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SUPREME COURT

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF WISCONSIN

No. 2023AP1399-OA

REBECCA CLARKE, RUBEN ANTHONY, TERRY DAWSON, DANA GLASSTEIN,  
ANN GROVES-LLOYD, CARL HUJET, JERRY IVERSON, TIA JOHNSON, ANGIE KIRST,  
SELIKA LAWTON, FABIAN MALDONADO, ANNEMARIE MCCLELLAN, JAMES MCNETT,  
BRITTANY MURIELLO, ELA JOOSTEN (PARI) SCHILS, NATHANIEL SLACK,  
MARY SMITH-JOHNSON, DENISE (DEE) SWEET, AND GABRIELLE YOUNG,

*Petitioners,*

GOVERNOR TONY EVERS, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY;  
NATHAN ATKINSON, STEPHEN JOSEPH WRIGHT, GARY KRENZ, SARAH J. HAMILTON,  
JEAN-LUC THIFFEAULT, SOMESH JHA, JOANNE KANE, AND LEAH DUDLEY,

*Intervenors-Petitioners,*

v.

WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION, DON MILLIS, ROBERT F. SPINDELL, JR.,  
MARK L. THOMSEN, ANN S. JACOBS, MARGE BOSTELMANN, AND CARRIE RIEPL, IN THEIR  
OFFICIAL CAPACITIES AS MEMBERS OF THE WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION,  
MEAGAN WOLFE, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE  
WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION; ANDRÉ JACQUE, TIM CARPENTER, ROB HUTTON,  
CHRIS LARSON, DEVIN LEMAHIEU, STEPHEN L. NASS, JOHN JAGLER, MARK SPREITZER,  
HOWARD L. MARKLEIN, RACHAEL CABRAL-GUEVARA, VAN H. WANGGAARD,  
JESSE L. JAMES, ROMAINE ROBERT QUINN, DIANNE H. HESSELBEIN, CORY TOMCZYK,  
JEFF SMITH, AND CHRIS KAPENGA, IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITIES AS MEMBERS OF THE  
WISCONSIN SENATE,

*Respondents,*

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE;

BILLIE JOHNSON, CHRIS GOEBEL, ED PERKINS, ERIC O'KEEFE, JOE SANFELIPPO,  
TERRY MOULTON, ROBERT JENSEN, RON ZAHN, RUTH ELMER, AND RUTH STRECK,

*Intervenors-Respondents.*

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EXPERT REPORT OF DR. RYAN WEICHELT  
IN SUPPORT OF WRIGHT PETITIONERS' MAP

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## Expert Report of Dr. Ryan Weichelt on Behalf of Wright Petitioners

January 12, 2024

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### Executive Summary

I am a Wisconsin-born and -bred electoral geographer and Professor at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire. My focus has been on political/electoral geography with an emphasis in demographics, quantitative methods, and geospatial technologies. I study communities in the State to understand electoral responsiveness and redistricting. The Wright Petitioners have retained me as an expert to analyze their proposed map’s (“Wright Map”) Senate and Assembly Districts’ treatment of communities of interest throughout the State.

I understand that the Court has stated that, in evaluating proposed remedial maps, it will consider “traditional districting criteria not specifically outlined in the Wisconsin or United States Constitution, but still commonly considered by courts tasked with formulating maps,” including “preserving communities of interest.” Op. at 46. Though there are myriad ways to think about communities of interest (or “COIs”), a central tenet is that geography itself is inherently important to how people live and how they think about their communities. As one leading scholar put it, a community of interest is a “(1) geographically defined group of people who (2) share similar social, cultural, and economic interests and (3) believe they are part of the same coherent entity.” Stephanopoulos, N. 2012. Redistricting and the Territorial Community, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* (160): 1379–1430.

In my expert opinion, based on my experience as an academic, my studies and analysis, and my time living in Wisconsin, the Wright Map does an excellent job at respecting and preserving various communities of interest throughout the State. It maintains important geographic boundaries, such as generally preserving cities, towns, and the like. It also unites and preserves American Indian Tribes’ reservations within districts (with the exception of the Ho-Chunk Nation, which has lands scattered in a way that cannot be reasonably contained within a single district), as well as other communities like Hmong immigrants, Amish populations, and certain European-settlement communities (like Polish, German, English, and other distinct waves of settlement with distinct economic and development histories). The Wright Map further respects educational and recreational communities, such as university communities, public schools, regional athletic leagues, tourist attractions, vacation communities, and similar communities where people have shared interests. It also tracks media markets, such as television and radio stations, that tend to link people by setting the proverbial news of the day. And perhaps most importantly, the Wright Map tracks how Wisconsinites see and understand themselves and their communities.

This report identifies eight primary regions within Wisconsin (Northwoods, Western Wisconsin, Driftless Area, Central Wisconsin, Madison Metro, Green Bay Area, Lake Winnebago, Milwaukee Metro). These regions correspond to physical features, socio-economic characteristics, and cultural commonalities. They provide an effective tool to analyze the effectiveness of the Wright Map at reflecting true, lived communities in Wisconsin.

Using this basic geographic structure to explain and evaluate the Wright Map, I discuss in detail how its proposed Senate and Assembly Districts respect communities of interest at every level. I also note that the Wright Map substantially improves upon the now-invalidated 2022 Map, which used non-compact shapes, split many major areas, and generally ignored important communities of interest.

## **I. Background and Qualifications**

I am a Professor of Geography at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (UWEC). I have been employed at UWEC since August of 2009 and currently serve as Chair of the Geography and Anthropology Department. During my tenure at UWEC, I have published about 30 articles in journals and book chapters, and have edited volumes on a variety of subjects—including numerous studies focused on Wisconsin. I have also taught several classes about Wisconsin geography and have spoken publicly, including via radio, on Wisconsin electoral geography and related topics. My education includes a BS (2000) in geography from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, a Masters of Applied Geography (MAG, 2002) from Texas State University, and a Ph.D. (2008) in geography from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Since 2018, I have served as Co-Chair of Research Council 15 (Cultural and Political Geography) for the International Political Science Association (IPSA). I am also the first vice president of the international geography honor society, Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU). A full copy of my CV is attached hereto.

Much of my research is informed by and grounded in my experiences living in Wisconsin. I was born and raised in Marshfield, Wisconsin and attended the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. I left Wisconsin briefly to pursue my early graduate studies, though during that period I also held short-term jobs in and around Milwaukee and Marshfield, which included travel as far north as Sheboygan, west into Waukesha County to Hartland, and south into portions of Racine. These jobs allowed me to explore these areas and interact with local communities. In 2004, I moved to Lincoln, Nebraska to complete my Ph.D. in electoral geography. Then, after a one-year visiting professor position at the University of Central Oklahoma, I returned to Eau Claire as tenure-track faculty.

For the past 15 years, my research and teaching have focused on political/electoral geography with an emphasis in demographics, quantitative methods, and geospatial technologies. Electoral geography examines the spatial nature of elections. My research

requires working knowledge of political cultures, EDI (equity, diversity, and inclusivity), and demographics, as well as expertise in geospatial technologies for mapping and analyzing election-based data.

Many of my recent publications have focused on Wisconsin, particularly elections in the State. My analyses have included the 2010 gubernatorial election, the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections, and 2020 electoral dynamics in Kenosha County. I also authored a book chapter about core redistricting and gerrymandering concepts. And in 2019, I spoke at a Harvard University conference about the changing political culture in Wisconsin.

I study Wisconsin geography beyond the electoral and political spheres. For instance, in 2012, I studied the variability of gasoline prices across the region, including detailed study of Eau Claire, Wausau, La Crosse, and Hudson. In another study, I explored foreclosures in Dane County, which required a differential study of cities, towns, and villages throughout the area.

I have also studied rural Wisconsin at length. For example, in 2020, a colleague and I explored the impacts of tourism on land ownership throughout Northern Wisconsin. And in 2022, my colleagues and I commenced several studies regarding rural health systems, focusing on Western Wisconsin. In one case, to obtain data, we drove over 2,000 miles covering nearly every road in Eau Claire County measuring cellular phone strength. In another, we conducted a socio-economic and spatial analysis of ten counties centered around Elmwood. Then, in 2023, I studied (through two separate projects) the effects of transportation and urbanization on rural areas and agriculture, spanning rural parts of the State as far south as Prairie du Chien, east to Madison, and north of Onalaska.

In addition, I have served as an expert witness in numerous geography matters. In August 2020, I testified as an expert in geography and geospatial technologies in *Western Native Voice v. Stapleton*, No. DV 20-0377, 2020 WL 8970685 (Mont. Dist. Ct.). My testimony involved extensive geospatial analysis, using a Geographic Information System, examining over 300 communities in Montana. In December 2021, I prepared two expert reports and a redistricting plan for state house districts in *United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations v. Illinois State Board of Elections*, No. 21-cv-05512 (N.D. Ill.). In August 2021, I testified as an expert in geography and geospatial technologies in *Western Native Voice v. Jacobsen*, No. DV 21-0569 (Mont. Dist. Ct.). My report analyzed socio-economic differences and voting access between Native American reservation communities and off-reservation places in Montana.

I have been retained by the Wright Petitioners in this case and am being compensated at a rate of \$225 per hour. This compensation does not depend in any way on the results of my analysis, the conclusions that I draw, or the eventual outcome of the litigation.

## II. Methodology for Understanding and Evaluating Communities of Interest

In its December 22 decision, this Court stated it will consider “traditional districting criteria not specifically outlined in the Wisconsin or United States Constitution, but still commonly considered by courts tasked with formulating maps,” including “preserving communities of interest.” Op. at 46. A community of interest (or “COI”) at its most basic level refers to a group of people with shared concerns and a sense of cohesion with each other. Drawing districts that respect communities of interest is necessary to ensure political representation. After all, districts that track natural, lived communities comprising people with shared perspectives and interests facilitates representation of those people by likeminded representatives.

There are different ways to conceptualize communities of interest. One approach reflects that geography itself is inherently important to how people think about their communities. As one leading scholar put it, a community of interest is a “(1) geographically defined group of people who (2) share similar social, cultural, and economic interests and (3) believe they are part of the same coherent entity.” Stephanopoulos, N. 2012. Redistricting and the Territorial Community, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* (160): 1379–1430. Communities of interest thus include objective and subjective components, and the interplay between the two generally defines the community. Put otherwise, individuals tend to define their communities based on who they live and work with, and who their children go to school with and play sports against. That is important to capture when thinking through effective political representation and redistricting.

Communities of interest within Wisconsin start with basic demographics and geography. Nearly six million people live in the State. Much of the population is concentrated in southeastern cities near Madison and Milwaukee; other regions are heavily rural. Wisconsin is also a majority-white state, though there are diverse communities throughout. The largest concentrations of minority populations are found in southeastern Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha, but other groups form distinct communities across the State, including many Native American and Latino communities throughout Wisconsin, Hmong populations in places like Eau Claire, Wausau, and Appleton, and Somali refugees in Barron.

Wisconsin’s economy is based on agriculture and manufacturing. But recently, cities across the State have experienced tremendous growth in service-based sectors. In particular, Eau Claire, Appleton, and Madison have embraced information-based industries such as health care, insurance, and software development, increasing their influence over surrounding areas and communities.

Wisconsin’s physical geography also plays a significant role in maintaining COIs. From Wisconsin’s Northwoods to the Door Peninsula, to the picturesque Driftless Area,

and across the State's many river valleys, these physical features not only influence land use patterns but also provide unifying features that anchor communities across Wisconsin.

Finally, as mentioned above, beyond objective indicators, COIs should reflect a subjective, common belief shared by people about their communities. While it is not possible to ask all citizens of Wisconsin how they understand their communities, public comments regarding people's sense of place across the State were collected by the People's Maps Commission in 2022. Citizens were asked to provide feedback about what they believe constitutes communities of interest where they live. The MGGG Redistricting Lab at Tufts University analyzed the responses and identified 36 distinct clusters throughout the State. Within the clusters, the Lab created heat maps that identified common responses within identified geographies. The responses provide a unique and informative dataset that speaks to citizens' sense of place. Common themes include attachments to economic characteristics, neighborhood identification, infrastructure, schools, public spaces, protection of vulnerable communities, and a connection to local physical geography.

Drawing on the aforementioned considerations, and due to Wisconsin's cultural and physical geography, it is possible to define distinct regions. These regions can be identified by several key features, including the influence of large urban centers, economic activities, transportation corridors, physical features, demographic, cultural, and/or ethnic groups, media markets, and schools, including school athletics. Figure 1 below identifies eight salient and significant regions in Wisconsin. These regions reflect major COIs and form the qualitative analysis of the Senate and Assembly Districts in the next section of this report. My overall assessment, based on my expertise and experience, is that the Wright Petitioners' Map proposes Senate and Assembly Districts that reflect, respect, and preserve relevant communities of interest in Wisconsin. To be sure, communities of interest do not come in equal-population sizes, and that means that no map will perfectly capture COIs. Notwithstanding that reality, the Wright Map is highly attentive to relevant COIs.

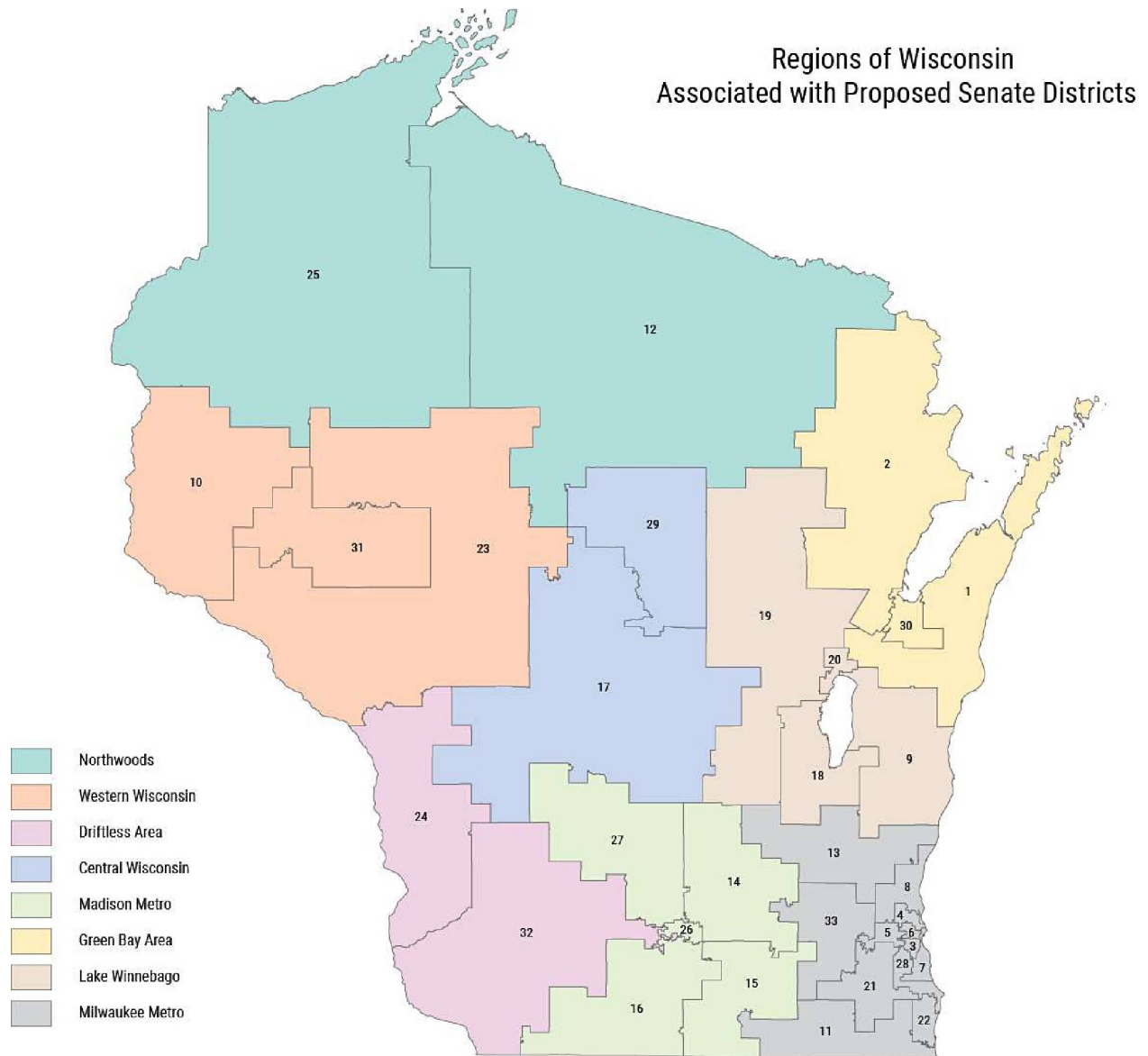


Figure 1: Regions of Wisconsin Associated with the Wright Petitioner’s Proposed Senate Districts (Source: Author)

### III. A Communities-of-Interest Analysis of Wright Petitioners’ Map

Based on my academic study as a geographer and my experience as a Wisconsinite, the Wright Map effectively preserves communities of interest across the State. In this section, I introduce each above-identified region of Wisconsin and provide a specific and detailed analysis of how the Wright Map’s proposed Senate and Assembly Districts maintain important communities of interest within each region. In framing this discussion, it is worth noting that, in Wisconsin, three Assembly Districts are nested within one Senate District—a feature that offers mapmakers the opportunity to create districts that maximize COIs. The Wright Map seizes on and maximizes this potential. Even in the larger rural

areas, the Wright Map's Senate Districts effectively link COIs within their borders, and the configuration of the nested Assembly Districts further enhances connections among more localized COIs.

