

# University of Wisconsin

Partnering with Communities to Stimulate Innovation, Creativity, and "Grow Jobs"

## UW System structure

**University of Wisconsin Board of Regents** 

#### **University of Wisconsin System**

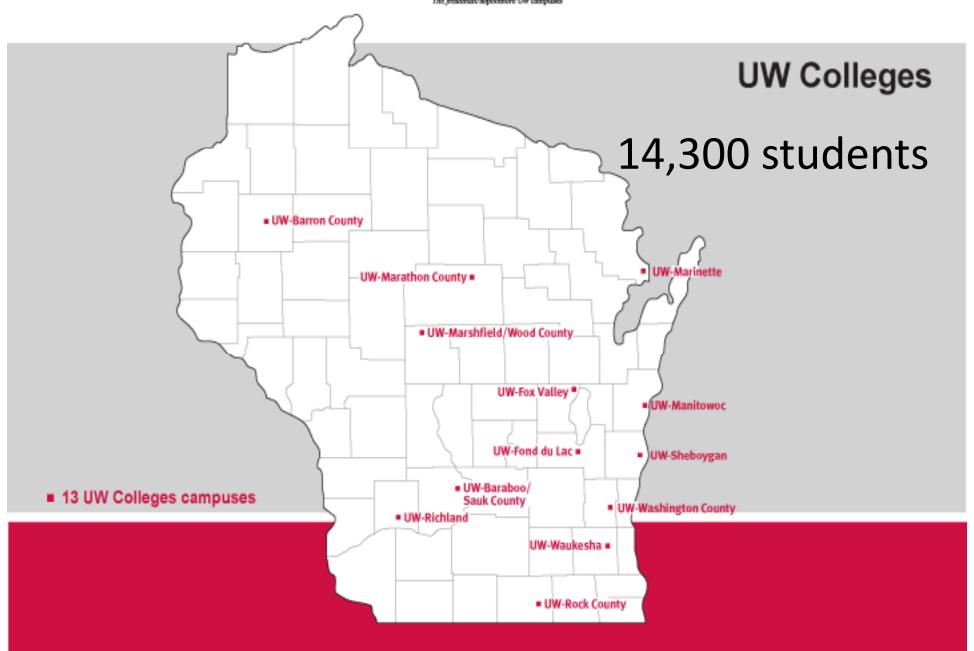
2 Doctoral
Universities
(UW-Madison,
UW-Milwaukee)

