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Wisconsin Students Benefit from Statewide College Planning Site for Another Year

Culver City, CA – March 17, 2008 – Wisconsin students continue to have free access to WisconsinMentor.org, courtesy of a one-year extension from the Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation (Great Lakes), who has sponsored the site since October 2000 on behalf of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU). This Xap Corporation site offers a one-stop comprehensive online solution for students preparing and planning for college, as well as applying at participating independent colleges and universities statewide.

More than 45,000 students in the state have taken advantage of WisconsinMentor's ACT test prep, college planning, and financial aid resources.

"In 2007, we witnessed a statewide year-to-year increase in students' ACT exam scores," said La Toya Sykes, Great Lakes' Director of Outreach and Access Awareness. "We believe that WisconsinMentor's ACT test preparation and other college-readiness tools helped contribute towards this success."

"Many students and their families understand neither the college admissions nor the financial aid process," said Dr. Rolf Wegenke, WAICU President. "In the era of the 'knowledge economy,' it is essential that we remove barriers to access. I am grateful to Great Lakes and to Xap for being our partners in this important cause."

"Wisconsin students have benefitted from these comprehensive college access tools for more than seven years," said J. Michael Thompson, CEO of Xap Corporation. "Over the next year, we look forward to continue helping more students achieve academic success, which is integral in helping create a long-term benefit for the state's economy."

About Xap

Xap Corporation (www.xap.com) is a future-focused solution company with a suite of products and services that facilitate a lifetime of transitions. Xap has helped transform the lives of over twenty million students in the past decade. Bridges Transitions (www.bridges.com), a Xap Corporation company, is the leader in online career exploration solutions used in over 15,000 schools and agencies in North America.

About Great Lakes

Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation and Affiliates work with schools, lenders and community organizations to change lives for the better through higher education. Great Lakes supports these partners with financial, educational, and operational resources that help students and families pay for college and build bright futures. As a leading guarantor, originator, and servicer of student loans for over forty years, Great Lakes serves more than 2,700 schools and 1,400 lenders across the nation. One of the nation's largest integrated providers of student loan services, Great Lakes services student loans for more than two million borrowers, holds guarantees on more than \$43 billion in FFELP loans. Great Lakes serves as the designated guarantor for Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands under the Higher Education Act. Great Lakes is headquartered in Madison, Wisconsin, with operating centers in Ohio, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. For additional information, visit mygreatlakes.org.

About WAICU

Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU) is an organization of the twenty independent (or private) institutions of higher learning in Wisconsin, enrolling 57,000 students each year.