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# Statement

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 12, 2015

**Ray Cross, President, University of Wisconsin System**

Our efforts during the last six months required a commitment to listening, to partnership and to reform. We carry those values with us going forward. We thank legislators for their collaborative spirit and willingness to continue an important dialogue. We did not agree on everything, but we solidified a new partnership during the conversation. We appreciate the many legislators and stakeholders statewide who advocated for UW System as a priority, followed through on commitments to minimize our budget reduction and provided us some new cost-cutting flexibilities. Now, it's time we focus on our future. I am excited to engage stakeholders throughout the state in strategic planning listening sessions in the next few months that, through the sharing of the needs and dreams of Wisconsin's people, will strengthen our connection with the state and help guide us for years to come.

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