

Dear faculty, staff members and students,

You may have seen early media reports about UW System restructuring UW Colleges and UW Extension and the message from UW System President Ray Cross this morning. UW System asked us to follow its communication plan for sharing this information.

UW-Stevens Point has had strong relationships with UW-Marathon County and UW-Marshfield/Wood County faculty, staff members and the students they serve. We expect these partnerships will grow even stronger as we explore opportunities to link more seamlessly and pursue our strategic goal of ensuring vibrant, healthy, prosperous and sustainable communities.

Like you, I have many questions. To begin to answer them and chart a course forward, I am appointing a transition team. It will be led by Provost Greg Summers, vice chancellor of Academic Affairs; and Kristen Hendrickson, chief financial officer and vice chancellor of Business Affairs. The team will include representatives of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Human Resources, University Communications and Marketing, the two-year campuses and those communities.

We will provide updates as more information becomes available and will seek input from the Common Council as appropriate. Pending UW System Board of Regents approval, this restructuring would be effective July 1, 2018.

Forty years ago, former UW-Stevens Point Chancellor and Gov. Lee Sherman Dreyfus envisioned a "ruralplex," describing how central Wisconsin cities could work together. It is my hope our combined UW institutions will result in more than the sum of our parts.

Sincerely,

*Chancellor Bernie Patterson*