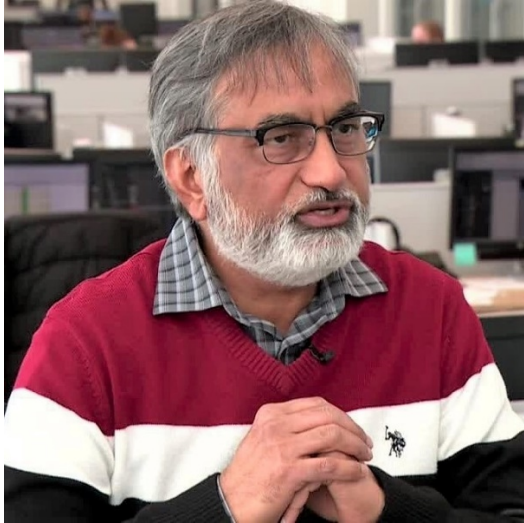


## Masood Akhtar, Founder & President We Are Many United Against Hate



Masood Akhtar (Ph.D.) is an entrepreneur with over 30 years of research, development, commercialization, marketing, technology transfer, investment and management experience. Dr. Akhtar has founded and led multiple entities, including CleanTech Partners Inc; BioPulping International Inc. (a UW-Madison spinoff); and the Biorenewable Deployment Consortium. Dr. Akhtar has published over 60 papers in the field of energy, had eleven patents, and also published articles of interest on manufacturing in local and national newspapers: FOR USA TODAY (Post Crescent)-Save Wisconsin Paper Industry. Be proactive, not reactive; The HILL (Washington DC)- Make America the Land of Manufacturing Again, etc.

Dr. Akhtar had secured nearly \$200 million in federal grants, and received many awards, including: the USDA Honor Award for Environmental Protection from the USDA Secretary in Washington, D.C for developing energy technologies; the Federal Laboratory Consortium Award; the U.S. Forest Service Chief's Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer; and the Wisconsin Small Business Innovation Award for Outstanding Achievements. Dr. Akhtar was also elected as a Fellow by the International Academy of Wood Science, U.K.

Upon the request of the U.S. Congress, Dr. Akhtar testified before a committee on energy related issues. Dr. Akhtar was elected as the Chair of the Forest Research Advisory Committee that advises the USDA Agricultural Secretary on research, education, funding, and policy issues.

Dr. Akhtar also serves on Representative Mark Pocan's Committee on "Higher Education." Governor Jim Doyle appointed Dr. Akhtar on a committee to help write "Grow Wisconsin Plan."

Dr. Akhtar was again appointed by Governor Doyle on a committee that advised the Midwest Governors on "creating jobs in the new energy economy. Governor Tony Evers appointed Dr. Akhtar on "Next Generation Workforce and Economic Development Policy Advisory Council."

Dr. Akhtar was appointed on the Board of Friends of PBS Wisconsin.

Dr. Akhtar is also an Activist and founded We Are Many United Against, Inc – a state-wide, non-partisan Movement with focus on teaching forgiveness and peace, addressing the root causes of hate to fight bigotry and racism and build inclusive communities, for which he has received many prestigious awards/recognition, including the “Certificate of Appreciation” by the Southern Poverty Law Center in 2017, the National FBI’s Director’s Community Leadership Award from the FBI Director Christopher Wray in 2019, “Certificate of Achievement” from Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers in 2019, and the Manfred E. Swarsensky Humanitarian Service Award” by the Rotary Club of Madison in 2019.

Economic insecurity is becoming a breeding ground for hate and a recruiting tool for hate groups. To address this issue, Akhtar has also started “Empowering Students for Success” organization to provide interest free loan and mentors to students from low- and medium-income families to get higher education.