In the regional analysis below, I explain how the Wright Map effectively creates compact districts by maintaining COIs that share common social, cultural, and economic interests. In demonstrating and discussing the Wright Map's success, I pay special attention to socio-economic characteristics, the influence of large urban areas, transportation corridors, shared histories, and other relevant topics unique to specific areas.

### **A. Northwoods**

The Wright Map's Senate Districts 12 and 25 reflect and respect the communities of the Northwoods Region—one of the most recognizable regions in the State, in large part due to its tourism industry. This region lacks large population centers and, because much of the land is publicly owned, is home to local, state, and federal parks for recreation. (Figure 2 below illustrates public land ownership in Northern Wisconsin.) Beyond tourism, Northwoods' major industries include lumber, paper mills, mining, and small manufacturing operations. Local public-school districts are among the region's largest employers. Culturally, Northwoods is home to seven Native American communities; the Wright Map preserves these important communities by maintaining their boundaries in both Senate Districts (see Figure 3). The Wright Map is also sensitive to communities influenced by past European settlers from Scandinavia, including Finland, which define



some local cuisine (like pastries filled with meats) and sauna culture (saunas are common in homes).

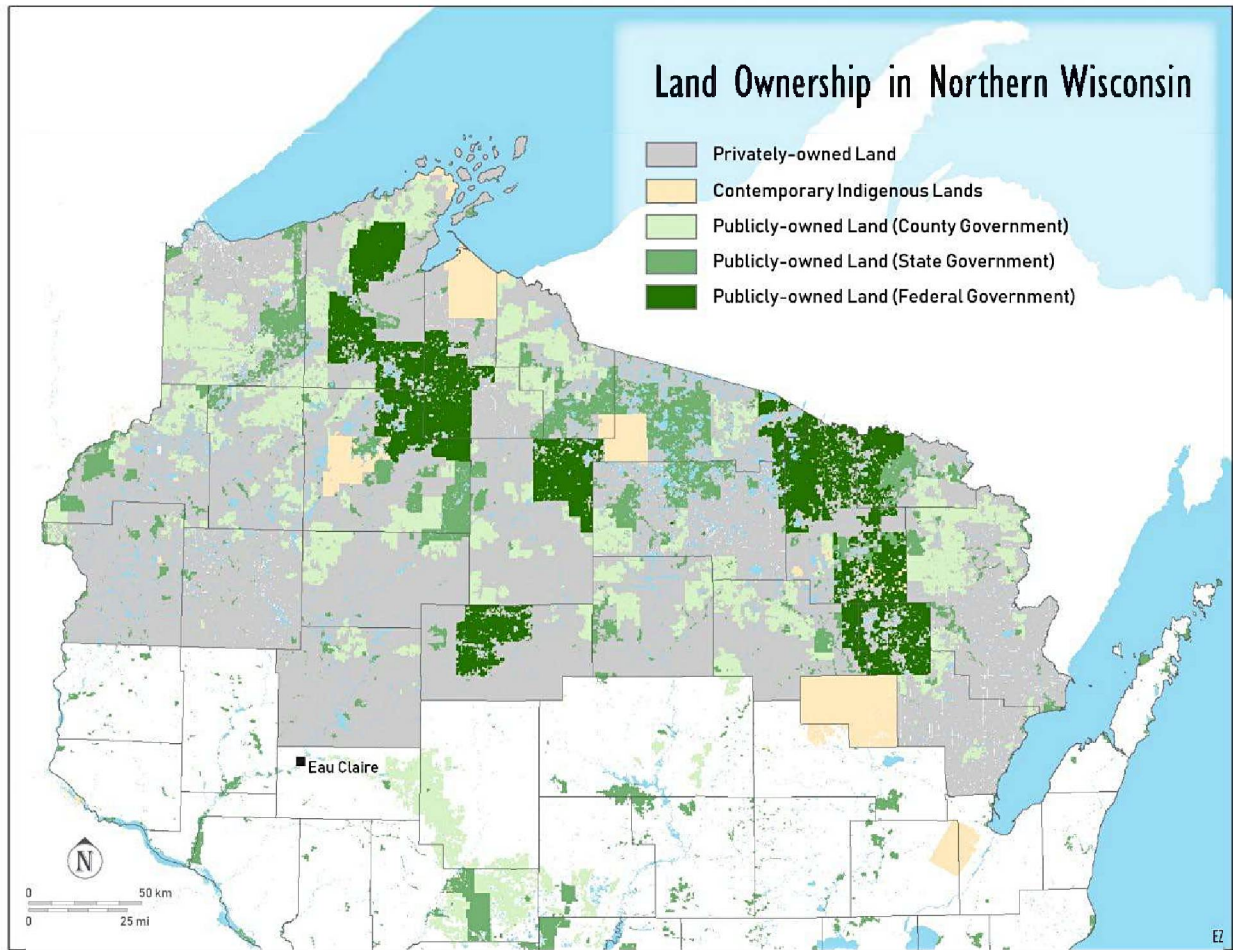
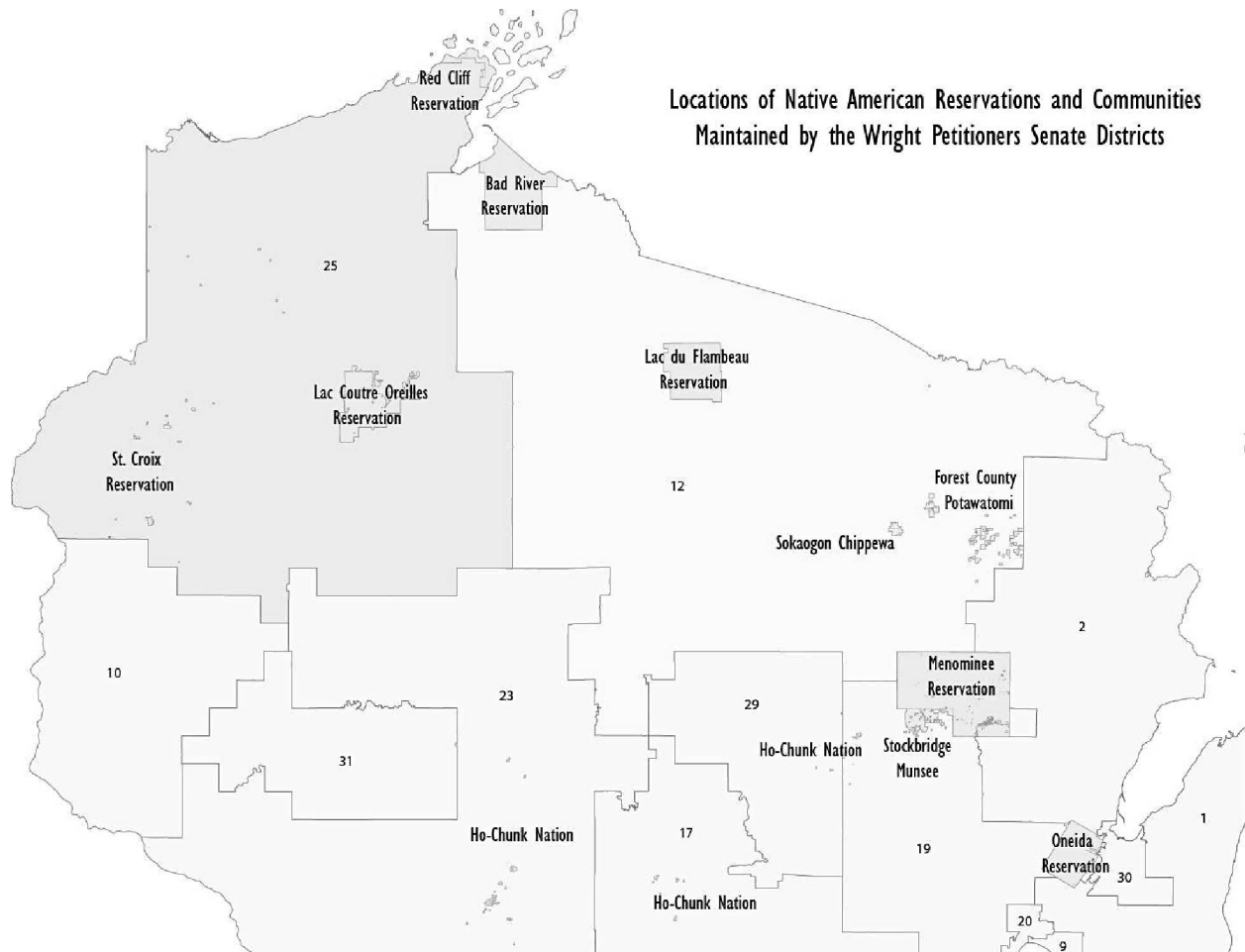


Figure 2: Public Landownership of Parcels throughout Northern Wisconsin (Source: Zeitler and Weichelt 2019)



**Figure 3: Locations of Native American Reservations and Communities per Wright Petitioners' Proposed Senate Districts**

The Wright Map's boundary between Senate Districts 12 and 25 reflects distinct communities defined by different tourism drivers. Senate District 25 comprises the western half of the Northwoods Region, where the major tourism destinations are the Hayward area and the Northshore area along Lake Superior. Senate District 12, meanwhile, comprises the eastern half of the Northwoods Region and is strongly influenced by tourist areas in Minocqua and Eagle River. In both districts, second homeowners from outside the region have a significant impact on land use. Figure 4 identifies the county of residence of parcel landowners from counties throughout much of the Senate Districts 25 and 12. As the figures below show, the Wright Map's Senate District 25 reflects landownership influenced by Minneapolis, while Senate District 12 captures areas of landownership dominated by southeastern Wisconsin.

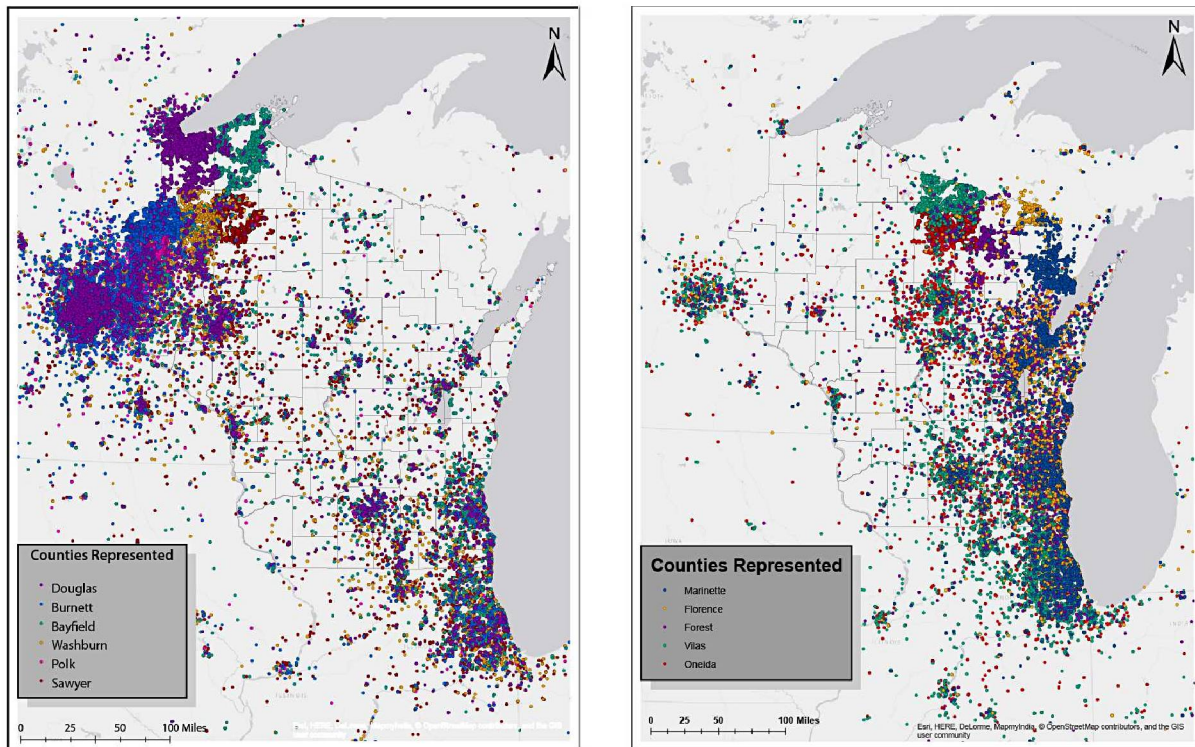


Figure 4: County of Parcel Ownership from Select Counties in Wright Petitioners' Proposed Senate Districts 25 and 12 (Source: Weichelt, Zeitler, Berg, Wirth 2017)

Within the Wright Map's Senate District 25, Assembly Districts 73, 74, and 75 reflect distinct economic, social, and cultural communities. Assembly District 73 is the least tourism-driven and most agricultural of the three Assembly Districts. Schools in this region play in the same athletic conferences (Lakeland and Heart O'North), and Highways 70, 63, and 53 provide transportation connections. The St. Croix Chippewa Indians Reservation is also located in this region; the Wright Map maintains the entirety of the reservation intact. The Wright Map's Assembly District 74 preserves communities oriented towards tourism around Lake Superior, with Highways 53 and 2 supplying transportation links. Within this District, the Wright Map also maintains the entirety of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Reservation. Assembly District 75 preserves tourism-based communities around Ladysmith, Rice Lake, and Hayward, as well as the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Reservation in its entirety.

Within Senate District 12, the Wright Map's Assembly Districts 34, 35, and 36 similarly reflect communities of interest. Many of the schools in these districts play in the Great Northern and Marawood Athletic Conferences, providing direct, lived connections, and Highways 8, 64, 51, and 45 supply direct transportation connections. Rhinelander has a local television station (Channel 12) that broadcasts across and unifies Senate District 12. Additionally, the Wisconsin River creates a shared major geographical reference point and provides a common economic history focused on the paper industry, with operative mills

in Rhinelander and Tomahawk as well as a mill that closed in the 1990s in Merrill. The Wright Map's districts also preserve all Native American reservations located in this area in their entirety, including the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Sokaogon Chippewa Community, and the Forest County Potawatomi Community reservations.

For the reasons discussed, the Wright Map maintains the many COIs in the Northwoods Region, while the 2022 Maps (former Senate Districts 22, 18, and 2) inappropriately split northern Wisconsin with little regard for these COIs. For example, the 2022 Map's Senate Districts 2 and 18 split the core areas of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians Reservation, and the 2022 Map's Senate Districts 4 and 18 split the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Reservation. The Wright Map, by contrast, preserves these reservations' communities. Similarly, the 2022 Map's Senate Districts 18 and 22 also wrongly split Hayward and Ladysmith from western areas that are linked by tourism and second-home landownership near Minnesota. Furthermore, the 2022 Map's Senate District 22 extended from Hayward to areas south of Wausau. These areas shared little if any cultural or economic connections, are influenced by varying media markets (Eau Claire and Wausau), and due to their odd shapes, do not share any direct transportation corridors. The Wright Map cures all these problems.

## **B. Western Wisconsin Region**

The Wright Map preserves and recognizes the Western Wisconsin Region via Senate Districts 10, 31, and 23. As the Wright Map's sensitive boundaries reflect, this region is largely agricultural but includes some cities, including Eau Claire, Hudson, and Marshfield, and is largely unified by the Eau Claire media market. This region is also connected by transportation networks including Highway 29 and I-94, as well as railroads, which provide this region with direct access to the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, Madison, and Green Bay. As the Wright Map's districting reflects, this region is also economically linked by two major health systems (Marshfield Clinic and Mayo Clinic) and three four-year universities in Eau Claire, River Falls, and Menominee. Additional common economic drivers include manufacturing, service industries, and frack sand mining operations.

