PURPOSE AND EXPECTATIONS
College of Letters & Science Board of Visitors

Involvement of alumni and friends of the College of Letters & Science strengthens its ability to extend a tradition of excellence in education, research, and outreach that achieves the Wisconsin Idea. The Letters & Science Board of Visitors is a select group of key stakeholders with unique access to the Dean, faculty, staff, and students in order to advise and support the mission of the College.

The purpose of the Letters & Science Board of Visitors is to serve as an advisory group and partner with the Dean to provide knowledge, external perspective, and financial resources to advance the mission of the College. More specifically, the Board’s role is to:

- Enthusiastically support the Letters & Science mission and vision and advise the Dean on challenges, opportunities, and trends;
- Stay current about and advocate for the liberal arts and the University of Wisconsin–Madison;
- Help forge links between the College and external constituencies; and
- Support the College’s mission of excellence in teaching, research, and service through personal philanthropy and working with others on their gifts.

Members are appointed for a five-year term, renewable for additional three-year increments, by the Dean of the College of Letters & Science. They are expected to attend and participate in two board meetings a year. It is also expected that members place the College of Letters & Science among their top philanthropic priorities.

At the completion of each term, the Dean of the College of Letters & Science and the Chair of the Board will discuss the member’s service, ask for feedback on their experience and evaluate continuation of service. If the member is not continuing, Emerita/us status will be granted by the Dean to those who have served with distinction and excellence. A board member emeritus shall continue to receive all written notices and information which are provided to the Board and will be invited to participate in significant events and the social portions of future board meetings or other special events for the College. They may also continue service on any of the Board’s sub-committees or ad-hoc groups. Emeritus members shall retain this status indefinitely but may choose to adjust their affiliation at any time.

The Board shall have at least one Chair with the option of establishing a Vice-Chair. The Chair serves at the pleasure of the Dean and does not have a maximum term limit. Committees dedicated to specific functions such as development, communications, etc. may be created by the Dean of the College of Letters & Science in consultation with the Chair.

The Board may have up to 35 active board members.