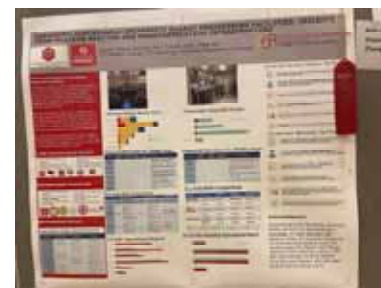


Xiujuan Zhang, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Wisconsin MRSEC Advanced Materials Industrial Consortium (AMIC) facilitates industrial access to the MRSEC and UW-Madison shared instrumentation facilities. The AMIC team has performed a comprehensive benchmarking study across peer institutions semiconductor nanofabrication centers that evaluates their operational models, access policies, technical capabilities, and industry engagement practices. Six leading shared nanofabrication centers, UW-Madison, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego, UC Riverside, Shenzhen Polytechnic University, and Argonne National Laboratory were surveyed, and the results were presented at the 2026 Materials Research Society Meeting.

The survey identified best practices such as independent budgeting, expert staffing, and enhanced industry engagement that improve the performance, sustainability, and impact of shared nanofabrication facilities. Following these practices will strengthen the UW Nanofabrication Center and continue its dramatic increase in industrial use in the past two years.



(left) AMIC Director Zhang touring UCSD Nano3 center with faculty director Dr. Lo (right) The Benchmarking study was nominated for a best poster award at the 2026 Spring MRS conference