### *1. Senate District 10*

The Wright Map's Senate District 10 reflects a community greatly influenced by the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area through media and housing (including for commuters). Cities such as Hudson, New Richmond, River Falls, and St. Croix Falls are bedroom communities for many people who work in and around the Twin Cities area. Many of this region's schools play in the same athletic conferences (Big Rivers and Middle Border). As the Wright Map's districting reflects, the cities have a significant influence on the region,

with the surrounding smaller communities primarily engaged in agriculture, specifically dairy farming—Ellsworth, for instance, is famous for its cheese curds.

The Wright Map's Senate District 10 comprises Assembly Districts 28, 29, and 30, the boundaries of which reflect real economic and social communities. District 28 is anchored by the City of New Richmond to the south and Amery and St. Croix Falls to the north. District 29 is more densely populated, combining the cities of Hudson and River Falls, and is strongly influenced by the Twin Cities due to its location on I-94. District 30, meanwhile, includes rural areas with agriculturally based communities and economies. The Wright Map's Assembly Districts in this area reflect and maintain a strong sense of real social and economic community.

## *2. Senate District 31*

The Wright Map sensibly draws Senate District 31 to the center around the City of Eau Claire. As Wisconsin's eighth largest city, Eau Claire has profound influence over the surrounding areas, including because of the networks formed by four major highways (I-94 and Highways 29, 53, and 12). Eau Claire also unifies this region because it offers high quality health care, including at the Marshfield Clinic and Mayo Clinic, as well as Sacred Heart Hospital and Oak Leaf Medical Center. Culturally, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire provides educational opportunities in music, theater, and athletics. The University is building a large athletic facility that will host numerous regional events and concerts and has also invested in a new performing arts center. Eau Claire is also home to a variety of music festivals, including Country Jam and Jazz Fest, that bring people from all over the region. In addition, Eau Claire is the dominant media market with two TV stations, several radio stations, a local newspaper, and the regional arts and entertainment paper: Volume One. The Wright Map maintains these communities centered around Eau Claire. It is also sensitive to a growing Hmong community, which Senate District 31 preserves.

The Wright Map's three Assembly Districts, 91, 92, and 93, logically combine portions of Eau Claire with other key areas. District 91 connects Eau Claire to the Village of Lake Hallie and Chippewa Falls. Lake Hallie has seen tremendous growth over the past decade and because it is located on the borders of both Chippewa Falls and Eau Claire, these communities are heavily intertwined, including for development and planning. The Wright Map's Assembly District 91 also sensibly combines northern portions of Eau Claire containing a large industrial park with Chippewa Falls, another manufacturing community. The Wright Map's proposed Assembly District 91 also appropriately keeps together the core of downtown Eau Claire along the eastern banks of the Chippewa River.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly District 92 correctly connects western Eau Claire with Menomonie—the two are naturally linked by I-94 and school districts. Menomonie has a four-year school (UW-Stout), and the high schools in Eau Claire and

Menomonie play in the same athletic conference (Big Rivers). Menomonie also has another location of the Mayo Clinic, further connecting it to Eau Claire.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly District 93 covers the southern areas of Eau Claire and the City of Altoona. Both areas have seen tremendous growth over the past decade focused on housing and commercial development. Cooperation between the cities will remain vital for further development in the coming years, and the Wright Map thus facilitates representation of people with specific, shared policy interests and development priorities.

### *3. Senate District 23*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 23 captures agricultural communities in northern and eastern areas that are centered around Marshfield (the district's largest city); these areas are relatively flat, wooded, and dominated by farms. As the proposed boundaries reflect, the communities of small towns like Loyal, Greenwood, Colby, and Abbotsford are similar, with shared policy concerns related to their economic dependence on agriculture. The region is also home to communities concerned with fracking and mining activities, particularly in the southern areas in Trempealeau and Jackson Counties, as shown in Figure 5 below. Highways 10, 29, and 13 provide vital transportation routes unifying the region, and the Marshfield Clinic serves patients throughout the area with facilities in Neillsville, Greenwood, Colby, Stratford, Chippewa Falls, and Bloomer. The Wright Map also unifies the two area prisons: Stanley and Black River Falls. Finally, the Wright Map's boundaries keep together a sizable Amish population that stretches across Senate District 23.

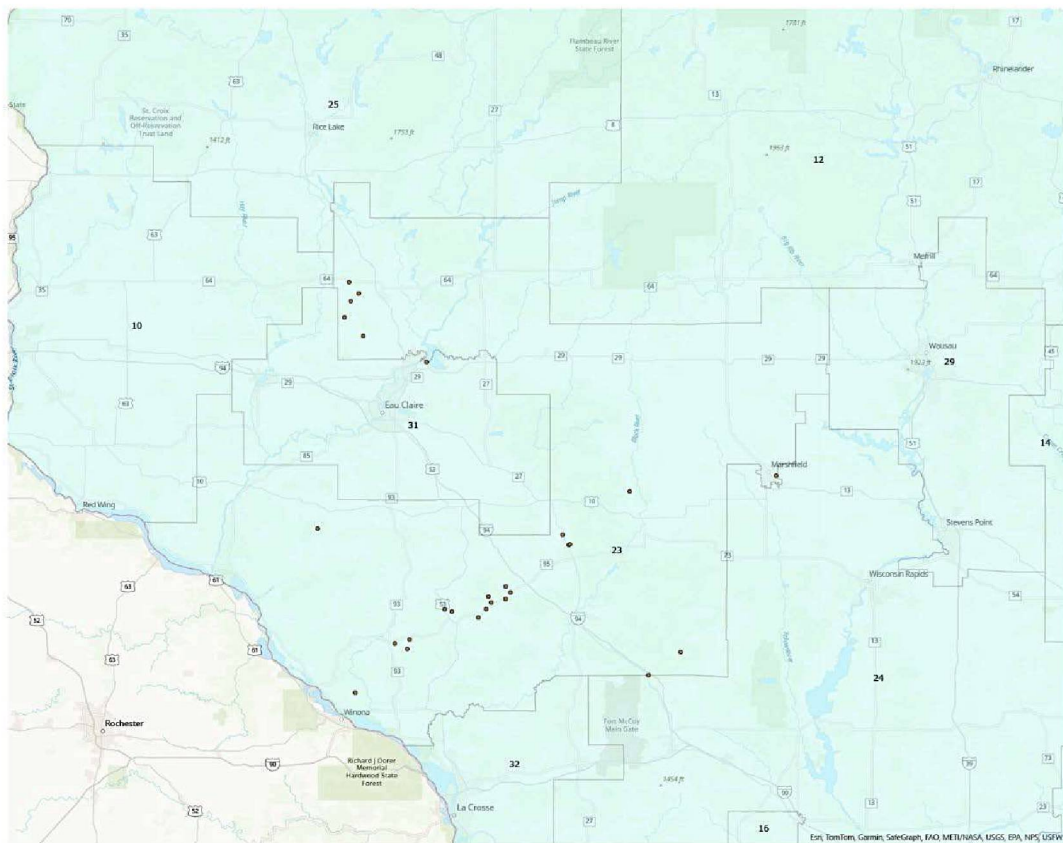


Figure 5: Locations of Frank Sand Mining Facilities in Wright Petitioners' Proposed Senate District 23 (Source: WI DNR <https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?viewer=AMDV>)

The Wright Map's Assembly Districts 67, 68, and 69 reflect and respect regional differences within Senate District 23. Assembly District 67 is the northernmost area, connected by Highways 29 and 53; its schools primarily play in the Cloverbelt Conference. Assembly District 68 is geographically cohesive, representing the northern portion of the Driftless Area including Trempealeau, Pepin, and Buffalo Counties. This area is dominated by agriculture, chicken farms, and small manufacturing operations across a series of small towns that compete in the Dairyland Athletic Conference. It also includes large-scale furniture manufacturing (Ashley Furniture), which has spawned recent growth and population influxes, including growing Latino communities. As a result, there are increasing numbers of Mexican restaurants and cafes in the area, and soccer matches unite residents. This region is also defined by its relationship to the Mississippi River on its western borders. Assembly District 69 reflects the communities most heavily influenced by Marshfield. These well-designed assembly districts capture the unique features of each of the areas within Senate District 23.

The Wright Map accurately reflects communities of interest throughout the Western Wisconsin region that are connected through a variety of mechanisms including local economies, transportation corridors, and cooperation. The 2022 Map, by contrast, split many clear COIs. For example, the 2022 Map split the City of Marshfield along uninformed boundaries. The 2022 Map also split the northern portion of Eau Claire from the rest of the city and the City of River Falls. In contrast, the Wright Map respects and enhances the strong bonds among local communities throughout the region.

### C. The Driftless Area

The Wright Map draws districts that reflect the unique communities in the Driftless Area, a region defined by its unique physical geography. The Driftless Area is, in fact, named after its landscape—the large hills, valleys, and ridges that developed when glaciers avoided the area over 11,000 years ago. Figure 6 below identifies this region and shows its unique topography. As the Wright Map's boundaries also reflect, rivers are regionally important, too. The Mississippi River flows along the entire western portion of the region, and the Wisconsin River flows into the Mississippi near Wyalusing State Park. The Wright Map tracks those natural boundaries in its proposed Senate Districts 32 and 17.

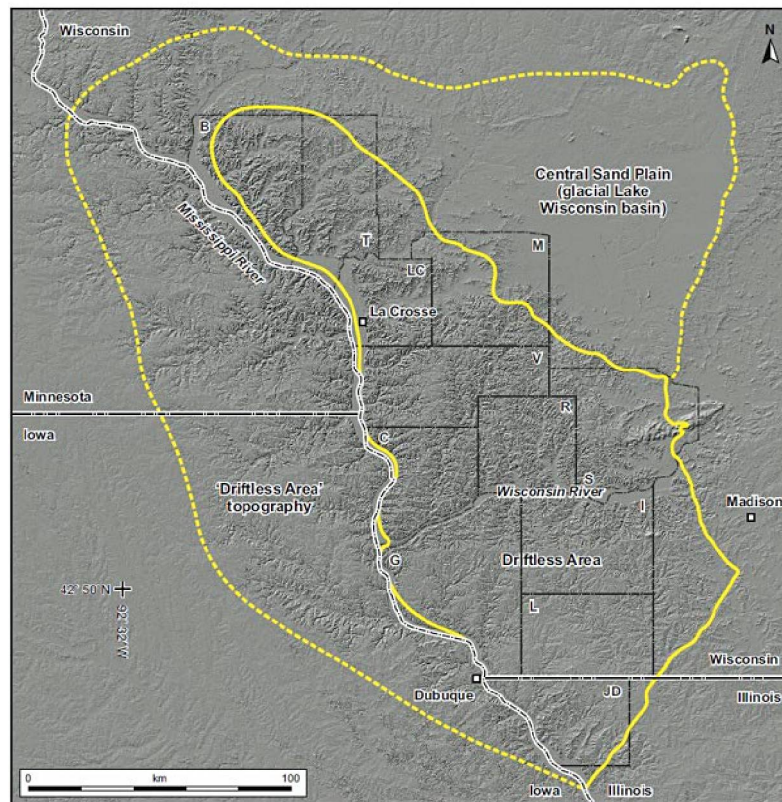


Figure 6: Map Identifying the Driftless Area as well as Displaying the Topography  
(Source: Jim Knox 2019)



### *1. Senate District 24*

The Wright Map draws Senate District 24 to preserve a strong, natural community. Many locals refer to this area as the “Coulee Region,” from the French word “couler”—meaning “to flow”—referring to the rivers and streams flowing through the region’s many valleys. The district also reflects the strong influence of the City of La Crosse, which is home to a television station (Channel 8) and the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, as well as a performing arts center that provides cultural amenities for the region. La Crosse is important for jobs and industry across the senate district, including two hospitals and the corporate headquarters and a food-processing plant for the convenience-store chain Kwik Trip. In addition, La Crosse is a locus of food production, including Great Lakes Cheese and Reinhart Foodservice, which fosters further economic connection that the Wright Map maintains.

Beyond La Crosse, the Wright Map draws Senate District 24 to reflect the area’s other communities. Onalaska, a small city to the north, for example, is growing because of its proximity to and connection with the La Crosse. South of La Crosse, the area opens up to become more rural, spotted with dairy farms. The City of Viroqua, meanwhile, maintains its historic tie to tobacco. And Prairie du Chein celebrates this region’s connection to the Mississippi River with a large park on St. Feriole Island.

The Wright Map’s Assembly Districts 70 and 72 reflect these communities’ connections to La Crosse, while Assembly District 71 keeps intact rural communities. The Wright Map’s District 70 maintains the community of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, including both on- and off-campus housing. It also captures the areas to the east of La Crosse, including Barre Mills, which are connected bedroom communities, as well as West Salem and Sparta, which directly connects to La Crosse via I-90. The Wright Map’s Assembly District 72 sensitively reflects the important bond between La Crosse and Onalaska, which will only grow as Onalaska continues to develop. And the Wright Map in this district maintains downtown La Crosse, minimizing disruption of residential neighborhoods and connecting commercial areas to the north along Highway 53 and I-90.

Assembly District 71 encompasses the southern portions of La Crosse into the Driftless Area; the Wright Map thus keeps together important Catholic institutions, as well as Viterbo College. The boundaries also preserve communities centered around two main health systems, Mayo Clinic and Gunderson Health. The Wright Map connects these communities, which share a common history of economic development based on agriculture and dairy farming. In the 1940s, for instance, cheese factories or creameries existed in nearly every town and hamlet in this area.

## 2. *Senate District 32*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 32 represents generally sparsely populated agricultural communities in the southern Driftless Area from the Mississippi River, leading into to the western suburbs of Madison. The region is connected by three main highways: 14, 18 and 151. This region is dominated by agriculture and niche manufacturing in places like Platteville, Lancaster, Dodgeville, Fennimore, and Richland Center, whose industries depend on their proximity to the Madison area. For this reason, the Wright Map appropriately includes in Senate District 32 Madison's western suburbs.

The Wright Map's Assembly Districts 94, 95, and 96 maintain compact shapes and organic communities within the Senate District. Assembly District 94 is generally suburban. Moving east, the area is defined by the suburban housing developments of western Madison. Highways 12 and 14 provide access to the Madison area helping expand housing throughout this district.

Assembly District 95 lies to the north. This area is largely agricultural and defined by the Driftless Area's iconic landscape. However, the closer proximity to Madison gives this area a distinctive lived experience. Also, north of Richland Center, Amish settlements are increasing; the Wright Map's boundaries reflect and protect these communities.

The Wright Map's Assembly District 96 captures communities in the western area, which are largely agricultural and defined by physical geography. The Wright Map keeps intact a micro-region once known for lead mining—an industry that attracted settlers from Cornwall, England. Dickeyville, for example, continues to reflect this unique past, with a landscape of small shelters burrowed into hillsides. The local miners were often called “badgers” (due to these burrows), a moniker that would eventually become the nickname for Wisconsinites. The deep connection to mining is reflected throughout the area; for instance, the University of Wisconsin-Platteville teams are the “Pioneers,” represented by Pioneer Pete, who holds a pickaxe and wears a mining helmet. Highways 151, 18, and 61 provide common transportation routes.

The Wright Map is especially responsive to local communities by accounting for growth occurring in the City of Sparta, near Onalaska, and along the I-90 corridor. In contrast, the 2022 Map wrongly split Sparta from any connection to La Crosse through an oddly shaped Senate District 17 that extended to areas north of Stevens Point.

### **D. Madison Metro Area**

As the Wright Map reflects, Dane County and the City of Madison—the state capital—are the center of this large region in southern Wisconsin. Over the past twenty years, Dane County has been an epicenter of growth, both within and radiating out from Madison, due to expanding service and information sectors. The University of Wisconsin-

Madison is a leading institution of higher education that attracts large companies to the area, such as Epic (in Verona), American Family Insurance (in Madison), and UW-Health (in Madison). UW-Madison sports also provide a strong sense of place and pride for area residents. The Wright Map respects and reflects the area's communities with five senate districts, all sharing the common connection to Madison.

