



**Report of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Faculty  
Representative  
January 30, 2020**

**A. ONGOING SEARCHES AND RECENT APPOINTMENTS**

1. The UW System President Search

a) **A significant item included in the UW President position description.** In a conference-call meeting held on January 17, the UW System Presidential Search Committee approved language in the position description that opens the possibility for non-academic applicants. A key qualification includes:

“...at least 10 years of experience in a ‘significant senior executive position’ and an understanding of public higher education.”

b) **Search committee composition.** The UW System President Search Committee is comprised on 9 members, none of whom are currently in a faculty position. There has been no change in the composition of the search committee.

2. New UW-Stout Chancellor

Dr. Katherine P. Frank, formerly of Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, was named the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Stout in late November, 2019. She will assume her duties at UW-Stout on March 1, 2020.

3. Update on UW-Green Bay Chancellor Search

The UWGB Chancellor Search Committee will meet in Milwaukee on Friday, January 31 and Saturday February 1. The meeting will include interviews with finalists for the position. Agenda information is at [https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/download/other\\_meeting\\_notices/\(Revised\)-Meeting-Notice---UW-Green-Bay-Chancellor-Search-&-Screen-Committee-and-Special-Regent-Committee-\(January-31,-2020-and-February-1,-2020\).pdf](https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/download/other_meeting_notices/(Revised)-Meeting-Notice---UW-Green-Bay-Chancellor-Search-&-Screen-Committee-and-Special-Regent-Committee-(January-31,-2020-and-February-1,-2020).pdf)

**B. THE BUDGET SQUEEZE TIGHTENS: UW-WHITEWATER; UW-STOUT; UW-OSHKOSH**

All of the UW’s Comprehensive campus face potential budget problems, given the fact that a) they have become increasingly tuition-dependent over the past several decades and be b) they are increasingly facing enrollment shortfalls. Among the Comprehensives, UW-La Crosse has been – to date at least – the least affected.

Last week, UW-Whitewater Chancellor Dwight Watson announced that UWW will enact a \$12,000,000 cut over the next two years. Benefit cuts and staff layoffs are included in UWW's plan for cuts. Details on the announcement are at: <https://www.wpr.org/uw-whitewater-announces-potential-layoffs-benefit-cuts-fill-12m-budget-hole>

In addition to UW-Stevens Point and UW-Platteville, which have widely publicized budget problems, both UW-Oshkosh and UW-Stout have announced significant cuts over the past year. Stout reports that it is down 1,100 students since 2016. The UW-Stout Faculty Representative reports that UW-Stout is cutting \$3-5,000,000 from its annual budget, and an additional announcement may be made after the new chancellor begins her tenure on March 1. In 2019, UW-Oshkosh announced a cut similar to that which was announced recently by Chancellor Watson of UWW. Early retirement incentives are among the options listed by Chancellor Watson in his recent announcement.

### **C. DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO THE UW BOARD OF REGENTS**

The UW System Board of Regents will meet @ UW-Madison on February 6 and 7, 2020. No UW-La Crosse academic program approvals are scheduled for this meeting. Progress reports from the February board meeting, including a report by the system and/or board president on the UW System President Search and UW-Green Bay Chancellor Search will be made, and any new developments will be shared with the UW-La Crosse Faculty Senate.

### **D. AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES MEETING OF JANUARY 31, 2020**

UW System Governance groups, including Faculty Representatives, will meet at the Pyle Center, UW-Madison, on Friday, January 31, 2020. Items up for discussion include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The UW System President Search;
- Annual Personnel Evaluation (UWS 1254);
- TTC – Teaching Professor Title V;
- Enrollment/Budget Issues.

The UW System President Search will continue to be an important issue as the process moves forward. From UW-La Crosse's perspective, Provost Betsy Morgan is the most significant contact regarding this issue.

As we indicated at a recent UW-La Crosse Faculty Senate meeting, President Ray Cross' recent announcement that the System will universally require an annual review of all personnel, including faculty, caused significant consternation on many of our campuses. However, the established annual personnel review processes at UW-La Crosse meet the UW System's requirements.

The Title and Total Compensation initiative will again be discussed at some length at Friday's meeting. As faculty, we are specifically interested in the impact

of title standardization on teaching academic staff. Additional discussions and rectification of issues with the UW System will have to continue in order to resolve any significant problems.

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*Report written and submitted by Georges G. Cravins. University of Wisconsin – La Crosse Faculty Representative. Thursday, January 30, 2020.*