



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Peggy West, 12th District

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For Immediate Release

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SUPERVISOR WEST VISITS NATION'S CAPITAL AS MEMBER OF WACEC WISCONSIN DELEGATION

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisor Peggy West was one of more than 12 Wisconsin delegates attending the *2007 Public Issues Leadership Development Conference* in Washington D.C. She represented the Wisconsin Associated County Extension Committees, Inc. (WACEC) at the conference.

WACEC serves as the liaison between county government and the University of Wisconsin-Extension. It is made up of members of Extension Education Committees from each of Wisconsin's 72 County Boards. WACEC provides a forum for consideration of County extension education issues.

The Public Issues Leadership Development Conference was held from April 23-25 at the Crystal City Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. More than 200 representatives from across the nation attended the conference, which featured presentations on topics such as alternative energies, community and food security, and youth and civic engagement. Wisconsin delegates met with their congressional representative in the House and Senate. Supervisor West, UW-Extension Chancellor David Wilson and UW-Extension Milwaukee County Director Eloisa Gomez met in person with both Congresswoman Moore and Senator Kohl.

“We shared with our elected officials how important federal, state and local partnerships are when resources are so tight at all levels of government. We need funding from all three partners to continue offering important local programs through Cooperative Extension,” Supervisor West said, “Our Wisconsin Congressional Delegation was very supportive of the proposed Smith Lever funding needed to maintain vital UW-Extension programming.”

Cooperative Extension Interim Dean and Director Richard Klemme also attended the conference. “I am always impressed with the commitment our County partners demonstrate when they take time to let our congressional delegation know the value of their local extension program to them and to their constituents,” Klemme said. “I find the members of Congress and their staff are very attentive to their constituents as they talk about their experiences with Cooperative Extension.”

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