### *1. Senate District 27*

The Wright Map's Senate District 27 encompasses the northern Madison Metro Region, including suburban communities, like DeForest, along with agriculturally based areas near Portage and Reedsburg. Highway 12 and I-39/90/94 span this district, strengthening its connection to Madison. And the Wisconsin River, which runs through Senate District 27 center, helps define the region, including by driving industry and tourism. For instance, Wisconsin Dells, known as America's Waterpark Capital, is a tourist destination and youth-sports center, hosting tournaments year-round and drawing Wisconsin-area youth. This district also maintains major portions of the Ho-Chunk Nation's reservation lands (which is scattered in a manner so as to prevent its full inclusion in a single district). The Ho-Chunk Nation plays a large role in Madison and Wisconsin Dells with the presence of casinos and their generous regional philanthropy.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 79, 80, and 81 respect the regional variability of Senate District 27. Assembly District 79 respects the natural boundary of the Wisconsin River to the north and is primarily suburban, such as the Village of Waunakee, as well as the bedroom community of Lodi. Assembly District 80 forms a north-to-south shape, which faithfully maintains the common agricultural landscape to the northwest, suburban areas, and some areas of the Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation. The Wright Map's Assembly District 81 keeps together the small cities of Reedsburg, Wisconsin Dells, Baraboo, and Portage; many of these schools play in the same athletic conference, the Badger Conference, and maintain large manufacturing facilities including Nuk (Reedsburg), Seneca Foods (Baraboo), and Cardinal Glass (Portage).

### *2. Senate District 14*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 14 comprises the eastern portion of the region, respecting and maintaining communities of interest there. This district spans urban, suburban, and rural areas, but all maintain connections to Madison by Highways 151 and I-94. Suburban communities, for instance, like Sun Prairie, Columbus, and Lake Mills, are defined by employment opportunities near Madison. The area's athletic conferences (Capitol North and the Big Eight) connect them to each other and to Madison.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 40, 41, and 42 maintain local communities, too. District 40 is generally suburban (including Sun Prairie), with transitional rural areas around Columbus. The rural region east of Columbia maintains a

strong dairy industry and is defined by a unique topographic landscape called “drumlins,” the remnants of the last glacial period that look like gently sloping ridges. Figure 7 shows the drumlin fields that provide a defining feature of this region, maintained by the Wright Map. Assembly District 41 is defined by I-94’s transportation corridor, which carries heavy traffic between Madison and Milwaukee. The Wright Map’s eastern border accurately marks where Madison’s influence begins to wane in favor of Milwaukee’s. As the Wright Map’s Assembly District 41 reflects, places like Lake Mills and Deerfield have stronger connections to Madison, facilitated by I-94. Finally, Assembly District 42 comprises the northeastern portion of the City of Madison. This district is bisected by Highway 151 and I-39 and extends to the rural agrarian areas east of the City of Portage. School districts comprise large sections of these rural areas, including the Rio Community and Pardeeville School Districts that play sports in the Trailways Athletic Conference.

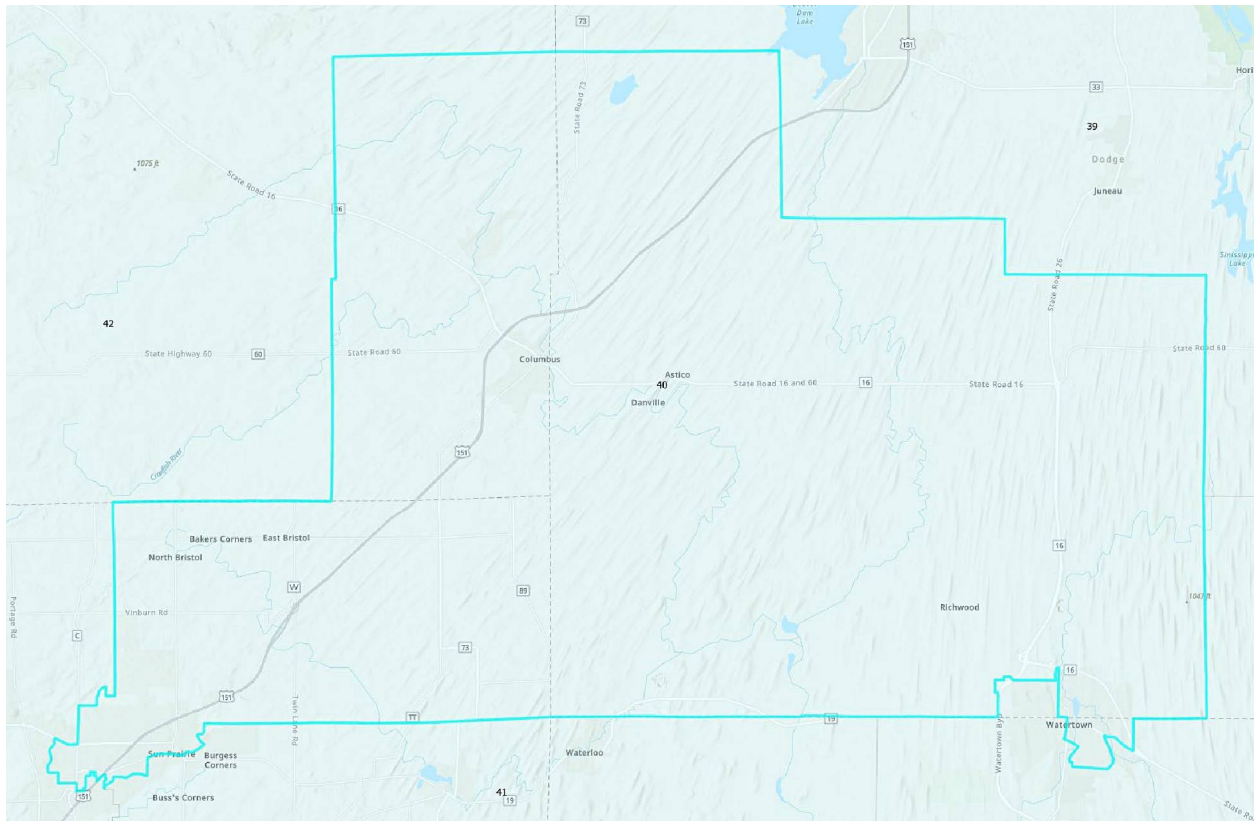


Figure 7: Assembly District 40 and Drumlin Fields in Eastern Portion of the District (Source: ESRI)

### 3. Senate District 15

The Wright Map’s proposed Senate District 15 captures the cohesive area southeast of Madison. This district maintains suburban areas near Madison and transitions to agricultural areas and smaller cities (like Janesville) moving south. I-39/90 connects the district, from Janesville to Madison. Although Janesville is split between Senate Districts

15 and 11 to maintain population equality, the Wright Map divides the city using natural boundaries, the river and Highway 26, and maintaining the integrity of two high-school communities (Parker and Craig). Industry plays an important role in this district's communities, with proximity to I-39/90 as a defining factor, as well as the educational and employment opportunities generated by the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Also, many schools in this district are connected by athletic conferences, including Rock Valley and Badger. The Wright Map's district definition reflects that this area is unified and dominated by the Madison media market.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 43, 44, and 45 all maintain connections between places while respecting local commonalities. District 43 connects places along I-39/90 and Highway 12. Many area schools play each other in the Rock Valley Conference and are connected via employment opportunities at local manufacturing facilities. District 44 maintains much of Janesville and logically connects it (as transportation does) to the City of Milton. District 45 is the most rural with dairy farms throughout, though manufacturing remains important, especially in the south near Beloit.

#### *4. Senate District 16*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 16 captures the areas south of Madison and extends to the Illinois border. Transportation networks, including Highways 11 and 39/69, connect much of the region. This District also reflects the Madison media market and athletic conferences.

Proposed Assembly Districts 46, 47, and 48 are all generally compact and maintain similar communities. District 46 reflects suburban communities, especially the closer to Madison, with many of the schools like Stoughton and Oregon playing in the same athletic conference. District 47 is both urban and suburban, including Fitchburg, which is fully maintained by the Wright Map's sensitive borders. District 48, by contrast, is largely rural, dominated by agriculture.

#### *5. Senate District 26*

The Wright Map's Senate District 26 rightly maintains the core of Madison, and its proposed Assembly Districts 76, 77, and 78 reflect and respect the communities in the western, central, and eastern areas of Madison. District 76 maintains the core of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the areas along the southern shores of Lake Mendota. District 77 maintains eastern Madison and the Monona area. District 78 maintains the communities in western areas of the city.

The Wright Map's senate and assembly districts in the Madison Metro Area create compact areas that concentrate around the City of Madison using ordinal north, south, east, and west directions that map the pattern of development caused by Lake Mendota and Lake

Monona. This maintains COIs. In contrast, the 2022 Map surrounded the City of Madison with Senate Districts 8 and 20, which split communities like Fitchburg and Sun Prairie.

### E. Central Wisconsin

The Wright Map reflects the natural communities of Central Wisconsin, defined by a deep history of manufacturing and agriculture, with Senate Districts 29 and 17. The Wisconsin River has defined this region's development; after the first hydrologic dam was installed in the Fox River Valley near Appleton, entrepreneurs sought similar opportunities across the area. The natural rapids found near Wausau, Stevens Point, and Wisconsin Rapids made this area a natural hub of paper production, and by 1900, this region boasted 12 paper mills, as shown in Figure 8 below. The Wright Map captures the economic communities that have developed by dint of the paper mills and that continue to define the region, even as their economic dominance has diminished.



Figure 8: Paper Mill Locations Along the Wisconsin River Near the Turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (Source: K. Weichelt 2016)

The Wright Map's treatment of this region also retains communities with strong connections to specific waves of European settlement. German and Polish immigrants settled this area and left distinct cultural imprints such as polka halls (a Wausau radio

station, WDEZ, still plays a four-hour polka show every Sunday morning). Churches continue to reflect, define, and form the center of these distinct European communities that the Wright Map maintains. The region is also united by Wausau's media market, including two local TV stations and several radio stations, and Wausau's annual Northern Wisconsin State Fair, which attracts and keeps people connected to this region.

The Wright Map's two Senate Districts also reflect the geography of dominant industries, specifically dairy farming, and niche agricultural products. Senate District 17, for instance, is home to most of the cranberry producers in Wisconsin (Wisconsin is the top producer of cranberries in the United States). Senate District 29, meanwhile, maintains the areas near Stevens Point, where the sandy soil produces acres of potatoes, and Marathon County, where the climate and soil make it a global producer of Ginseng.

### *1. Senate District 29*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 29 contains Wausau and Stevens Point, cities that are connected by the Wisconsin River and I-39 and, as a result, have a shared history. The river has defined industry across the area, including mills in Mosinee, steel in Wausau, wood manufacturing in Schofield, and a hydroelectric dam in Stevens Point. In recent decades, Wausau and Stevens Point have also become service-sector hubs, home to Wausau Insurance and Sentry World Insurance, along with a variety of health systems. These employment opportunities continue to link these cities, as the Wright Map reflects. Stevens Point is also home of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, which recently joined up with a two-year college in Wausau, further fusing these cities into a single, connected community. The high schools in these cities frequently play each other as part of the Wisconsin River Valley Athletic Conference. Finally, growth between cities has accelerated, especially along the I-39 corridor, tying these cities' presents and futures.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 85, 86, and 87 respect local communities of interest by maintaining city boundaries and economic activities within Senate District 29. District 85 maintains the City of Wausau and the City of Schofield. These cities are closely linked, as evinced by the Wausau Country Club (which is in Schofield) and several companies in Schofield that likewise use the name Wausau (Wausau Hydraulics and Machine). Areas to the north in the rural areas of this district are connected to Wausau because of their reliance on its goods and services. District 86 includes the Villages of Weston and Kronenwetter, which lack the population density of Wausau and are connected to each other by Highways 29 and 153. District 87 centers on and is strongly influenced by Stevens Point. The Wright Map maintains the entirety of Stevens Point, which provides services to the surrounding areas via highways.

## 2. Senate District 17

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 17 reflects generally sparsely populated communities with history and development defined by the Wisconsin River. Many of the areas south of Wisconsin Rapids, the district's largest urban area, are marshy and lend themselves to cranberry production. Figure 9 is a county-level map illustrating cranberry production and processing in the State; it shows that the community of cranberry producers is maintained by the Wright Map's Senate District 17. The Wright Map also preserves this area's dairy industry, with farms traditionally northwest of Wisconsin Rapids and increasingly south along Highways 13 and I-39. The Wright Map also keeps together extant paper-mill communities in Wisconsin Rapids and Nekoosa. Paper barons were historically responsible for the development of the cities of Wisconsin Rapids, the Village of Port Edwards, and the City of Nekoosa, and development extended south of Wisconsin Rapids to Lake Camelot, a man-made lake created to provide recreation and second homes for mill workers.

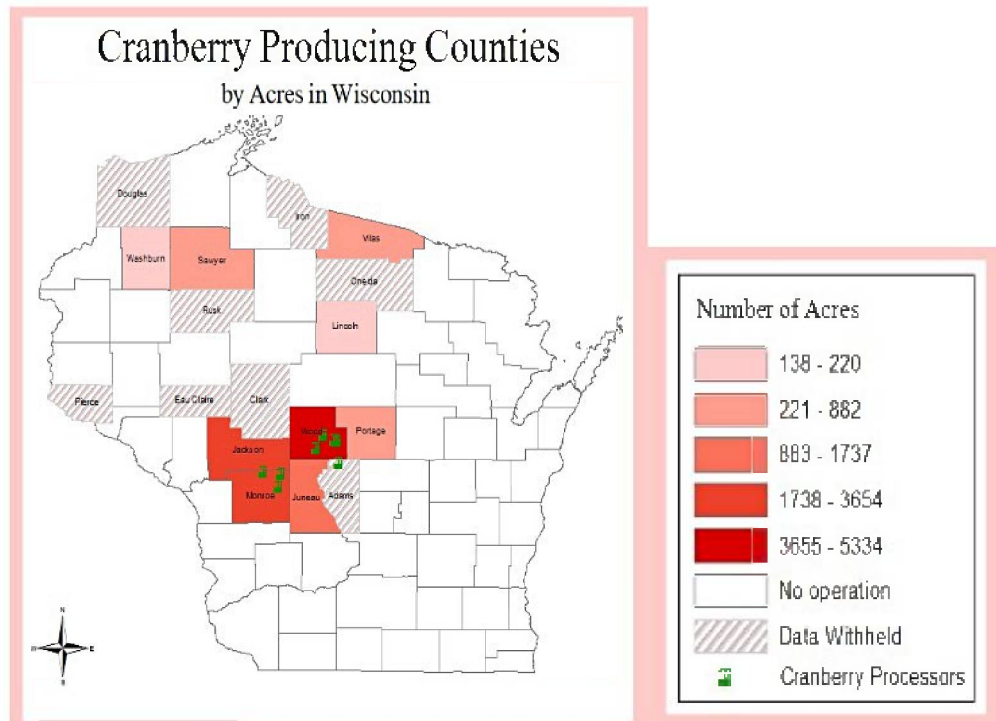


Figure 9: Cranberry Production in Wisconsin Counties (Source: Kashian and Peterson 2013)

The Wright Map's Assembly Districts 49, 50, and 51 keep intact local communities of interest. District 49 maintains agricultural areas, with tourism centers around Camelot Lake and Wautoma. Several schools in this district play in the South-Central Athletic Conference, including Wautoma and Adams-Friendship. Assembly District 50 encompasses the cranberry industry. District 51 centers on Wisconsin Rapids as an



economic center for dairy farming communities north of Highway 73. The Wright Map's boundaries also reflect that residents of Pittsville, Eight Corners, and Biron rely on Wisconsin Rapids for goods and services.

The Wright Maps clearly reflect the COIs throughout the Central Wisconsin Region, a major improvement over the 2022 Map, which separated the cities of Wausau and Stevens Point and joined Wausau to Hayward (though those communities share little in common).

## **F. The Green Bay Area**

As the Wright Map's proposed Senate Districts 1, 2, and 30 reflect, the Green Bay Area is defined by the City and Bay of Green Bay, with economies dominated by lumber, food production, agriculture, and tourism. The City of Green Bay is Wisconsin's third largest city; it connects this region and is perhaps best known as the home of the Green Bay Packers, which is a driver of tourism and development. Green Bay is also home to outposts of Georgia Pacific and Proctor and Gamble, with additional manufacturing occurring along the Fox River. Areas to the north are connected to Green Bay via Highways 29 and 41, the media market (Green Bay has a local TV station and a several radio stations), and health care systems (including Bellin Health). Green Bay is also the gateway to the Door Peninsula, a tourist destination for residents of the Upper Midwest; and east of Green Bay are some of the State's largest dairy farms.

### *1. Senate District 2*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 2 connects cohesive communities (linked by Highways 29, 141, and 41) from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan down to the City of Green Bay. Many of these small cities support small manufacturing, surrounded by more sprawling areas of dairy farming (though farming decreases to the far north). The district is also defined by its connection to Green Bay, including by transit links and athletics. The Wright Map's district lines also preserve the Oneida Nation Reservation.

