

**From:** John D Wiley  
**To:** paul@psoglin.com  
**Date:** 8/9/2008 1:17 PM  
**Subject:** promised materials  
**Attachments:** Pointy-Headed Intellectual Op Ed.doc; Wileyfinal\_2.doc

Attached are: a short op-ed that I will probably submit to WSJ or MJS (staff recommend WisPolitics, but I think the readership is too limited).; and the near-final draft of an article that will appear in the September issue of Madison Magazine. I imagine they will edit it in various ways, but they have assured me the basic message will be retained.

**From:** "Paul Soglin" <paul@psoglin.com>  
**To:** "John D Wiley" <jdwiley@bascom.wisc.edu>  
**Date:** 8/12/2008 3:51 PM  
**Subject:** RE: promised materials

Both pieces are great. The first one reminded me of my dad's thinking. He was a mathematician and when he was not working on analytical geometry, was reading the great philosophers. He was fond of Bertrand Russell and while a very tolerant man in the sense of fairness and justice, he had little use or patience for stupidity by those who should know better.

The contact who might be interested in the first article is David Haynes at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. [DHAYNES@journalsentinel.com](mailto:DHAYNES@journalsentinel.com)

Luke Laggis is the city editor at the Rhinelander News. I doubt that he is 30 years old. He is a recent Madison UW graduate who worked on a weekly paper in Oregon and then moved back home because of his love for northern Wisconsin.

Last winter when I was traveling the state I met with him and he told me about the desperate situation they faced in April trying to adopt a referendum to left the spending limits on the school district. The high school was built in the 1960's and not much has been done since.

I bet he would love to run that first article.  
[llaggis@rhinelanderdailynews.com](mailto:llaggis@rhinelanderdailynews.com)

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"The secret to managing is to keep the guys who hate you away from the ones who are undecided." Casey Stengel

-----Original Message-----

From: John D Wiley [mailto:[jdwiley@bascom.wisc.edu](mailto:jdwiley@bascom.wisc.edu)]  
Sent: Saturday, August 09, 2008 1:17 PM  
To: [paul@psoglin.com](mailto:paul@psoglin.com)

**From:** "Paul Soglin" <paul@psoglin.com>  
**To:** "Noel Radomski" <ntradoms@education.wisc.edu>  
**CC:** "John D Wiley" <jdwiley@bascom.wisc.edu>  
**Date:** 8/28/2008 10:48 AM  
**Subject:** partnership for wi  
**Attachments:** Partnership for Wisconsin is a collaborate effort of business.doc

Here is the draft I worked on for the proposed Partnership for Wisconsin

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"The secret to managing is to keep the guys who hate you away from the ones who are undecided." Casey Stengel

The Partnership for Wisconsin is a collaborative effort of business, labor, professional, and academic leaders committed to a sound Wisconsin economy. The Partnership is a non-profit organization whose members share a common value, namely the importance of education for the growth, security and happiness of the individual, the family, and society. The participants share a common belief that a highly educated and trained workforce is a critical element in making Wisconsin a better place to live, work and play.

The Partnership for Wisconsin acknowledges the benefits to the individual and society of an education.

A safe and healthy community is one that provides economic security and ensures economic opportunity for all of its members. Studies show that education is indispensable if individuals and their families are to fully realize the benefits of their labor.

Male college graduates earn well over \$60,000 a year from the age of 35 to 60. High school graduates in the same age range earn under \$40,000. The differential for women is similar. Women college graduates will earn over \$40,000 a year while female high school graduates earn about \$23,000 a year.

Society also benefits from the earning power of education. Depending upon race and gender, the additional taxes paid by a college graduate compared to a high school graduate is between \$200,000 and \$400,000 in the course of a lifetime.

The benefits are not as stark, but still significant, if a high school drop out were to finish school, or if a high school graduate were to have just one or two full years of higher education.

For example the public benefit of a high school education is \$209,000. That amount represents the combination of greater taxes and reduced cost to the public of a high school graduate as opposed to a high school drop out.

From society's perspective, it always pays to invest in education.

Add to this, the demands of Wisconsin business and industry for what one major employer who described his highest priority as a "need for an intelligent workforce." Employers need workers who can contribute productively and intellectually.

The *Partnership for Wisconsin* recognizes that to provide for a sound education system there must be a fair and equitable system of taxation. In encouraging public support for education, the *Partnership* is committed to a Wisconsin taxation plan that not only adequately funds education, job training, and workforce development at all levels, but fairly distributes the cost among all of the parties who benefit.

The Partnership for Wisconsin recognizes that adequate investment in human capital and infrastructure are critical to stimulating private investment. For that reason, we are committed to encouraging a dialogue between the public and private sectors to set an agenda that acknowledges the many direct and indirect benefits that come from such strategies.

**As its first commitment, the *Partnership* will focus on:**

- Ensuring adequate financing of public education in all districts throughout the state of Wisconsin.
- UW System education. Financing adequate so that
  - no in state student has to pay more than % of their tuition
  - out of state tuition is not more than 100% of the costs of educating the student
  - Faculty salaries at the Madison campus are commensurate with other Big ten Schools
  - UW system Schools are.....
- A workforce development program through the VATC System ....
- A tax structure that will most likely require an increase of existing taxes, the expansion of the tax base, and or the adoption of new taxes in order to adequately finance....

The *Partnership* feels that our state must not only have an educated workforce but that we have an enlightened citizenry that understands the externalities and the consequences, or lack of consequences, from not giving full consideration to appropriate investment in human capacity as well as the learning environment.

For that reason the Partnership for Wisconsin is committed to supporting programs that are designed to provide economic opportunity to all Wisconsinites. A healthy state economy is predicated on strategy that encompasses all areas of the state, urban, rural, and suburban.

The *Partnership*, from time to time, may support the work of others or engage in its own research and policy development in areas related to education, workforce development, or which support the individual's ability to further their education and training. This may also include the examination of collaborations with employers, both for profit and non-profit, that are in need of an ever expanding educated workforce.

The *Partnership* recognizes that many factors enter into the decisions of investors to locate businesses in a community. Reputable studies show that public safety, efficient transportation systems – both public and private, a sound environment, cultural and recreational opportunities, along with fair taxation and a friendly attitude towards economic development are all critical elements that affect decision making. For that reason the *Partnership for Wisconsin*, will convene workshops and forums throughout the state to discuss how to improve the economic climate.

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Particular attention will be paid to how the international economic environment impacts Wisconsin business and the need to create sustainable industries that can compete in an economy that will afford greater opportunity to businesses that are 'green.'

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., noted for his leadership in the civil rights movement could have found an alternative career as a leader in the quality movement when he said "All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence." The Partnership for Wisconsin joins in Dr King's sentiment and is committed to urging both business and labor to collaborate to the greatest degree possible in providing fair and decent wages and benefits, working conditions and hours, and at the same time appreciating the contribution to improvement that every employee can make.

While the *Partnership* will not become involved in disputes between employers and organized labor, it will urge that resolution of differences be made with an eye to the long term consequences as well as the short term needs of both parties.

Wisconsin has a long tradition of utilizing the research capabilities of its universities for the advancement in health, science, nutrition, safety, technology, culture, societal organization, and a greater understanding of the human condition. For that reason the Partnership for Wisconsin is committed to supporting research and academic freedom in all of our institutions of higher learning.