

**Greetings Chair Natalie and Fellow Senators:**

I am writing this last-minute email to you in lieu of an in-person report. I do not have anything major to report to our faculty senate today. However, there are two items I would like to follow-up on from the senate's meeting of September 20.

1. **The situation at UW-Stevens Point.** Earlier this week, I received an update from a physics faculty at UWSP who is quite active. Up until last week, a committee at UWSP was supposed to release an alternative proposal for addressing the budget shortfall by or on October 12. As of two days or so ago, there was a change. Tomorrow [October 5] UWSP administration will hold a meeting with the campus' [Academic and Budget Advisory Work Group](#). It's my impression that what the administration wants to do is add new information on the budget that may have an impact on planning for cuts. Apparently, there has been somewhat of a positive development in UWSP's situation. The campus student population this fall is 7700 instead of the target of 7500. The new deadline for a proposal to address the budget shortfall is some time in November [November 9?]. **[We are of course interested in what happens at UWSP, as the original proposal calls for a radical curricular re-alignment, and implied that 40-60 faculty might be terminated, including -- possibly -- tenured faculty.]**
2. **The UW System's Program Monitoring Committee [a committee to develop policy for low enrollment programs].** At our last meeting, Senator Seebach asked about the appeal process regarding the draft proposal on the elimination of low-enrollment programs. I emailed the System's Associate VP who is in charge of the Program Monitoring Committee, and initially received a curt, non-substantive reply. However, about an hour ago, I met with this same Associate VP, and she allowed me to read the draft policy. There are a number of revisions and accommodations that she is proposing that are sensitive to faculty interests. Changes have been made in the draft, including certain exemptions for campus mission, and the addition of more avenues for dialogue between our campuses and the System. **Although the System will solicit comment via a web site, she assured me that the System will take seriously comments that come through our faculty governance channels.** I will have more to share with the SEC and/or the full senate as soon as I can assimilate some of this new information. The Monitoring Committee is meeting here in Parkside this afternoon.

I would be very happy to answer any questions from individual senators.

Sincerely,

Georges Cravins  
Faculty Representatives