Within Senate District 2, the Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 4, 5, and 6 maintain organic lived communities. District 4 reflects the connection between people living along Highways 141 and 64, with a shared history in the lumber and paper industries. District 5 reflects more densely populated communities and importantly keeps together the Oneida Nation Reservation, an important community of interest that should be respected considering its important effects on the region. District 6 is compact and maintains several similar small cities such as Shawano, Gillet, and Oconto Falls—all of which are connected to Green Bay along Highways 29, 22, and 41.

### *2. Senate District 30*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 30 is mostly urban, comprises the remaining areas of Green Bay, and maintains the historical and economic connections

between Green Bay and the Cities of De Pere and Ashwaubenon, bedroom communities that also have food-processing industry.

The Wright Map divides Senate District 30 into Assembly Districts 88, 89, and 90, consistent with the communities within the region. District 88 keeps together the City of De Pere and the suburban areas to the south, which are connected via I-43. District 89 focuses on the eastern portions of the City of Green Bay, as well as the City of Allouez, which are more residential than downtown Green Bay. This district also holds together the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay—an educational, residential, professional, and economic community. The Wright Map properly divides Assembly District 89 from Assembly District 90 using the natural boundaries of the East River and Highway 57. The Wright Map's Assembly District 90 keeps together communities in western and downtown Green Bay. The neighborhoods on the west side share common histories, as well as present development efforts focused on downtown and nearby Lambeau Field (where the Packers play). The Wright Map importantly reflects the connections between the development downtown and the economic influence of the Packers franchise.

### *3. Senate District 1*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 1 includes Manitowoc and the Door Peninsula. From south to north, this district encompasses a variety of physical and economic landscapes that the Wright Map's proposed assembly districts reflect. The southern portions—cities like Kaukauna and Manitowoc—have a history of industry connected to the Fox River. Moving into Kewaunee County, the landscape changes to agriculture. The areas closer to Green Bay include some of the state's largest dairy operations. Stretching north, Door County is primarily touristic.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 1, 2, and 3 reflect communities of interest in this region based on geographic location and economic histories. District 1 comprises a small portion of eastern Brown County, and all of Kewaunee and Door County, defined by tourism and agriculture. District 2 is anchored by the City of Manitowoc; this area, including Two Rivers, is united by a common economic struggle with a changing manufacturing landscape, and a common sense of place provided by Lake Michigan. District 3 reflects the communities of Kaukauna and Little Chute, which have a shared, strong connection to the paper industry and the Fox River Valley. In contrast to Assembly District 2, Assembly District 3 has benefited from recent growth from Appleton and Green Bay and has been able to more successfully pivot from manufacturing to service-based economies; the Wright Map reflects the different political priorities of these communities.

The Wright Map thus corrects serious deficiencies with the 2022 Map. The 2022 Map split the City of Green Bay and areas immediately to the south in Ashwaubenon and De Pere into three separate senate districts. It also split portions of the Oneida Nation

Reservation into separate assembly districts. In contrast, the Wright Map reflects shared histories and strong ties between communities in this area.

### **G. Lake Winnebago Region**

The Wright Map reflects and respects the Lake Winnebago Region, dividing the area into five senate districts that surround Wisconsin's largest inland lake. As the Wright Map's districting reflects, the geography of the lake (and the fact that it creates a donut shape in the area) translates to real differences in communities based on which side of the lake they lie. Besides proximity to the lake, this region is characterized by two main economic activities: agriculture and industry. As the Wright Map also reflects, the largest cities—Appleton, Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, and Sheboygan—are centers of their respective districts.

#### *1. Senate District 20*

The Wright Map's Senate District 20 reflects the communities in and around the City of Appleton, maintaining the entirety of Kimberly and Neenah. This city has seen consistent growth as it attempts to transition from its industrial past into a future defined by service industries. Still, the area's historic ties to the Fox River and paper production connect Appleton to the Cities of Menasha and Neenah. Appleton also fuses the area's people through media. And many of the schools in this district play each other as members of the Fox Valley Association Athletic Conference.

The Wright Map's Assembly Districts 58, 59, and 60 reflect lived communities within Senate District 20. District 58 contains the City of Neenah and much of the City of Menasha, which share a border along the Fox River and are connected by Highway 141 across Doty Island (which is split between the cities). District 59 comprises the northwestern areas of Appleton and surrounding areas into the Town of Grand Chute, all connected and defined by I-41, which facilitates commercial activities especially near the Fox Valley Mall. The Wright Map's Assembly District 60 sensibly maintains downtown Appleton and Lawrence University along the Fox River. The Wright Map further avoids splitting wards or parks and follows natural boundaries, like Northland Avenue. While the districts do not adhere exactly to the boundaries of Appleton's three high schools (because their districts extend beyond city borders), District 59 adheres to Appleton West and Appleton North's borders, while District 60 maintains nearly all of Appleton East's borders.

#### *2. Senate District 19*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 19 keeps together rural areas dotted with small towns, agricultural tracts, and some large bodies of water (like Lake Butte des Morts, Lake Winneconne, and Green Lake); it also preserves the Menominee Indian Tribe and Stockbridge Munsee Community Reservations in one district.

The Wright Map's Assembly Districts 55, 56, and 57 abide by and maintain local communities. District 55 is centered around Green Lake, connected by Highways 59, 21, 23, and 45, and influenced by the large cities of Fond du Lac and Oshkosh. Land use outside of urban areas is farmland, with cabins along the shores of the area's lakes. Schools like Berlin and Ripon play in the East Central Athletic Conference. District 56, meanwhile, is strongly influenced by its proximity to Appleton; it sensibly connects small cities that are highly similar to each other—such as New London and Seymour—and are connected by Highways 15 and 54. These schools play sports in the Bay Conference. And the rural tracts in this district share agricultural economies. Finally, District 57 is sparsely populated with small cities, such as Waupaca and Clintonville. The Wright Map draws this district to keep intact the entirety of the Menominee Indian Tribe and Stockbridge Munsee Community Reservations, important communities of interest.

### *3. Senate District 18*

The Wright Map draws Senate District 18 to encompass important communities in the Oshkosh and Fond du Lac areas. These areas are linked by Highways 151, 45, and I-41, which play an important role in the local economies. And the areas are generally industrial—including Oshkosh Defense in Oshkosh and Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac—and/or involve steel and plastics manufacturing. Fond du Lac also has food processing plants, including Schwan's. And Oshkosh is home to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, which unites the region with cultural events and sustained community. Lake Winnebago is also a regional reference point, uniting the communities around recreation. Festivals celebrating the lake are held throughout the year in the region. But perhaps the most famous event in the area is the EAA AirVenture, held each July. The Wright Map reflects regional coordination and connection across these industries, educational and recreation centers, and shared events.

The Wright Map also appropriately draws Assembly Districts 52, 53, and 54 to reflect various communities. Districts 52 and 54 largely represent the cities of Fond du Lac and Oshkosh and their immediate areas. District 53 is larger and contains the agricultural areas along Lake Winnebago. The districts are sensitive to local life because they maintain the cores of both Oshkosh and Fond du Lac and contain areas that are proximate to, and dependent on, the core urban centers. District 53 contains the Wittman Regional Airport, where EAA takes place, as well as the surrounding areas that are necessary for the show to be successful.

### *4. Senate District 9*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 9 represents the areas between Lake Winnebago and Lake Michigan that, due to the lack of rivers on the eastern shore, never developed economic hubs. This region is defined by similar small cities that maintain some

manufacturing, and rural areas dominated by dairy farming (perhaps best represented by the placename, New Holstein). Highways 32, 57, and I-43 connect many of the communities across this district, meaning that the Wright Map reflects their lived realities. Many of the schools (Chilton, Keil, New Holstein, and Sheboygan Falls) play in the Eastern Wisconsin Athletic Conference.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 25, 26, and 27 reflect the basic distinctions and core communities in this area. District 25 comprises the City of Sheboygan and a small area to its immediate south. District 26 comprises the southern portion of Senate District 9, combining the similar cities of Plymouth and Sheboygan Falls as well as agricultural areas. Finally, District 27 maintains the northern areas. Based on my studies and interviews, people living in this area have a strong sense of pride for living on the eastern shores of Lake Winnebago because of the landmark's tourism. The Wright Map respects the lake's natural boundary and geographic isolation, which creates unique political interests; people need to seek out this area to visit it.

The Wright Map respects the reality that three main cities dominate the landscape: Appleton, Oshkosh, and Fond du Lac. In contrast, the 2022 Map did not respect these boundaries.

#### **H. Milwaukee Metro Area**

The Wright Map respects and reflects the communities in the Milwaukee Metro Area, the most populous region in Wisconsin. At the center of this region is the City of Milwaukee. The city has historically been defined by industry, but it has increasingly diversified its economy, attracting younger people to service- and technology-based industries. Milwaukee also has the greatest cultural diversity of any place in Wisconsin. Black populations make up the largest minority populations, largely due to the Great Migration in the 1920s. In recent decades, Latino and Asian immigrants have increasingly settled in the region. The area includes working-class neighborhoods in South Milwaukee, Cudahy, and St. Francis, and suburban areas like West Allis, Brookfield, and Greendale. Milwaukee is also known as a city of festivals (including Summerfest), and smaller neighborhood and cultural events take place throughout the summer—thereby strengthening the sense of community and place.

The Wright Map is sensitive, as well, to relatively wealthy, suburban communities outside the City of Milwaukee, such as Waukesha, Oconomowoc, Menominee Falls, and Franklin. To the south of Milwaukee are the large urban areas of Racine and Kenosha. These communities share an industrial-development history with Milwaukee, and they continue to be defined by large employers. Today, Racine is the headquarters of S.C. Johnson and Son and continues to manufacture Case New Holland tractors. Kenosha was well known for its American Motors factory that closed in 1988 but maintains robust

manufacturing and is home to the corporate headquarters for Snap On Tools and Jockey International. Like Milwaukee, these cities also have sizeable Black populations that add to the diversity of region.

As the Wright Map reflects, this area is connected through a variety of transportation corridors leading to Milwaukee, including Interstates 41, 94, and 43. Additionally, a commuter train connects Milwaukee and Kenosha for as little as \$8 one way. And the region is united by a single media market and major sports teams, including the Milwaukee Bucks and Milwaukee Brewers. The Milwaukee Bucks' 2021 NBA Championship underscored the shared sense of community.

*1. Senate Districts 3, 4, 6, and 7*

The Wright Maps' proposed Senate Districts 3, 4, 6, and 7, as well as the nested Assembly Districts, maintain the same boundaries as the 2022 Map, thereby preserving those districts' existing communities of interest.

*2. Senate District 13*

The Wright Map draws Senate District 13 to extend from the shores of Lake Michigan to the borders of Columbia County. This district encompasses diverse locations but reflects connections by Highways 60 and 33 as well as I-41, and reflects influences from Milwaukee to the southeast, up to Fond du Lac to the north, and Madison in the west. The landscape reflects neighborhoods and commercial activities, in contrast to more agricultural land use to the west.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 37, 38, and 39 correctly anchor around distinct center points. District 37 is centered on the City of Hartford, with areas along Highway 60 and I-41. District 38, meanwhile, is geared around West Bend. Finally, District 39 keeps intact Beaver Dam and smaller cities like Juneau and Horicon. This region is united by more dairy farming.

*3. Senate District 33*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 33 is the farthest west district in the Milwaukee Metro Region, connected to Milwaukee by the media market and I-94. Oconomowoc is the largest city, and the district is generally wealthy and suburban, dotted with smaller towns and villages. The lakes north of I-94 provide a unique landscape, rivaling second-home options in the Northwoods; and places like Delafield and Dousman serve as bedroom communities for affluent residents. Residents south of I-94 send their children to the Kettle Moraine School District, named for local glacial features (due to the lack of urban center).

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 97, 98, and 99 reflect local landscapes. District 97 maintains the entirety of the City and Town of Oconomowoc and many of the lakes north of Highway 16. District 98 to the east is more densely populated due to its proximity to Waukesha. District 99 includes places like Delafield and Wales, which feed into the Kettle Moraine School District. Senate District 33 and the resulting assembly districts all accurately maintain local commonalities found throughout.

#### *4. Senate District 8*

The Wright Map respects communities within the boundaries of proposed Senate District 8, north of the City of Milwaukee and including communities such as Port Washington, Cedarburg, and much of Menomonee Falls (the state's largest village). These communities are defined by historical ties to industry, with more recent suburban growth associated with service-based professions and rising incomes. The communities are connected by I-43 and Highway 181 as well as the North Shore Athletic Conference. The Wright Map reflects the significant commonalities and geographic proximity of these communities that translate to distinctive representational interests.

The Wright Map's proposed Assembly Districts 22, 23, and 24 accurately reflect sub-communities within Senate District 8. District 22 connects the nearby Village of Germantown with much of Menomonee Falls, municipalities linked by I-41. District 23 connects Whitefish Bay, Fox Point, and Bayside with Mequon and Thiensville. These areas are less densely populated than the areas immediately east of the City of Milwaukee. Though Mequon is split, the Wright Map's use of Mequon Road, the Milwaukee River, and the Mequon Country Club represent logical boundaries, as much of Mequon Road is commercial rather than residential. District 24 comprises Grafton, Port Washington, and Cedarburg, which are connected via Highway 32/Grafton Avenue and I-43 and by participation in the North Shore Athletic Conference.

#### *5. Senate District 5*

The Wright Map appropriately draws Senate District 5 to keep intact Wauwatosa and Brookfield—communities that are connected by major roadways and play in the Greater Metro Athletic Conference.

#### *6. Senate District 21*

In drawing Senate District 21, the Wright Map reflects a suburban community directly tied to Milwaukee via I-43 and Highway 36. The northern areas are more densely populated near New Berlin and less densely populated towards the southern portions of the district in Mukwonago and Burlington. These communities tend to be largely white and affluent compared to areas near downtown Milwaukee. The Wright Map's Assembly Districts 61, 62, and 63 capture local communalities within Senate District 21, especially

with regard to land use. District 61 maintains the City of New Berlin. Though Muskego is split, a majority of the city is maintained in District 62, as is the Village of Mukwonago, providing a transition zone as population densities decline. District 63 is anchored by the City of Burlington, connecting to the northern reaches via Highway 36 and the western portions by I-43, including the small village of East Troy.

### *7. Senate District 11*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 11 covers a portion of the area along the border of Illinois, dotted by small communities, farms, and lakes. The region's lakes, together with its proximity to Chicago, make it a tourism destination; Geneva Lake, Powers Lake, Twin Lakes, and Silver Lake draw Illinois residents. Highway 50, which transitions to Highway 11/14 near Janesville, also connects the region. Schools in the western part of Senate District 11, including Lake Geneva and Big Foot, play in the Rock Valley Athletic Conference. Areas closer to Kenosha lack unified school districts, separating elementary schools from secondary schools. These types of schools are most prevalent in this district and concentrated around the Lake Geneva and Silver Lake areas.

The Wright Map sensibly divides Senate District 11 into Assembly Districts 31, 32, and 33. These districts accurately reflect the local context. District 31 can be characterized by suburban landscapes connected to Kenosha and Racine. District 32 is centered on the City of Lake Geneva, defined by tourism as demarcated by the Wright Map's boundaries. District 33 connects the eastern portions of Janesville to Delavan, which are linked by Highway 11/14, outside the denser areas, and home to many dairy farms.

### *8. Senate District 22*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 22 logically centers on Wisconsin's fourth largest city, Kenosha, and the surrounding area, including Mount Pleasant and the western portions of the City of Racine. Pleasant Prairie borders Kenosha to the west of the city, and Mount Pleasant is connected to the north by I-41 and Highway 31. Senate District 22 splits the City of Racine with Senate District 28. Immediately north of Kenosha is the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, one of the most racially diverse universities in the State. Economically, the district is diverse throughout. Downtown Kenosha has a large Black community; on the western and northern fringes are suburban neighborhoods. Pleasant Prairie has a Foxconn plant, and Mount Pleasant a new Amazon warehouse.

The Wright Map logically groups Senate District 22 into Assembly Districts 64, 65, and 66. District 64 forms the western tracts and includes the suburban areas of Pleasant Prairie and UW-Parkside. District 65 comprises a majority of the City of Kenosha. District 66 comprises the northern suburban areas, including the Village of Mount Pleasant and the wealthy, western portions of the City of Racine, and is well-connected by highways.