11 Comprehensive Universities

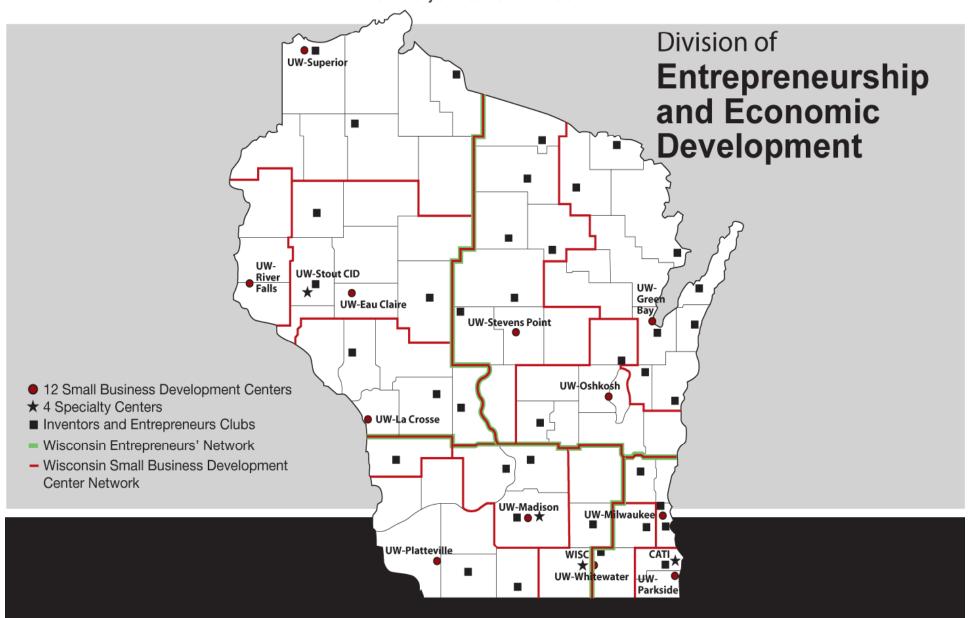
13 Freshman/ Sophomore Colleges

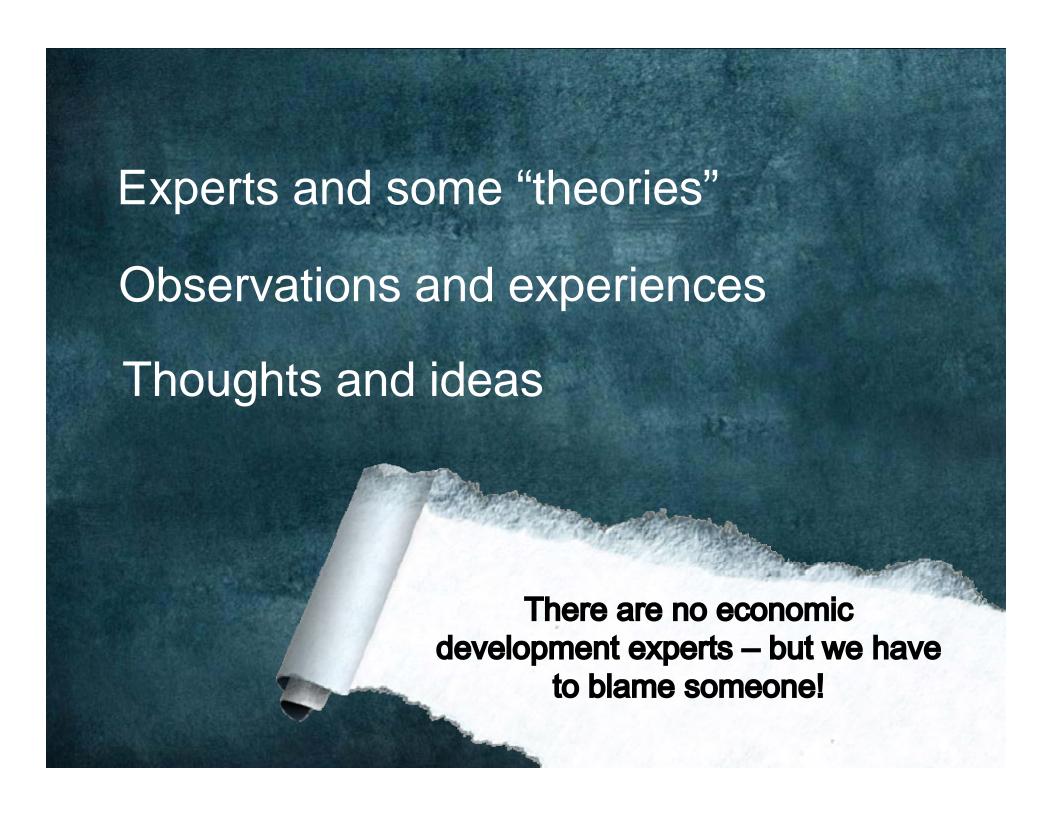
**UW-Extension** 















We have urban development experts and experts in developmental poverty but few "rural economic development" experts.



