Innovation Advisory Panel – UWW Report: November 9, 2026

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Powered by the spirit of innovation!



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Innovation Advisory Panel - Agenda

Agenda items:

- IAP Advisory Ambassadors
- Updates
  - Student connections
  - Resources
  - Events / Meetings / Programs
  - MOU
- UWW - Driving Innovation
- Community Impact
- What else?
- Next meeting – Q1 2027



Innovation Advisory Panel - Ambassadors

IAP Advisory Ambassadors

- Strategic Guidance: Stress-testing long-term plans, identifying blind spots, exploring new markets, and acting as a sounding board to navigate challenges.
- Networking: Opening doors to new investors, partners, or industry specialists.
- Advocacy: Promoting the organization to leverage credibility and shape its public image
- Who?
  - Student = Haley Kahl
  - Park Tenants = EWM, Kay Grahler; Summerset Marine, Jenny Krempien
  - Center Tenant = iButton, Jake Marshall; JH Group, Jhiehelle Kistle
  - Local Business = Sweet Spot, Elena Gildemeister
  - Business Resource = SBDC, Jason Schleip



Innovation Advisory Panel – UWW Pilot project

Driving innovation

- Pilot project: Race car, event, social media
- What's next?



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Innovation Advisory Panel - Events

Resources

- SBDC: Fully staffed and very active
- Assistance any time of day: email thelene@uww.edu
- Referrals 24x7: email, text, call
- Executive in Residence – Strategy, AI



Programs / Events / Meetings - @ Innovation Center

- Meet-ups
  - Q1 = AI with Chamber
  - Q3 = Design Thinking
  - Q4 = Lightcast Report – date coming
- September 17: Founders Factory event
- Podcast: Driving Innovation
- Various UWW meetings
- Nov/Dec: combine Meet-up with Holidays (Thanksgiving/Christmas/New Years)

Memberships:

- Wisconsin Tech Council - shared
- Industry: BioForward, FaB, Water Council, WMC, Great Lakes Fusion Coalition, Wisconsin Games Alliance, WI IOT Alliance

Marketing

- Social Media – combine topics + news + tags
- Newsletter
- Digital Board
- Podcast – send ideas

Community Impact

- Connections
- Convening

What else?

- AI Ethics panel discussion
- AI in the Workforce (WTC and WCEDA)
- What type of businesses does Whitewater need/want more of?



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UWW – *the spirit of innovation is alive!*