### *9. Senate District 28*

The Wright Map's proposed Senate District 28 connects the City of Franklin to the downtown areas of the City of Racine. The southern portion of this district maintains downtown Racine. The areas to the north of Racine towards the City of Franklin and the Village of Greendale, by contrast, are distinctly suburban. Assembly Districts 82, 83, and 84 reflect local communities. District 82 maintains the City of Franklin and the suburban areas south towards Racine. District 83 includes Black communities in downtown Racine concentrated on both sides of the Root River. District 84 is centered on the suburban communities, including the Village of Greendale.

### **CONCLUSION**

It is my expert opinion that the Wright Map is sensitive to and protective of communities of interest across Wisconsin. The proposed Senate and Assembly Districts capture the lived communities—the way people work, travel, move, shop, play sports, dance, and identify across the State, within regions, and even within sub-regions. Though the requirement of population equality means that no redistricting map will or can be perfect in keeping together every possible community of interest, the benefits of the Wright Map—particularly when compared to the 2022 Map—are self-evident to those who understand what it means to live, work, and vote in this state.

I affirm that the above analysis reflects my assessment of the Wright Map.

*Ryan Weichelt*

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Ryan Weichelt

### Sources

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- Weichelt, R. And E. Zeitler. "Second Home Ownership and Public-School Funding in Wisconsin's Northwoods." 2023. Eds. Holly R. Barcus and William G. Moseley. *Sustaining Rural Systems: Rural Vitality in an Era of Globalization and Economic Nationalism*. Routledge: Abingdon, United Kingdom.
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- Western Native Voice v. Stapleton*, No. DV 20-0377, 2020 WL 8970685 (Mont. Dist. Ct.).
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<https://dnrmmaps.wi.gov/H5/?viewer=AMDV>

Wisconsin Department of Transportation, ESRI. <https://oacs.dot.wi.gov/#/>.

Zeitler, E. and R. Weichelt. "Economic Sustainability in Wisconsin's Pleasure Periphery: A Case Study of Second Home Ownership in Grantsburg and Hayward." Paper presented at Annual Colloquium of the IGU-Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems, July, St. Paul, MN.

# **Exhibit A: Dr. Ryan Weichelt's CV**

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Ryan Douglas Weichelt  
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire  
Department of Geography and Anthropology  
258 Phillips Hall  
Office Phone: (715) 836 - 4426  
Personal Phone: (715) 972 - 0896  
Email: weicherd@uwec.edu or weicherd@gmail.com

### EDUCATION:

Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln, August 2008.

Dissertation Title: Scale Factors in Hispanic Voting Behavior

Dissertation Advisor: Dr. J. Clark Archer

Master of Applied Geography, Texas State University-San Marcos December 2002.

Thesis Title: Defining a Political Place: The Voting Culture of South Texas Hispanics.

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Fred Shelley.

Bachelor of Science, Magna Cum Laude, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire May

2000: Major: Geography Minor: Political Science

### ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

Professor of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 2021 - Present

Associate Professor of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 2016 - 2021

\*Sabbatical 2020 - 2021

Assistant Professor of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 2009 - 2015

-Human Geography (Geog 111)

-Human Geography Online (Geog 111)

-Economic Geography (Geog 155)

-Conservation of the Environment (Geog 178)

-First Year Experience (IDIS 187)

-Business Geographics (Geog 352)

-Applied Cartography (Geog 339)

-Geography of Migration (Geog 367)

-Geography of the Appalachia (Geog 368)

-Geography of New York City (Geog 368)

-Geography of the Texas Hill Country (Geog 368)

-Quantitative Methods (Geog 328/370)

-Capstone Seminar in Geography (Geog 401)

-Political Geography (Geog 446)

- Urban Geography (Geog 470)

Visiting Instructor, University of Central Oklahoma, 2008 – 2009

- World Regional Geography (Geog 2303)
- Conservation of Natural Resources (Geog 3703)
- Geography of Europe (Geog 3123)
- Political Geography (Geog 3503)
- Urban Geography (Geog 4603)

Visiting Instructor, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Fall 2007

- Physical Geography (Geog 51)

Instructor and Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Nebraska, 2004 – 2008

- Quality of the Environment (Geog 181)
- Elements of Physical Geography (Geog 155)

Instructor, Dana College, Spring 2006

- Introduction to Geography (Geog 202)

Lecturer, Texas State University, Spring 2003

- Introduction to Criminal Justice (CJ 1310)

Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

- Human Geography (Geog 111)
- Conservation of the Environment (Geog 178)
- Introduction to World Politics (Pols 122)
- Model United Nations (Pols 201)

### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Chair, Department of Geography and Anthropology. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, May 2023 to present.

Director of First Year Experiences for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, July 2019 to August 2020

Interim Director of First Year Experiences for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, May 2017 to June 2019

Geospatial Board Chairman, Geography and Anthropology Department, August 2016 to May 2023.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee, University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, September 2019 to May 2023.



Faculty Representative, University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, Faculty Senate, September 2015 to May 2023.

Department Personal Committee Chair (DPC), Department of Geography and Anthropology, August 2022 to May 2023.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Gamma Theta Upsilon, January 2023 to present.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Gamma Theta Upsilon, January 2021 to the January 2023.

Editorial Board, *Geographic Bulletin*. January 2014 to Present.

West Lakes Regional Councilor for Gamma Theta Upsilon, January 2017 to 2020.

Search Committee Chair for Tenure Track Faculty, Geography and Anthropology Department, August 2017 – December 2017

#### PUBLICATIONS:

2025 - Weichelt, Ryan. *Redistricting, Gerrymandering, and Geography*. Rowan and Littlefield: Lanham, MD. *Under Contract*.

2025 - Weichelt, Ryan. “Incumbency Advantage? Redistricting and District Shapes.” Ed. Stanley Brunn. *Parallel Universes*. Springer Nature: Switzerland. *Anticipated 2025*.

2024 - Weichelt, Ryan, Ezra Zeitler, Carolyn Seager, and Eli Swanson. “Assessing 80 Years of Economic and Social Change in Southwest Wisconsin Hamlets.” Ed. Stanley Brunn. *Time Journeys*. Springer Nature: Switzerland. *Anticipated 2024*.

2023 - Weichelt, Ryan and Ezra Zeitler. “Second Home Ownership and Public-School Funding in Wisconsin’s Northwoods.” Eds. Holly R. Barcus and William G. Moseley. *Sustaining Rural Systems: Rural Vitality in an Era of Globalization and Economic Nationalism*. Routledge: Abingdon, United Kingdom.

2022 - Watrel, Robert, Ryan Weichelt, Erin Fouberg, John Heppen, Fiona Davidson, Clark Archer, Fred Shelley, Ken Martis. Editors of the *Atlas of the 2020 Elections*. Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.

2022 - Weichelt, Ryan. “Latinos and 2020 Election.” Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2020 Elections*. Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.

2022 - Weichelt, Ryan. “Overview of the 2020 Senate Elections.” Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2020 Elections*: Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.

- 2022 - Weichelt, Ryan. "A "Blue Wave," the 2018 Congressional Elections." Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2020 Elections*: Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2022 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The Geography of Wisconsin Election Results and the 2020 Presidential Election." Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2020 Elections*: Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2022 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Overview of the 2020 Senate Elections." Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2020 Elections*: Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2022 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Misinformation and Voting Machines: The Geography of Voting Machines in Wisconsin." *Political Geography*: Vol. 93.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2021.102500>
- 2022 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Trump, Biden, and Wisconsin." Eds. Barney Warf and John Heppen. *Geographies of the 2020 Election*. Routledge: Abingdon, United Kingdom.
- 2022 - French, Kenneth and Ryan Weichelt. "Political Ramifications of the Jacob Blake Shooting in Kenosha, Wisconsin on the 2020 Presidential Election." Eds. Barney Warf and John Heppen. *Geographies of the 2020 Election*. Routledge: Abingdon, United Kingdom.
- 2022 - Weichelt, Ryan, J. Clark Archer, Robert Shepard, Robert Watrel, and Jill Archer. "The Intertwined Geographies of the Pandemic and the U.S. Presidential Election of 2020: COVID-19 Prevalence and Donald Trump." Ed. Stanley Brunn. *The Geographies of COVID-19*. Springer Nature: Switzerland.
- 2021 - Weichelt, Ryan and Ezra Zeitler. "Second Home Ownership and Public-School Funding in Wisconsin's Northwoods." *Geographical Review*. 1-26.
- 2020 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Trump's Populist Rhetoric and Wisconsin." Ed. Barney Warf. *Political Landscapes of Donald Trump*. Routledge: Abingdon, United Kingdom.
- 2020 - Weichelt, Ryan. "In Memoriam of Ron Johnston." *Geopolítica(s)*: Vol. 11 (1): 21-23.
- 2019 - Weichelt, Ryan and Gerald Webster. 2019. "The Language of Reorganizing Electoral Space." Eds. Stanley Brunn and Roland Kehrein. *Handbook of the Changing World Language Map*: 1 - 27. Springer Nature: Switzerland.
- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Un impulso para la Geografía Electoral: el uso de tecnologías geoespaciales para el análisis del voto de las comunidades hispanas en Estados Unidos." *Geopolítica(s)*: Vol. 9 (1): 11-34.
- 2018 - Watrel, Robert, Ryan Weichelt, Erin Fouberg, John Heppen, Fiona Davidson, Clark Archer, Fred Shelley, Ken Martis. 2018. Editors of the *Atlas of the 2016 Elections*. Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.

- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. 2018. "Latinos and 2016 Election." Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2016 Elections: 166 - 170*. Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. 2018. "Comparison of Wisconsin Voting Districts: 2016 to 2012." Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2016 Elections: 247 - 248*. Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. 2018. "The U.S. Senate after the 2016 Election." Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2016 Elections: 210 - 213*. Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. 2018. "Obamacare and the 2016 Election." Eds. Robert Watrel, Ryan Weichelt, et. al. *Atlas of the 2016 Elections: 224 - 225*. Rowman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2016 - Hupy, Christina, Ryan Weichelt, Cyril Wilson, and Joseph Hupy. *STEM and GIS in Higher Education*. 2016. "Extending Into STEM: The Geospatial Education Initiative": 95 - 106. ESRI Press.
- 2014 - Weichelt, Ryan. 2014. "Latinos and the 2012 Election." Eds. Fred Shelley, J. Clark Archer, et. al. *Atlas of the 2012 Presidential Election: 192 - 194*. Roman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2014 - Weichelt, Ryan. 2014. "The 2012 Wisconsin Gubernatorial Recall Election." Eds. Fred Shelley, J. Clark Archer, et. al. *Atlas of the 2012 Presidential Election: 261 - 265*. Roman and Littlefield: Lanham, MD.
- 2014 - Melsness, David and Ryan Weichelt. 2014. "Spatial Crime Displacement in Chicago's South Side." *Geographic Bulletin: Vol 55: 63 - 80*.
- 2014 - Middlesworth, Laura and Ryan Weichelt. 2014. "A Spatial Analysis of Foreclosures in Dane County, Wisconsin." *Geography Online: Vol. 13 (1)*.
- 2012 - Weichelt, Ryan & Ezra Zeitler. 2012. "Multi-scalar Cartographic Analysis of 2008 and 2010 Election Returns in Wisconsin, U.S.A." *Journal of Maps: Vol. 18 (3): 312 - 319*.
- 2010 - Weichelt, Ryan. 2010. "Does a Hispanic Political Region of South Texas Exist? An Electoral Analysis of U.S. Presidential Elections, 1952 to 2008 in the State of Texas." *Southwestern Geographer: Vol. 14: 88 - 121*.
- 2006 - Weichelt, Ryan and Jonathan Herbert. 2006. "Sports and Climate: A Case Study of Lambeau Field and the Green Bay Packers." *The Geography-Sports Connection: Using Sports to Teach Geography: 17 - 24*.

2005 - Weichelt, Ryan and Chad Smith. 2005. *Physical Geography: 155 Laboratory Manual*.  
Department of Anthropology and Geography, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

## GRANTS

2024 - Woods, Michael, Ryan Weichelt, Loka Ashwood, and Leland Glenna. "Rural Discontent, Spatial Justice and Disruptive Politics in the Twenty-First Century." European Research Council Grant, June 2024 (\$2,400,000).

2023 - Ryan Weichelt. "Perceptions of Sustainable Agriculture in the Chippewa Valley among Current Farmers." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, June 2023 (\$4,899.20).

2023 - Zeitler, Ezra and Ryan Weichelt. "Assessing 80 Years of Economic and Social Change in Southwest Wisconsin Hamlets." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, June 2023 (\$7,900).

2023 - Weichelt, Ryan and Matt Haffner. "Impact of Rural Clinic Closure." The Research and Innovation Council of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Mayo Clinic Health System - Northwest Wisconsin Grant, February 2023, (\$40,178).

2022 - Weichelt, Ryan, Matt Haffner, and Martin Goettl. "A Spatial Analysis of Cellular Strength in Western Wisconsin." The Research and Innovation Council of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Mayo Clinic Health System - Northwest Wisconsin Grant, October 2022, (\$44,410).

2022 - Weichelt, Ryan and student to be named. "Incumbency Advantage? Redistricting and District Shapes." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, July 2022 (\$4,900).

2020 - Weichelt, Ryan and Cameron Wingren. "Creating an Online Election Atlas of Wisconsin Elections." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC July 2020 (\$4,600)

2019 - Weichelt, Ryan and Wyatt Pajdash. "Redistricting, Gerrymandering, and Geography." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC July 2019 (\$4,600).

2018 - Weichelt, Ryan and Michael Lewis. "Geographic Patterns of UWEC First Year Students." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC July 2018 (\$4,600).

2017 - Weichelt, Ryan and Andrew Moen. "Continuation of Who Owns the Northwoods?" Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC July 2017 (\$4,600).

- 2016 - Weichelt, Ryan and Samuel Lofstgarden (student). "The Minnesota 2<sup>nd</sup> District 2016 Election." Faculty Student Research Collaboration, UWEC, September 2016 (\$1,500).
- 2016 - Weichelt, Ryan, Ezra Zeitler, Nicholas Berg (student), and Hannah Wirth. "Who owns the Northwoods?" Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, July 2016 (\$6,900).
- 2016 - Weichelt, Ryan and Payden Volbrecht (student). "UWEC Admissions Research." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, July 2016 (\$4,600).
- 2015 - Weichelt, Ryan and Dakota Dorn (student). "UWEC Admissions Research." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, July 2015 (\$4,600).
- 2014 - O'Halloran, Peggy, Ryan Weichelt, Nathan Schafer (student), and Jade Goetz (student). "Participatory Photo-mapping Alcohol Use in the Historic Randall Park Neighborhood: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant, UWEC, September 2014 (\$2,220).
- 2014 - Weichelt, Ryan and Emily Christenson (student). "Creation of an Online Redistricting Application for the state of Wisconsin." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant and Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates, UWEC, June 2014 (\$4,600)
- 2014 - Hupy, Christina, Joseph Hupy, Ryan Weichelt, and Cyril Wilson. Wisconsin Growth Agenda Grant. Geospatial Education Initiative, July 2014 (\$418,869).
- 2013 - Weichelt, Ryan and Hannah Bristol (student). "Placement of a Methane Digester near Marshfield, WI." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant, UWEC, September 2013 (\$1,300).
- 2013 - Weichelt, Ryan and Joseph Quintana (student). "Climatic Effects on Minor League Baseball." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant and Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates, UWEC, June 2013 (\$4,600)
- 2012 - Weichelt, Ryan, Laura Middlesworth, Ben Possi (student), and Emily Anderson (student). "Collusion of Illusion: A Tri-State Analysis of Gas Prices." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant, UWEC, September 2012 (\$1,300).
- 2012 - Weichelt, Ryan and Meghan Kelly (student). "Divided Government: A Spatial Analysis of ACU and ADA Indexes for the US House of Representatives and Senate, 1981-2011." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant and Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates, UWEC, June 2012 (\$4,600).

- 2011 - Weichelt, Ryan and Benjamin Dunning (student). "Wisconsin Electoral History." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant and Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates, UWEC, June 2011 (\$4,600).
- 2010 - Weichelt, Ryan and David Melsness (student). "Geographic Crime Displacement in Chicago's Southside." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant and Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates, UWEC, June 2010 (\$4,600).
- 2010 - Weichelt, Ryan, Ezra Zeitler, and Alyson Diller (student). "Spatial Patterns of Lottery Outlets in the Milwaukee MSA." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant, UWEC, January 2010 (\$1,200).
- 2009 - Weichelt, Ryan, Ezra Zeitler, and Evan Byers (student). "Geography of Minnesota High School Hockey." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant, UWEC, September 2009 (\$800).
- 2009 - Zeitler, Ezra, Ryan Weichelt, and Darrin Mertig (student). "Geographic Bias in the National Football League Draft, 1970 - 2009." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant, UWEC, September 2009 (\$1,200).
- 2009 - Hupy, Christina, Ryan Weichelt, Rebekah Baum (student), and Matthew Sackman (student). "Alcohol Licenses in Eau Claire County, WI and the Relationship to Crime and Other Variables." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Grant, UWEC, September 2009 (\$2,640).

