FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Attention: News, Assignment and Photo Editors

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Future Engineers, Scientists and Technicians Go Head-to-Head in a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Competition

Witness five metro area high school teams demonstrate their prowess as they compete against each other’s Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) during the third annual Wisconsin MATE Regional ROV Contest from 9am to 4pm, Sun., March 18, at Discovery World, 500 N. Harbor Dr., with a video feed to the UWM Klotsche Center Pool, 3409 N. Downer Ave.

Student designed ROVS are judged on their abilities to evaluate World War II shipwrecks in the Pacific Ocean that may still contain hazardous materials.

Students with a strong interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) comprise this year’s teams: Lakeview Technology Academy, Pleasant Prairie; Ozaukee and Oostburg High Schools, Fredonia; Sauk Prairie High School, Prairie du Sac; The Prairie School, Racine; and West Bend High Schools, West Bend.

For the past two years, the champion team from Ozaukee High School competed at the NASA Johnson Space Center’s Neutral Buoyancy Lab in Houston, TX (2011) and in Hilo, Hawaii (2010). This summer, Wisconsin’s champion will go on to compete against 20 other regional champions during the 11th year of international competition at the YMCA Aquatic and Family Center in Orlando, Florida, June 21-23, 2012.

Three years ago, The Building the Water Generation ROV Competition for the State of Wisconsin was developed in partnership with the Milwaukee Water Council, UWM-School of Freshwater Sciences, UWM-School of Continuing Education and Discovery World. The Building the Water Generation ROV Competition is a regional site to the international Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE).

Besides raising student awareness of freshwater career opportunities, it provides the means of developing technical, communication, teamwork, problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Public/private sector experts also are sought out to mentor regional teams on the United Nations
Compact issues (aquaculture, phosphorus, storm water, waste treatment, new technologies, contaminants and integrated solutions), and connect students and teachers with working professionals in the water sector.

Other pluses are that ROV Teams are matched with water sector working professionals that volunteer their time and technical expertise as mentors, technical assistants, and competition judges.

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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.

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**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.