

From: University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Alumni Association [<mailto:alumni@uwsp.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2015 3:42 PM
Subject: UW-Stevens Point Budget Update



Dear Alumni,

I want to update you on the efforts we are making at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to address the proposed reductions in state funding. As many of you know, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker has announced a University of Wisconsin System budget proposal that includes reductions in state support. Under the budget proposal, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point stands to lose 25 percent of our total state funding. Although the state budget has not yet been finalized, we need to make decisions now to prepare for the 2015-16 academic year. UW-Stevens Point anticipates a potential cut of \$9.7 million.

The [UW-Stevens Point reduction plan](#) provides details regarding the positions at UW-Stevens Point that are at risk of elimination if the proposed reductions in state funding are approved by the legislature and the governor. Nearly half of the approximately 100 FTE positions that are at risk for elimination in the next two years are currently filled with a faculty or staff member. For personnel and privacy reasons, we have not listed specific filled positions proposed to be eliminated.

Although many of the positions at risk for elimination are currently open, this does not mean the positions are not critical to the mission of our university. The elimination of positions, both open and filled, will reduce our capacity to serve our students and provide them with a quality education. Furthermore, the proposed cuts to our budgets will reduce the number of student employees on campus by 236. These on-campus jobs are vital to many of our students who rely on the wages to help offset the cost of their education.

Although the Joint Finance Committee has removed the UW System Authority from the Governor's budget proposal, I remain optimistic the UW System will receive some of the flexibilities and the dedicated funding source that the Governor offered in his budget proposal. Both of these measures will not significantly mitigate the cut in funding this year, but they will help us serve our students and the state more efficiently and effectively, and be a more responsive university in the years to come.

We are willing and able to do our part to balance the state budget. However, the proposed cuts to UW-Stevens Point will significantly impact our ability to provide a quality education in an efficient manner. If you would like to advocate on behalf of your alma mater and the UW System, you can contact your [local legislator](#). For more information about the proposed cuts and how they may impact UW-Stevens Point, please visit our [budget information page](#).

Although these are difficult times at UW-Stevens Point, we will continue to provide the best

possible educational experience for our students.

Sincerely,
Bernie L. Patterson
Chancellor

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