



**Report of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Faculty
Representative**

Thursday, November 29, 2018

A. Update. Reorganization at UW-Stevens Point

- 1) On November 12, Chancellor Bernie Patterson of UWSP released a new reorganization plan.
- 2) Earlier today [11/29/18], *the Stevens Point Journal* reported that a group of more than 250 faculty, staff, students, and alumni issued a joint letter accusing Chancellor Patterson and Provost Gregory Summers of mismanagement. The group called on Patterson and Summers to resign, suggesting that they do not have confidence in UWSP's senior management to address the campus' budget problems. See story @ <https://www.stevenspointjournal.com/story/news/2018/11/29/letter-calls-removal-uw-stevens-point-chancellor-provost-mismanagement-and-proposal-phase-out-six-li/2126014002/>
- 3) The UWSP Faculty Senate has not yet taken an official position regarding Chancellor Patterson's recent reorganization proposal.
- 4) In reaction to today's letter, Chancellor Patterson defended the latest reorganization proposal and suggested that no final decision has been made. Patterson suggests that the UWSP reorganization plan has yet to be finalized.

B. Update on the Proposed Revision of SYS 102, Program Monitoring

On November 28, 2018, *Inside Higher Education* published an opinion column by Benjamin Rifkin which systematically criticized the University of Wisconsin System administration for its proposal to revise System Policy SYS 102. The proposed policy change includes

provisions to eliminate “underperforming” academic programs. Rifkin’s opinion piece may be accessed @:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2018/11/28/university-wisconsin-systems-proposal-cut-programs-confer-few-degrees-wrongheaded>

C. UW Employee Benefits Preference Survey

On Monday, November 26, Mercer Consulting and the UW System Administration’s Human Resources unit released the anticipated “UW Employee Benefits Preference Survey.” **The survey will be open until midnight, Friday, December 14.** The stated objective of this survey is to gather information from faculty and staff regarding current benefits. Respondents will have the opportunity to share information on the following:

- Perceptions of the value of the overall benefits package;
- The extent to which the benefits package meets individual and family needs;
- The extent to which benefits may influence one’s decision to stay employed at UW institutions;
- The quality and efficacy of communication by the UW System around benefits-related issues.

Report written and submitted by
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