

## **UW Marathon County partnerships address business roundtable skills' gap concerns**



Business and industry leaders gathered for the UW-Marathon County's 2nd annual Business & Industry Roundtable.

Graebel Companies Inc. Senior Vice President Craig Reineking was among the 30 business and industry leaders gathered for the [University of Wisconsin-Marathon County Foundation's](#) [1] 2nd annual Business & Industry Roundtable in February 2012.

"The UWMC Foundation has established a great tradition with the Business and Industry Roundtable," he says. "As a board member of the Wausau Region Chamber of Commerce, I value the proactive efforts of our local UW campus to reach out to the business community."

The foundation organizes and hosts this roundtable to explore ways for the [UW-Marathon County](#) [2] to better meet the needs of the county and central Wisconsin. Participants' input was incorporated into UW-Marathon County's strategic planning during the past year.

"In our rapidly changing business world, it is critical for our higher education institutions to stay in touch with local needs," Craig says. "The UW System is a key partner to economic growth in our state and community."

Much has changed in our region over the past year – with many new challenges and opportunities in the business community – and the college remains focused on priorities highlighted by business people. UW-Marathon County has addressed skill gaps discussed at the second roundtable through partnerships with:

- UW-Madison School of Medicine to bring a physician assistant degree program to Wausau.
- UW-Superior to bring a new paralegal degree program to Wausau as part of UW Colleges' associate of arts and sciences degree program.
- Medical College of Wisconsin to explore options for siting a new medical school in central Wisconsin.
- Northcentral Technical College, UW-Stout and other schools across the state to work on a program that will make a manufacturing engineering degree more accessible in Wausau. This will be in addition to the physical engineering degree UW-Platteville currently offers at UW-Marathon County.

UW Colleges and UW-Extension Chancellor Ray Cross was the featured guest at the third annual

Business and Industry Roundtable in February 2013.

**For information please contact us at:**

UW-Marathon County Foundation: 715-261-6280

E-mail: [uwmcfoundation@uwc.edu](mailto:uwmcfoundation@uwc.edu) [3]

**Links:**

[1] <http://www.uwmc.uwc.edu/foundation/>

[2] <http://www.uwmc.uwc.edu/>

[3] <mailto:uwmcfoundation@uwc.edu>