

## FOR THE RECORD

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

## Local Government Center celebrates 10 years

We observed a very special milestone last month as we celebrated the 10th anniversary of UW-Extension's Local Government Center.

Formed in January 1992, the initial concept behind the Center was to address local government educational needs and coordinate the related work of faculty and staff in Cooperative Extension.

Many special guests attended the celebration. I was especially pleased that UW System President Katharine Lyall was able to offer some remarks at the event.

"For the majority of people, their only real experience with government is what they see in the cities, villages and towns where they live," Lyall said.

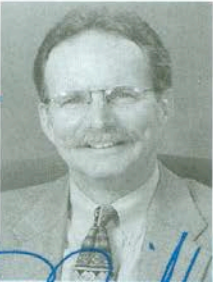
"The University has had, and will continue to have, a strong connection to local government in Wiscon-

sin," she added. "In fact, this notion of the University in service to government is integral to our revered Wisconsin Idea."

The highlight of the event came when we honored some of the key partners and supporters who helped make the **Local Government Center** not only possible, but also highly successful.

Chancellor Emeritus and Regent **Patrick Boyle** was recognized for his individual leadership and vision as one of the Center's founders.

The **League of Wisconsin Municipalities**, the **Wisconsin Counties Association** and the **Wisconsin Towns Association** were also honored for their longstanding partnership and support. Since the Center's creation, these organizations have helped guide educational programming and provide strategic direction. They serve as a general sounding board for the Center staff,



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assist in identifying emerging local issues, and help to deliver educational programs.

In my remarks, I noted that local government officials often face a daunting list of new and old challenges, relating to a variety of issues such as land-use planning, economic development, budgeting, natural resources and risk management.

We do not know all of the new challenges that may confront Wisconsin's local government officials in the next 10 years, but we look forward to serving their ongoing and evolving educational needs.