FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Attention: News, Assignment and Photo Editors

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ROV competition simulates Gulf oil spill challenges at UWM’s Klotsche Center pool and Discovery World

Who: Metro area high school students with a strong interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) will use student designed remotely controlled underwater robots in a competition which simulates challenges specific to ROVs during the 2010 Gulf oil spill as they compete in the second annual Remotely Operated Vehicle competition in Wisconsin. Teams matched with water sector mentors follow: Dream Chasers of Milwaukee County and AO Smith; Waterford Union High School of Waukesha County and Diversey Company; Lakeview High School of Kenosha and the U.S. Coast Guard; Prairie High School of Racine and KOT Environmental Consulting; Ozaukee High School and ITT; and West Bend High School of Washington County and Astronautics.

What: The six high school teams, including the defending state champion team from Ozaukee High School, represent key counties in southeastern Wisconsin. Each team is comprised of four to eight students, a coach and a water-sector business mentor. Wisconsin’s champion will go on to compete against other ROV champions in the 2011 MATE International ROV Competition June 16-18 at the NASA Johnson Space Center’s Neutral Buoyancy Lab in Houston, TX.

Last year, the champion team from Ozaukee High School traveled to Hilo, Hawaii to compete.

When: 9am-4pm, Sun., March 7, 2011.

Where: ROV competition and presentation by the water-based business community in Southeastern Wisconsin will take place at Discovery World, 500 N. Harbor Dr., with a video feed to the UWM-Klotsche Swimming Pool, 3409 N. Downer Ave.
Why: The Building the Water Generation ROV Competition is a program developed by the Milwaukee Water Council, UWM Great Lakes WATER Institute, UWM School of Continuing Education and Discovery World for the following four reasons:

• to raise student awareness of freshwater career opportunities

• to provide the means of developing technical, communication, teamwork, problem-solving and critical thinking skills

• to engage public/private sector experts to mentor regional teams on the United Nations Compact issues (aquaculture, phosphorus, storm water, waste treatment, new technologies, contaminants and integrated solutions)

• to connect students and teachers with working professionals in the water sector

Background:

Through Connect a Million Minds, Time Warner Cable connects young people to hands-on learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math so they are prepared to solve the economic, environmental and community challenges of the future.

The Milwaukee Water Council was created by leaders in business and education to bring the Milwaukee region’s existing water company and research clusters together. The Council aims to achieve this mission using the following approaches: University/Corporate Linkages; Education/Talent Growth; World Water Research Campus, Global Communications, and Public Policy. [http://www.milwaukee7-watercouncil.com/wiki/show/Main](http://www.milwaukee7-watercouncil.com/wiki/show/Main)

The UWM School of Freshwater Sciences at The Great Lakes WATER Institute represents the only major aquatic research institute located on Lake Michigan and the largest U.S. institution of its kind in the Great Lakes Region. It is part of the University of Wisconsin System and is a UW System “Center of Excellence.” [http://www.glwi.uwm.edu/](http://www.glwi.uwm.edu/)

Discovery World is a 120,000-square foot facility that includes interactive science, technology and freshwater exhibits, learning labs, theater, television and audio studios, as well as fresh and saltwater aquariums. [www.discoveryworld.org](http://www.discoveryworld.org)

About the School of Continuing Education: As one of 14 schools and colleges that comprise the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, SCE meets the needs of participants through an assortment of courses, programs, services and workshops. With 19,000 participants each year, SCE is the largest provider of noncredit continuing education in Southeastern Wisconsin. Its mission is to generate knowledge and learning opportunities for individuals who are interested in developing professional skills in business, technology, and human services, enriching their lives with classes in the arts and humanities, and/or simply looking for a new intellectual challenge.

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