From: <u>Summers, Greg</u>

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## Colleagues,

Just two brief updates to end a week that, obviously, concluded a bit differently than we had imagined:

- 1. First, on the Blueprint from President Cross, I don't have much new to report. The Board of Regents met yesterday and discussed the proposal briefly, but did not act on it. Their next scheduled meeting is in early June. Meanwhile, the UW provosts have organized two meetings early next week with System VP Morrobel-Sosa. We're hoping to learn more about the process, timeline, and outcomes that System is imagining, and of course, to ask questions and express concerns. As I indicated, chief among these for me will be to ensure the involvement of faculty, staff members, and students. I'll keep you posted on what I can learn.
- 2. Second, our fall planning is proceeding well. This afternoon, for example, the campus EOC planning group met for three hours with a team from CNR for a tabletop exercise focused on the college's summer field experience. There are 262 students currently signed up to attend in cohorts scheduled for Treehaven, CWES, and the main campus in Stevens Point. The exercise offered a chance to discuss the many issues we'll have to tackle to run the field experience, from testing participants for exposure to COVID-19 to social distancing in the classroom, cleaning facilities, and maintaining safe residential and dining operations. Although the challenges remain significant, there was also genuine optimism as nearly thirty individuals worked together to identify challenges and solve problems. We learned a lot. As a next step, we will use these lessons to continue planning both for the summer field experience and for our larger fall semester scenarios. As a reminder, we hope to have recommendations to share with the campus by the end of this month. (Special thanks to Corinna Neeb, Gretel Stock, and the colleagues from CNR for their work in organizing the session.)

There's more to report, I'm sure. But the sun is shining and there's snow in the forecast, so I'm calling it a day. Hang in there, everyone.

Greg

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