## CONSULTING

- 2022 - Expert Witness, ACLU and Native American Rights Fund (NARF). *Western Native Voice vs. Jacobsen*, Cause No. DV 21-0560.
- 2022 - Consultant, Native American Rights Fund (NARF)
- 2022 - Consultant, NAACP Georgia.
- 2021 - Consultant, Native American Rights Fund (NARF) and Democracy Now.
- 2021 - Consultant, NAACP Virginia.
- 2021 - Consultant, Citizen Mathematicians and Scientists. No. 2021AP001450 OA.
- 2021 - Expert Witness, East Saint Louis NAACP. *United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations et al v. Illinois State Board of Elections et al.* 1:2021cv05512
- 2020 - Expert Witness, ACLU and Native American Rights Fund (NARF). *Western Native*

*Voice vs. Stapleton*, Cause No. DV 20-0377.

2020 - Consultant, ACLU and Native American Rights Fund (NARF). *Western Native Voice vs. Stapleton* (injunction), Cause No. DV-2020-377.

2020 - Consultant, Native American Rights Fund. *Voter Access in Nevada*.

#### ARTICLE/BOOK REVEIWS

*Great Plains Research*, 2023 - *Book Review - Battle for the Heart of Texas: Political Change in the Electorate*

*Political Geography*, 2023 - *Article Review*

*Geographic Bulletin*, 2022 - *Article Review*

*Routledge*, 2021- *Article Review*

*Red Line* 2014 - *Book Review*

*Oxford Press*, 2013, 2012, and 2011 - *Book Review*

*McGraw Hill*, 2012 - *Book Review*

*Professional Geographer*, 2011 - *Article Review*

*Political Geography*, 2010 and 2009- *Article Review*

#### PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

2023 - Zeitler, Ezra and Ryan Weichelt. "Cultural Landscape Change and Function of Hamlets in Southwest Wisconsin: Updating Trewartha's Classic 1943 Study." Paper presented at the 2023 West Lakes Regional AAG Meeting, Chicago, IL.

2023 - Weichelt, Ryan. Session Organizer - "Electoral Geography in a Polarized World" and Paper Presentation "Incumbency Advantage? Redistricting and District Shapes." Session and Paper presented at the 2023 International Political Science Association World Congress, July, Buenos Aries, Argentina.

2023 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Incumbency Advantage? Redistricting and District Shapes." Paper presented at the 2023 Association of American Geographers, March, Denver, CO.

- 2023 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The 2022 and 2024 Elections." Panel discussant at the 2023 Association of American Geographers, March, Denver, CO.
- 2022 - Heppen, John, Ryan Weichelt, and J. Clark Archer. "Electoral Geography and Geographic Education." National Council on Geographic Education, October, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2022 - Weichelt, Ryan "Observations and Analyses of the 2020 Elections: A Spatial Approach." Paper Presented at the UWEC Faculty Forum Series, April 2022.
- 2022 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Geographies of the 2020, 2022, and 2024 Elections." Panel discussant at the 2022 Association of American Geographers, February, Virtual Presentation.
- 2021 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Slaying the Gerrymander: How Geography Can Offer Both Solutions and Invited Interdisciplinary Collaborations to the Study of Redistricting." Paper presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Political Science Association (IPSA) World Congress Conference, July 2021, Virtual Paper Presentation.
- 2021 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Geography of the 2020 Wisconsin Presidential Election." Poster presented at the 2021 Association of American Geographers, April, Virtual Poster Presentation.
- 2021 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Wisconsin's Decade in a Purple Haze: Using Geospatial Technologies to Analyze Wisconsin's Recent Electoral Patterns." Presentation at the 2021 Wisconsin Land Information Association Conference, February 18, Virtual Presentation.
- 2019 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The 2016 U.S. Presidential Election and Trump's Political Rhetoric: Wisconsin's Electoral Geography as a Case Study." Paper presented at 2019 Regional AAG West Lakes Conference, October, Cedar Falls, Iowa.
- 2019 - Zeitler, Ezra and Ryan Weichelt. "Economic Sustainability in Wisconsin's Pleasure Periphery: A Case Study of Second Home Ownership in Grantsburg and Hayward." Paper presented at Annual Colloquium of the IGU-Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems, July, St. Paul, MN.
- 2019 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Current Practices, Social, and Political Implications of Redistricting." Invited Panel Discussant at Harvard's Center for Geographic Analysis Conference on the Geography of Redistricting, May, Cambridge, MA.
- 2019 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The 2018 Elections and Beyond." Panel discussant at the 2019 Association of American Geographers, April, Washington D.C.
- 2019 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Electoral Geography of the 2018 Midterm Elections in Wisconsin." Poster presented at the 2019 Association of American Geographers, April, Washington



D.C.

- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Understanding the Current State of Partisan Gerrymandering and the Need for Geographers." 2018 Regional AAG West Lakes Conference, October 2018, La Crosse, WI.
- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The 2016 U.S. Presidential Election and Trump's Populist Rhetoric: Wisconsin's Electoral Geography as a Case Study." Paper presented at the 25<sup>th</sup> International Political Science Association (IPSA) World Congress Conference, July 2018, Brisbane, Australia.
- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The Long Slow Bleed of Wisconsin Democrats: 2010 to the Present." Paper presented at the 2018 Association of American Geographers, April, New Orleans, LA.
- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The Atlas of the 2016 Elections." Panel discussant to at the 2018 Association of American Geographers, April, New Orleans, LA.
- 2018 - Weichelt, Ryan and Katie Weichelt. "Using Data and Geographic Analysis to Increase First Year Retention." Poster Presented at the 2018 First Year Experiences Conference, February, San Antonio, TX.
- 2017 - Weichelt, Katie and Ryan Weichelt. "'Make America Great Again':" Trump's Populist Rhetoric and Central Wisconsin." Paper presented at the 2017 Regional AAG Great Plains Rocky Mountains Conference, October, Grand Forks, ND.
- 2017 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The Ambiguity of 'Rural:' An Electoral Regionalization of Wisconsin from the 2016 Presidential Election." Paper presented at the 2017 NCGE Conference, July, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2017 - Weichelt, Ryan and Ezra Zeitler. "Who Owns the Northwoods?" Paper presented at the 2017 Geospatial Summit, April, Madison, WI.
- 2016 - Weichelt, Ryan and Ezra Zeitler. "Who Owns the Northwoods?" Poster presented at the 2016 Regional AAG West Lakes/East Lakes Joint Conference, October, Marquette, MI.
- 2016 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Towards a Stronger Electoral Geography." Paper accepted and presented at the 24<sup>th</sup> International Political Science Association (IPSA) World Congress Conference, July 2016, Poznan, Poland.
- 2016 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Unlocking the Electoral Puzzle, Wisconsin Suburbs and Gerrymandering." Paper presented at the 2016 The Shifting Politics of U.S. Suburbs: Parties, Participation, and Public Opinion in 2016 Conference, June, Arlington, VA.

- 2015 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Public Perceptions of Alcohol use in the Randall Park Neighborhood of Eau Claire, WI using Public Participatory Mapping and ESRI Story Maps. Paper presented at the 2015 Regional AAG West Lakes Conference, October 2015, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2015 - Weichelt, Ryan, Christina Hupy, Cyril Wilson, and Joseph Hupy. "Education the Next Geospatial Workforce: Geospatial Education Initiative." Paper presented at the 2015 ESRI Education User Conference, July, San Diego, CA.
- 2015 - Weichelt, Ryan and Katie Weichelt. "Women Legislature Candidates and Electoral Safety. The Case of the Wisconsin State Legislature." Paper presented at the 2015 Association of American Geographers, April, Chicago, IL.
- 2015 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The 2014 Elections and 2016 Elections in the United States." Panel Discussant at the 2015 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April, Chicago, IL.
- 2014 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Lessons from the 2012 Wisconsin Gubernatorial Recall Election and Beyond." Paper at the 2014 East Lakes/West Lakes Association of the American Geographers, October, Kalamazoo, MI.
- 2014 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Purple Haze: Connecting Culture to Legislation and Elections within the Context of the 2012 Wisconsin Gubernatorial Recall Election." Paper accepted and presented at the 23<sup>rd</sup> IPSA World Congress, July, Montreal, Canada.
- 2014 - Weichelt, Ryan & Katie Weichelt. "Mapping Changes in the Paper Industry along the Wisconsin River." Poster presented at the 2014 Association of American Geographers, April, Tampa, FL.
- 2013 - Weichelt, Ryan & Laura Middlesworth. "Collusion or Delusion: A Tri-State Analysis of Gas Prices." Paper presented at the 2013 West Lakes Association of American Geographers, October, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2013 - Weichelt, Ryan & Laura Middlesworth. "A Spatial Analysis of Foreclosures in Dane County." Poster presented at the 2013 Association of American Geographers, April, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The Political Geography of the 2012 U.S. Presidential Election." Panel Discussant at the 2013 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April, Los Angeles, CA.

- 2013 - Weichelt, Ryan, Laura Middlesworth, and Louisa Rice. "Effectiveness of Bundles as Agents of Integration." Paper and Panel Discussant at the 2013 Office of Professional and Instructional Development, April, Madison, WI.
- 2013 - Weichelt, Ryan & Laura Middlesworth. "A Spatial Analysis of Foreclosures in Dane County." Paper presented at UWEC Faculty Forum, March 2013.
- 2012 - Middlesworth, Laura and Ryan Weichelt. "A Spatial Analysis of Foreclosures in Dane County." Paper presented at the 2012 Wisconsin Economic Association Annual Meeting, November 2012, Stevens Point, WI.
- 2012 - Weichelt, Ryan and Meghan Kelly. "A Divided House? A Spatial Analysis of ACU and ADA Indexes for the U.S. House of Representatives, 1981 - 2011." Poster presented at the 2012 Regional AAG East/West Lakes Joint Conference, October 2012, DeKalb, IL.
- 2012 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Using Geospatial Technology to Understand and Predict Wisconsin Elections." Paper presented at the 2012 Geospatial Summit, April 2012, Madison, WI.
- 2011 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Purple Haze: Current and Future Electoral Possibilities in Wisconsin." Paper presented at the 2011 Regional AAG West Lakes Conference, November 2011, Chicago, IL.
- 2011 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Political Upheaval: Changing Electoral Patterns in Wisconsin." Paper presented at the 2011 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April, Seattle, WA.
- 2011 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Geography and the 2010 and 2012 U.S. Presidential Elections." Panel Discussant at the 2011 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April, Seattle, WA.
- 2010 - Weichelt, Ryan. "A Spatial Identification of Hispanic Voting Patterns: An Analysis of the 2008 Presidential Election." Paper presented at the 2010 Race, Place, and Ethnicity Conference, October, Binghamton, NY.
- 2010 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Divided Government: Does a Geographic and Ideological Divide Exist Among Role Call Voting of U.S. Senators?" Paper presented at the 2010 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April, Washington D.C.
- 2009 - Weichelt, Ryan & Katie Haselwood. "Tennis Anyone? The Spatial Segregation of Tennis Court Locations in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin." Paper presented at the 2009 Regional AAG West Lakes Conference October, St. Paul, MN.

- 2009 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The Disappearance of Rural Taverns: A Case Study of Rural Marshfield." Paper presented at the 2009 Wisconsin Geographical Society Meeting, October, Stevens Point, WI.
- 2009 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Influence of Hispanic Voters on the 2008 Election." Paper presented at the 2009 Preconference of the Political Geography Specialty Group, March Las Vegas, NV.
- 2009 - Weichelt, Ryan & Katie Haselwood. "Tennis Anyone? The Spatial Segregation of Tennis Court Locations in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin." Poster presented at the 2009 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, March, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2009 - Weichelt, Ryan. "A Geographic Recollection of the 2008 Elections." Panel Discussant at the 2009 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, March, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2009 - Weichelt, Ryan. "2008 Presidential Election, Hispanic Voting Results." Paper Presented at the 2009 Political Geography Preconference March, Las Vegas, NV.
- 2008 - Weichelt, Ryan. "A County Level Analysis of Hispanic Election Patterns in Texas: 1952-2006." Paper Presented at the 2008 Regional AAG Great Plains/Rocky Mountains Conference September, Grand Forks, ND.
- 2008 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Geographic Perspectives on the 2008 Elections." Panel Discussant at the 2008 Regional Great Plains/Rocky Mountains Conference September, Grand Forks, ND
- 2008 - Weichelt, Ryan. "U.S. Presidential Elections and Electoral Behavior of Hispanics at a National Scale: 1980 - 2004." Paper Presented at the 2008 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April, Boston, MA.
- 2008 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The 2008 Elections." Panel Discussant at the 2008 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April, Boston, MA.
- 2007 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Hispanic Influence on the Roll-Call Voting of U.S. House Members: 1993 - 2005." Paper Presented at the 2007 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April, San Francisco, CA.
- 2006 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Does Geography Matter? A Regional Analysis of Variance Using ADA and ACU Indexes for U.S. Senators, 1980 - 2004." Paper Presented at the 2006 Regional AAG Great Plains/Rocky Mountains/West Lakes Conference, October 2006, Lincoln, NE.

- 2006 - Weichelt, Ryan. "The Decline of Rural Taverns in Central Wisconsin." Paper Presented at the 2006 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, March, Chicago, IL.
- 2005 - Weichelt, Ryan. "A Three State Election Analysis of Ant-Gay Marriage Amendments: Michigan, Georgia, and Ohio." Paper presented at the 2005 Nebraska Academy of Sciences, April 2005, Lincoln, NE.
- 2005 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Public Perceptions of the Austin, Texas Police Department." Paper presented at the 2005 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, April 2005, Denver, CO.
- 2004 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Defining a Political Place: An Analysis of Hispanic Voting Patterns of South Texas Counties." Paper presented the at 2004 AAG Regional Great Plains/Rocky Mountain Conference, October 2004, Sioux Falls, SD.
- 2003 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Political Participation of Major University Communities: An Analysis of Voter Turnout." Paper presented at the 2003 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, March 2003, New Orleans, LA.
- 2002 - Weichelt, Ryan. "A Survey of Texas Presidential Elections: 1992 - 2000." Paper presented at the 2002 Annual Association of American Geographer National Meeting, March 2002, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2002 - Shelley, Fred, Ryan Weichelt, and Tanya McKay, "Electoral Geography on the Border: The Texas Democratic Primary of 2002." Paper Presented at the 2002 Annual Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2002 - Shelley, Fred & Ryan Weichelt, "Levels of Voter Turnout in Texas." Paper Presented at the 2002 Annual Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2000 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Political Landscape of Eau Claire Neighborhoods." Poster presented at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Poster Day, April 2000, Eau Claire, WI.
- 1999 - Weichelt, Ryan. "Diffusion of Coral Reef Disease." Poster presented at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Poster Day, April 1999, Eau Claire, WI.

#### FACULTY/STUDENT RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

- 2023 - Ryan Weichelt and Morgan Dekan "Perceptions of Sustainable Agriculture in the Chippewa Valley among Current Farmers." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, June 2023.

\*Poster presented at the 2023 National Council of Undergraduate Research (NCUR) Conference Eau Claire, WI.

2023 - Zeitler, Ezra, Ryan Weichelt, Carolyn Seager, and Eli Swanson. "Assessing 80 Years of Economic and Social Change in Southwest Wisconsin Hamlets." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, June 2023.

2023 - Weichelt, Ryan, Matt Haffner, Charlie Frey, and Thomas Ruohoniemi. "Impact of Rural Clinic Closure." The Research and Innovation Council of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Mayo Clinic Health System - Northwest Wisconsin Grant, February 2023.

2022 - Weichelt, Ryan, Matt Haffner, Martin Goettl, Allison Bast, Carolyn Seager, and Amy Blazin. "A Spatial Analysis of Cellular Strength in Western Wisconsin." The Research and Innovation Council of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Mayo Clinic Health System - Northwest Wisconsin Grant, October 2022.

\*Poster presented at the 2023 Association of American Geographer's Annual meeting Denver, CO and at the 2023 National Council of Undergraduate Research (NCUR) Conference Eau Claire, WI.

2022 - Weichelt, Ryan and Josh Rockwell. "Incumbency Advantage? Redistricting and District Shapes." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC, July 2022.

