If you know of a current high school senior who is interested in pursuing a four-year degree and a career in the dairy industry, I wanted to make you aware of a recent letter we recently sent to perspective students. The letter highlighted key points of differentiation and included a fact sheet.

As an alum, you know first-hand the value of a UW-Madison Dairy Science education. We would really appreciate if you could keep your eyes open when you are out and about for potential future students, sow the seed with them, maybe nurture it a bit and pass the names on to me so that we can follow-up. Please feel free to contact me if you know of a student who should receive information from us regarding UW-Madison and Dairy Science. Deadline to apply for fall 2017 is February 1. Thank you for any help and …On Wisconsin!

Rankings
- US News ranks UW 10th in the nation among public universities – we are one of 3 schools in the top 10 that have a college of agriculture, and the only one with a dairy science program! Wherever our graduates go in the world, people have heard about their school and respect the education they received.

- According to the National Science Foundation (NSF), UW ranks 6th in research expenditures among U.S. universities. Why is this important to you? In the 2015-'16 academic year, a whopping 48% of the student body in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) were able to participate in research or study projects!

- The UW-Madison Department of Dairy Science currently ranks #1 among 62 dairy science and animal sciences departments that were evaluated nationwide by Academic Analytics in their Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index. You may be surprised to know that our students enjoy a 7:1 student to faculty ratio in the department. In addition, each of our students has a faculty advisor who they are paired with based on their area of interest. The bottom line for you, even though the UW-Madison campus is this big place, our students enjoy a small school atmosphere where a majority of classes are similar to what you are accustomed to in high school and where the instructor knows you by your first name.

- UW is one of the few schools that currently has both its NCAA Division 1 football and basketball teams ranked in the top 20 of the national polls. In fact, our sports teams across the board have enjoyed an unprecedented run of academic and athletic success. UW sports are just one of many campus extras that contribute to school spirit and the pride of being a Badger!

Location
- UW-Madison is located in the heart of “America’s Dairyland” with World Dairy Expo (WDE) virtually in our backyard. Because of the close proximity of so many dairy related agri-businesses, our students have a myriad of both school-year and summer internship opportunities. At WDE, our students logged an incredible 4,000 hours in jobs that included work in the show ring, milk house, grounds and of course, the club’s cheese stand.

Coursework
- Solving problems in the dairy industry requires basic knowledge about biotechnology, business, genetics, nutrition, health, waste recycling and environmental protection. Our students gain this knowledge and more though their course work. Last year our department offered 22 undergraduate dairy science courses. Twelve of those classes are cross-listed with Animal Sciences, the other 10 were specific to dairy. No other university comes close to having that type of dairy offering at the undergraduate level.