### Two economic development models

#### **Traditional**

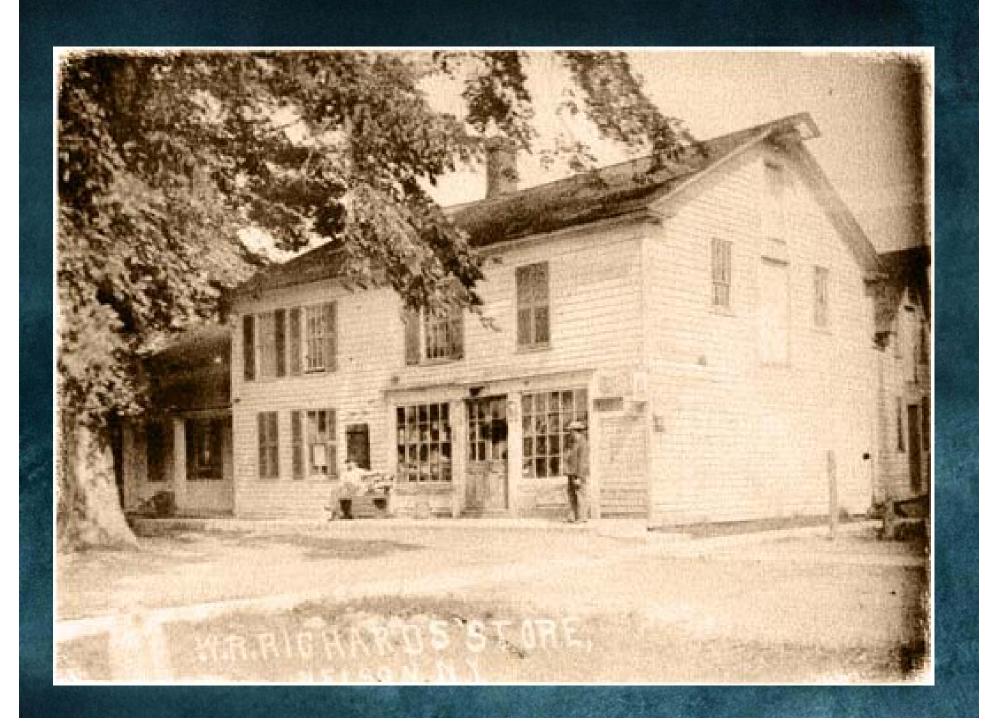
- Attract <u>large existing</u>
   <u>businesses and capital</u>
   <u>projects</u> with tax credits and other subsidies
- Local economic development entities compete to attract businesses
- Local and state governments <u>create direct financial</u> <u>incentives</u>

#### Recent

- Attract <u>entrepreneurs and creative</u> <u>individuals</u> by creating desirable living and connected communities
- Emphasize <u>regional economic</u> <u>development efforts</u> where logical local communities build on their collaborative strengths
- Local and state governments work to improve the business climate by collaborating with businesses and entrepreneurs



















# Nelson Farms Country Store



# **Nelson Farms**



# Dairy processing plant



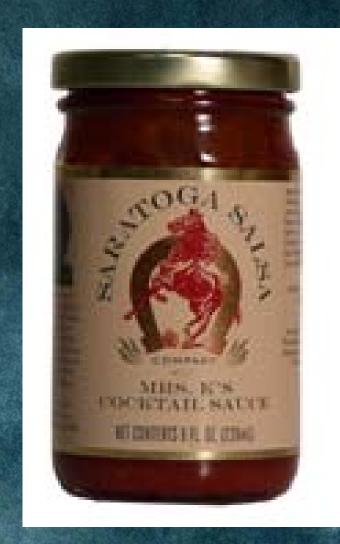
# Client: AuCurrant



# Client: Saratoga Salsa

Six products produced at Nelson Farms include salsa, cocktail sauce & Bloody Mary mix

4,500 units per month National awards





#### Successes . . .



450+ products with over 400 entrepreneurs

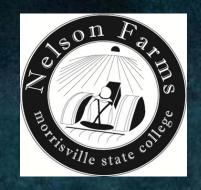
Nationally recognized "co-packing" expertise

Sustainable – does not require grants to operate

Noticeable growth in specialty food activity in

Central New York – County Ag Dev Specialist

## ... and failures



Weak distribution model

Unable to entice "entrepreneurial graduates" to remain once they become successful





#### Successes . . .



Sandbox entrepreneurial project

Boot camp for entrepreneurs

e2e example

Several solid startups

## ... and failures



Urban model

Local disputes over regional approach

Required major marketing effort