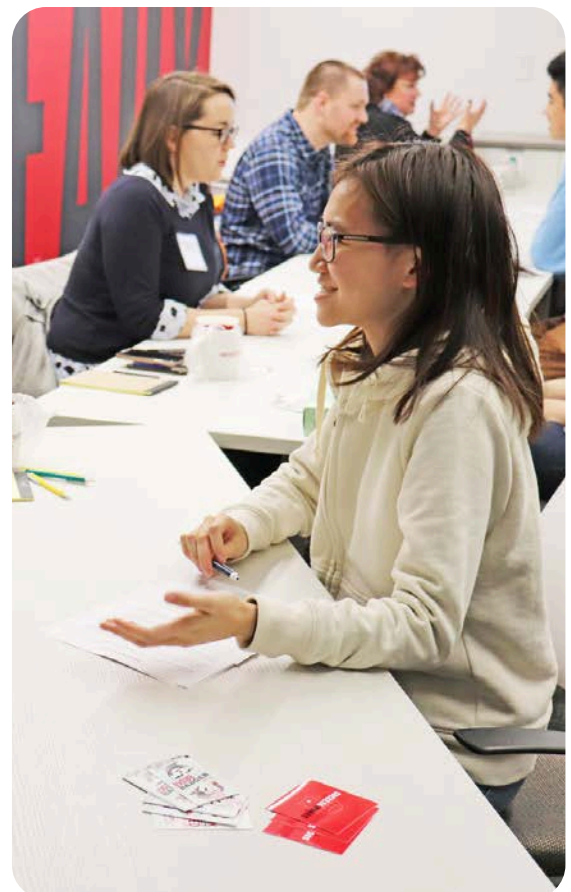
COMING NEXT: SUCCESSWORKS GATEWAY AT **SEWELL SOCIAL SCIENCES** **A new hub for career development is taking shape on Bascom Hill.**

This year, we're developing a new Gateway space right inside the main entrance of Sewell Social Sciences, creating a hub for career programs, in-depth advising, & stronger connections with departments at the heart of the L&S academic experience.

LEARN MORE

The new Gateway is under development in 2026–27. Connect with SuccessWorks Executive Director Angie White to learn more about our vision for Sewell Social Sciences and how philanthropic support can help bring the space fully to life.

angie.white@wisc.edu



**A GREAT
L&S EDUCATION
CHANGES HOW
STUDENTS SEE
THE WORLD.**

**SUCCESSWORKS HELPS THEM
DISCOVER
WHAT'S POSSIBLE.**



SuccessWorks
at the College of Letters & Science
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON