July 10, 2018

Dear Prospective 2018-2019 WiscAMP STEM-Inspire Scholars:

The Wisconsin Alliance for Minority Participation (WiscAMP) STEM-Inspire Program at UWM is committed to enhance learning opportunities for our students by providing faculty and peer mentoring; facilitating student development through communication with professionals within the STEM discipline; and encouraging student participation in undergraduate research. This program has successfully helped 129 students since its inception.

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity, funded by the National Science Foundation and the UWM Division of Global Inclusion and Engagement, in 2018-19. The application deadline for all applicants is August 10, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Please submit your application package electronically to stem-inspire@uwm.edu. You will be notified of our decision beginning on August 15, 2018. The attached application form can also be found online at https://uwm.edu/steminspire/apply-to-program/, along with a list of frequently asked questions.

As a WiscAMP STEM-Inspire Scholar, you are encouraged to contribute to the success of all your peers by participating in one of the two program levels: a participant or a peer mentor. Both levels are described below. If you are interested in becoming either a participant or a peer mentor, please indicate your preference on the application form.

**Participants:** Students are paired with a faculty mentor and a peer mentor, who will assist them in navigating their way through the academic year. The faculty/peer mentors will also help students on improving academic skills, persisting in STEM majors and identifying research opportunities, which can be an intimidating task. Participants are required to complete a series of peer mentoring handouts related to holistic student success, as well as meeting bi-weekly with their peer mentor and monthly with their faculty mentor. Students are asked to attend at least two professional development events per semester, and write a reflection on each of these events.

**Peer Mentors:** Students are paired with a faculty mentor, in addition to having the same rights and benefits as the Participants. Peer Mentors are seniors who have shown evidence of being able to succeed at the University by earning a GPA of 3.0 or better, and have participated in conferences, research experiences, and professional presentations. Peer mentors meet bi-weekly with their mentees to complete assignments, discuss upcoming conference and internship opportunities, and to share experiences that can help their mentees to perform well academically.
If you are accepted to participate in the program, please put **Monday, September 17, 2018** from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. on your calendar for the **mandatory** Fall 2018 Orientation session. More details are forthcoming.

We look forward to receiving your application for the 2018-19 academic year. If you need help with completing the application, please email WiscAMP Coordinator Anique Ruiz at anique@uwm.edu.

Sincerely,

The WiscAMP STEM-Inspire Staff