2020 - Weichelt, Ryan and Cameron Wingren. "Creating an Online Election Atlas of Wisconsin Elections." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC July 2020.

2019 - Weichelt, Ryan and Wyatt Pajdash. "Redistricting, Gerrymandering, and Geography." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC July 2019. Poster presented at the 2019 West Lakes Regional Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Cedar Rapids, IA.

\*Poster presented at UWEC's 2020 Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity.

2018 - Lewis, Michael. "Geographic Patterns of UWEC First Year Students." Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant, UWEC July 2018. Poster presented at the 2018 West Lakes Regional Association of American Geographers National Meeting, La Crosse, WI.

\*Poster presented at UWEC's 2019 Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity.

- 2018 - Fischer, Zachary and Andrew Moen. "Continuation of Who Owns the Northwoods?" Faculty Student Research Collaboration Summer Grant. Poster presented at the 2018 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, New Orleans, LA.  
\*Poster presented at UWEC's 2018 Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity.
- 2017 - Loftsgaarden, Samuel. The Minnesota 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District 2016 Election. Research through OSRP Funding. \*Poster presented at UWEC's 2017 Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity.
- 2017 - Berg, Nicholas and Hannah Wirth. Who Owns the Northwoods? Summer Research through OSRP funding. \*Poster presented at UWEC's 2017 Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity.
- 2016 - Volbrecht, Payden. UWEC Admissions Research. Summer Research through OSRP funding.
- 2015 - Dorn, Dakota. UWEC Admissions Research. Summer Research through OSRP funding.
- 2015 - O'Halloran, Peggy, Ryan Weichelt, Nathan Schafer (student), and Jade Goetz (student). Participatory Photo-mapping Alcohol Use in the Historic Randall Park Neighborhood: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. Faculty Student Research Collaboration. \*Paper presented at UWEC's 2015 Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity.
- 2014 - Christenson, Emily. Creation of an Online Redistricting Application for the state of Wisconsin. Summer Research through OSRP funding.
- 2014 - Bristol, Hannah. "Placement of a Methane Digester near Marshfield, WI." Poster presented at the Regional AAG West Lakes Conference, Eau Claire, WI.  
\*Poster presented at UWEC's 2014 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2014 - Quintana, Joseph. "Climatic Effects on Minor League Baseball." Paper presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual McNair Research Conference, November, Lake Geneva, WI.  
\*Poster presented at UWEC's 2014 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2013 - Russell, Miriam. "A Spatial Analysis of Musician Locations in Metropolitan United States." Poster presented at the 2013 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.  
\*Poster also presented at UWEC's 2013 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2013 - Siegel, Shandi. "Exploring Wisconsin's Aging Counties." Poster presented at the 2013 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.  
\*Poster also presented at UWEC's 2013 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.

- 2013 - Peterson, Andrew. "More Than Just Yard Decorations: Campaign Signs as a Predictor of Election Results and Voter Turnout for the 2012 Presidential Election in the City of Eau Claire." Poster presented at UWEC's 2013 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2013 - Possi, Ben and Emily Anderson. 2013. "Collusion of Illusion: A Tri-State Analysis of Gas Prices." Poster presented at UWEC's 2013 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2013 - Kelly, Meghan. "Divided Government: A Spatial Analysis of ACU and ADA Indexes for the US House of Representatives and Senate, 1981-2011." Poster presented at the 2013 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013 - Kelly, Meghan. "Does Geography Matter? Divided Government: A Spatial Analysis of ACU and ADA Indexes for the House of Representatives, 1981 - 2009." Poster presented at the East/West Lakes Joint Regional AAG Conference (DeKalb, IL)  
\*Poster also presented at UWEC's 2013 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2012 - Kelly, Meghan and Jon Bowen. "The Geography of Super Tuesday in Ohio through Twitter." Poster presented at UWEC's Student Research Day.
- 2012 - Dunning, Benjamin. "Wisconsin Electoral History." Poster presented at the 2012 UW-Eau Claire Student Research Day.
- 2011 - Diller, Alyson. "Spatial Analysis of Lottery Revenue across Neighborhoods of Contrasting Socioeconomic Make-up in Southeastern Wisconsin." Poster presented at the 2011 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Seattle, WA.  
\*Poster also presented at UWEC's 2011 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2011 - Melsness, David. "Spatial Crime Displacement in Chicago's South Side: From the Projects to the 'Hood'." Paper presented at UWEC's Provost's Honors Symposium for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2011 - Melsness, David. "Displacement of Crime in Chicago." Poster presented at the 2011 Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Seattle, WA.  
\*Poster also presented at UWEC's 2011 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2011 - Sackmann, Matthew. "Crime Analysis of Eau Claire County." Poster presented at UWEC's 2011 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2010 - Melsness, David. "Geographic Crime Displacement in Chicago's Southside." Poster presented at the 2010 Race, Place, and Ethnicity Conference in Binghamton, NY. 2010 -
- 2010 - Mertig, Darin. "Geographic Bias in the National Football League Draft, 1970 - 2009."



Poster presented at the 2010 Annual Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Washington D.C. \*Poster also presented at UWEC's 2010 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.

2010 - Baum, Rebekah. "Examining the Relationship between Alcohol Outlets and Crime through Regression Analysis in Eau Claire County, WI." Poster presented at the 2010 Annual Association of American Geographers National Meeting, Washington D.C. \*Poster also presented at UWEC's 2010 Student Research Day, Eau Claire, WI.

2010 - Melsness, David. 2010 "A Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Displacement Theory and Crime in Englewood, Chicago." Poster presented at the 2010 UW-Eau Claire student research day.

2009 - Byers, Evan. 2009. "Geography of Minnesota High School Hockey." Poster Presented at the 2009 West Lakes Region of the Association of American Geographers, St. Paul, MN.

#### INVITED PUBLIC LECTURES/ARTICLES:

June 2022 and 2023 - Invited Speaker. "Electoral Geography of Wisconsin." Badger State Boys. Eau Claire, WI.

March 2023 - Invited Speaker. "Combating Disinformation in Politics Through Spatial Thinking." Speaker at the 55<sup>th</sup> South Dakota State Geography Convention.

December 2021 - Invited Presenter. "Geography and Redistricting." Presentation to the Pierce County Grassroots Organizing.

November 2021 - Invited Lecture. "Redistricting and the 2020 Election." GIS DAY Speaker for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Department of Geography and Anthropology.

August 2021 - Invited Interview. "2020 Redistricting and the U.S. Census." Conducted by *Spectrum West*, WPR. <https://www.wpr.org/shows/spectrum-west-august-26-2021>

May 2021 - Invited Interview. "Most Desirable Places to Live Post-Pandemic." Conducted by *Central Time*, WPR. <https://www.wpr.org/most-desirable-places-live-post-pandemic>

March 2021 - Invited Interview. "COVID-19 Set America's Housing Market On Fire. That Could Alter U.S. Politics For A Generation." Conducted by Forbes. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/petertaylor/2021/03/11/covid-19-set-americas-housing-market-on-fire-that-could-alter-us-politics-for-a-generation/?sh=1a61b49139de>

November 2020 - Invited Lecture. "Using GIS to Study Elections." Purdue University GIS Day Keynote Speaker. \*Canceled due to COVID-19.

- November 2020 - Invited Interview. “Échos du Wisconsin rural, à quelques jours de la présidentielle.” Conducted by *Radio-Canada*. <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1746055/wisconsin-donald-trump-campagne-elections-president-etats-unis>
- May 2020 - Invited Radio Interview. “Coronavirus and Summer Travel to Norther Wisconsin.” Conducted by *Central Time, WPR*. <https://www.wpr.org/coronavirus-and-summer-travel-northern-wisconsin>
- May 2020 - Invited Radio Interview. “Who Owns the Northwoods?” Conducted by *The Morning Show, WPR*. <https://www.wpr.org/who-owns-northwoods>
- May 2020 - Invited Published Article. “The Hazard of COVID-19 Heading up North for Summer.” Published by *WisContext*: <https://www.wiscontext.org/hazard-covid-19-heading-north-summer>
- May 2020 - Invited Lecture. “Gerrymandering in Wisconsin.” Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. \*Cancelled due to COVID-19.
- May 2020 - Invited Lecture. “Wisconsin Election Results, a Spatial Approach.” University of Wisconsin-River Falls Geography Department Honors Banquet. \*Cancelled due to COVID-19.
- September 2019 - Invited Radio Interview. “Untangling How Minimum Markup Affects Gas Prices in Eau Claire.” Conducted by *Central Time, WPR*: <https://www.wpr.org/untangling-how-minimum-markup-affects-gas-prices-eau-claire>
- September 2019 - Invited Published Article. “The Stubborn Similarity of Gas Prices Across Eau Claire.” Published by *WisContext*: <https://www.wiscontext.org/stubborn-similarity-gas-prices-across-eau-claire>.
- May 2019 - Invited Radio Interview. “Why are Wisconsin’s Rural Taverns Disappearing?” Conducted by *Central Time, WPR*: <https://www.wpr.org/why-are-wisconsins-ruraltaverns-disappearing>
- May 2019 - Invited Published Article. “The Bygone Era of Marshfield’s Rural Taverns.” Published by *WisContext*: <https://www.wiscontext.org/bygone-era-marshfields-ruraltaverns>
- February 2019 - Invited Radio Interview. “Why Aren’t More Women Serving in Wisconsin’s Legislature?” Conducted by *Central Time, WPR*: <https://www.wpr.org/why-arentmore-women-serving-wisconsins-legislature>

February 2019 - Invited Published Article. "As Number of Wisconsin's Women Legislators Stalls, Partisan Mix Shifts." Published by *WisContext*:

<https://www.wiscontext.org/number-wisconsins-women-legislators-stalls-partisanmix-shifts>

October 2018 - Invited Lecture. History of Wisconsin Election Patterns and the 2018 Mid-Term Elections. Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement.

May 2018 - Interview. "Geographer Shares Expertise on Redistricting, Gerrymandering."

Published by UWEC: <https://www.uwec.edu/news/news/geographer-shares-expertiseon-redistricting-gerrymandering-3039/>

April 2018 - Interview. "Field Study Helps Blugolds Understand Relationships Among History, Race, and Place." Published by UWEC:

<https://www.uwec.edu/news/news/immersion-helps-blugolds-understandrelationships-among-history-race-and-place-2965/>

March 2013 - "Foreclosures in Dane County." Presented to CETL, Brownbag Series.

December 2012 - "Collusion or Illusion: A Tri-State Analysis of Gas Prices." Co-presenter (Laura Middlesworth, Ben Possi, and Emily Anderson), presented to the City of Eau Claire Fiscal Advisory Committee.

July 2012 - Gas Price Investigation. Invited speaker by the City of Eau Claire Fiscal Advisory Committee.

November 2010 - Navigating the 2010 United States Census. Speaker sponsored by the UWEC Geography and Anthropology Club.

October 2009 - Idea Lounge X: The Urban Battle. Panel discussant, sponsored by Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. (DECI).

October 2008 - "The Electoral Behavior of Hispanics at a National Scale: 1980-2004 and Beyond." A presentation to the American Democracy Project, Edmond, Oklahoma.

December 2007 - "The Physical Geography of Spain, Portugal, and Morocco." A presentation to the LEAD Program sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE.

#### UNIVERSITY SERVICE AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Gamma Theta Upsilon. January 2023 to present.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Gamma Theta Upsilon. January 2021 to 2023.

Co-Chair Research Council 15, Cultural and Political Geography, for the International Political Science Association. July 2018 to the present.

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire Director of First Year Experiences. Summer April 2019 to August 2020.

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire Interim Director of First Year Experiences. Summer 2017 to April 2019.

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire University Senate Executive Committee Member. Sept. 2019 to present.

UWEC Opening Day Committee. Summer 2018 to Present.

First Year Experiences Proposal Reviewer. Fall 2018 to 2020.

UWEC Living Learning Communities Committee, Co-Chair. Fall 2017 to the present.

Geography and Anthropology GIS Tenure Track Search Committee Chair. Fall 2017.

UWEC Provost Sponsored Committee "Transfer Students and A & S." Fall 2017 - Spring 2018.

UWEC Provost Sponsored Committee "Women in STEM." Fall 2017 - Spring 2018.

Gamma Theta Upsilon, West Lakes Regional Councilor. January 2017 to December 2020.

Geographic Bulletin, Editorial Board. March 2017 to the present.

Eau Claire School District Demographics and Trends Committee Member. Fall 2016 to the present.

Department of Geography and Anthropology, Faculty Senator. Fall 2015 to Spring 2023.

Geography and Anthropology Geospatial Board Chairman, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Fall 2015 to the present.

Geography and Anthropology Geospatial Board Member, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Fall 2012 to the present.

First Year Advisory Committee, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Fall 2013 to 2020.

State of Wisconsin Geography Bee Judge. Spring 2010 to 2019.

AP Human Geography Test Grader, June 2010 to 2019.

Department of Geography, Department Personal Committee, Fall 2009 to the present.

Department Personal Committee Chair (DPC), Department of Geography and Anthropology,  
August 2022 to May 2023.

Assistant Director of Advising for UWEC, Search Committee Member. Summer 2016.

OSRP Social Science Grant Review Committee. Summer 2014 to Fall 2017.

First Year Section Pilot, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Fall 2014.

Geospatial Education Initiative Growth Agenda Co-PI 2014 to 2016.

Geospatial Ethics Workshop Co-creator and Co-facilitator (Martin Goettl), University of  
Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Summer 2013 to 2015.

McNair Scholar Advisor to Joseph Quintana Summer and Fall 2013.

LE Core Pilot (Geography III), University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Spring 2014.

Geography and Anthropology Simpson Fund Committee, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.  
Spring 2013.

West Lakes Steering Committee, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Fall 2012 to Fall 2013 &  
Fall 2014.

Connected Advising Institute Participant, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. August 2012.

Geography and Anthropology Scheduling Committee, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.  
Spring 2011 to the present.

Geography and Anthropology Geospatial Technology Search Committee, University of  
Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Fall 2010 to Summer 2011.

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Pilot Bundle participant. Spring 2010 to Spring 2012.

Advisor University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Gamma Theta Upsilon. Fall 2011 to the present.

Co-advisor University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Geography and Anthropology Club. Fall 2010  
to the present.

Geography and Anthropology Curriculum Committee, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.  
Fall 2010 to Spring 2012.

Geography Advisory Board, Department of History and Geography, University of Central Oklahoma. Member. Fall 2008 to present.

Geography graduate student representative, Department of Anthropology and Geography. Fall 2006 to Spring of 2007.

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Topical Subjects: Political Geography, Urban Geography, Cultural Geography, Population Geography, Human Geography, Electoral Geography, applications of GIS in electoral geography and crime mapping, Crime and Geography, Economic and Business Geography, and Sports Geography

Regional Subjects: North America, Europe, and the Middle East.

ACADEMIC HONORS/AWARDS:

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, 2004 – 2008, Department of Anthropology and Geography, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

1<sup>st</sup> Place 2006, Regional AAG Great Plains/Rocky Mountains/West Lakes Conference. Ph.D. Paper Competition

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Aug. 2001 – Dec. 2002, Department of Criminal Justice, Texas State University

Blanchard Scholarship in Geography, 2002. Texas State University Department of Geography

Outstanding Geography Senior, 2000. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Department of Geography

Scholarship in Geography Education 1998. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Department of Geography

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Dean's List: 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Academic Honors: 1996-2000

NON-ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

Faculty Advisor, Gamma Theta Upsilon. 2011 to the Spring 2023.

Co-Faculty Advisor, UWEC Geography and Anthropology Club. 2010 to 2019.

President, Vice-President, Member Geography Student Organization and Gamma Theta Upsilon (Geography Honor's Society), U. of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2004 - 2008.

Volunteer, Nebraska Library Commission, Producer, 2005.

Station Manager, TV10, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 1998-2000.

President Gamma Theta Upsilon (Geography Honor's Society), University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire Chapter, 1996-2000.

President Geography Club, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 1996-2000.

Vice President Model United Nations Club, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 1999- 2000.

Intern for the City of Eau Claire's Assistant City Manager 1999.

#### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- Association of American Geographers
  - Political Geography Specialty Group
  - Population Specialty Group
  - Urban Geography Specialty Group
  - Applied Geography Specialty Group
- Gamma Theta Upsilon (Geography Honor Society)
- International Political Science Association (IPSA)
- Phi Kappa Phi (Senior Scholastic Honor Society)
- Phi Eta Sigma (Freshman Scholastic Honor Society)
- Phi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honor Society)
- Mortar Board (Senior Leadership Honor Society)
- Kappa Delta Pi (Education Honor Society)

References Available Upon Request