

Dear President Reilly,

We, as the Student Representatives of the UW System institutions, have come to agreement on a framework for moving forward on comprehensive student representation at a statewide level. Throughout our discussions several conclusions have been reached by the Presidents and Vice Presidents of the student governments of the UW System:

- Having a single unified voice for all UW System students is essential to effectively influencing state and UW System policy
- The existence of multiple and potentially competing statewide student associations would only prove to harm student initiatives on a statewide level
- A stable and substantial funding source is necessary for any statewide student association to provide the influence and continuity for students that no other source could provide (as recognized by the 1980 UW System Board of Regents)
- Individual students should have the right to refrain from funding a statewide organization; however, institutions or campuses as whole should retain a permanent voice in directing any statewide student association, free from the restrictions that biennial referenda impose. This should be done via a “buy-in” referendum, to be conducted separately from the current biennial referendum; once students at each institution voted to become member schools, their inclusion would continue in perpetuity with the final goal of comprehensive, universal ownership in the statewide student organization
- The student Presidents and Vice Presidents of the University of Wisconsin System institutions and campuses should have the right and responsibility of overseeing the operations of a statewide student association, but this role will be defined more specifically in later discussions between the UW System Student Representatives and United Council of UW Students.
- Regent Policy 30-4 regarding referenda to institute a mandatory refundable fee for funding a statewide student association has often placed student governments and UW System Administration in an adversarial position with United Council, the current statewide student association, contrary to the collaborative relationship that should exist and benefit all parties
- A timeline for fully incorporating the UW System Student Representatives with United Council of UW Students is forthcoming and will be discussed at the Student Representatives meeting in May
- Several UW System institution student governments have indicated that they will work this semester to reincorporate their student bodies with United Council based on the agreement outlined herein through a campus-wide referendum. These campuses are:
  - UW-Green Bay
  - UW-Milwaukee
  - UW-Oshkosh
  - UW-Platteville
  - UW-Superior

We ask for the Board of Regents to take action that would allow for the permanent merger of United Council and UW System Student Representatives with the elimination of the referenda requirement to institute a mandatory refundable fee to fund this statewide student association.

Additionally, in order to fully fund the activities of the Presidents, Vice Presidents and SUFAC leaders on a statewide basis through student fees and not UW System funds we request that you consider increasing the mandatory refundable fee to \$3. However, we ask that you retain the ability of students to request and receive their mandatory refundable fee back.

Finally we request that you take action on this matter prior to the start of the 2010-11 academic year. The consensus that this group has built based on long term research and debate is not likely to last indefinitely due to the turbulent

nature of student governments and the large number of new incoming student leaders. Additionally, United Council of UW Students has recently completed a restructuring that would allow such a transition to occur smoothly, a window of opportunity that may evaporate.

We recognize the importance of involving many parties in making good policy, and we fully intend to discuss our proposal with the Chancellors, Deans, Chief Student Affairs Officers, and the Faculty and Academic Staff Representatives groups; however, we also conclude that in the spirit of 36.09(5) changes to Regent Policy 30-4 should be originated by student leaders and a special committee of the President is unnecessary.

We look forward to your response and Board of Regents action on this matter.

Respectfully,

The Presidents and Vice Presidents of UW-System Institutions here undersigned:

<i>President, UW Colleges</i>		<i>President, UW-Eau Claire</i>	<i>Vice President, UW-Eau Claire</i>
<i>President, UW Fond du Lac</i>		<i>President, UW-Green Bay</i>	<i>Vice President, UW-Green Bay</i>
<i>President, UW-La Crosse</i>	<i>Vice President, UW-La Crosse</i>	<i>Chair, UW-Madison</i>	<i>Vice Chair, UW-Madison</i>
<i>President, UW-Marinette</i>	<i>Vice President, UW-Marinette</i>		<i>Vice President, UW-Marshfield/Wood County</i>
<i>President, UW-Milwaukee</i>	<i>Chief of Staff, UW-Milwaukee</i>	<i>President, UW Oshkosh</i>	<i>Vice President, UW Oshkosh</i>
<i>President, UW-Parkside</i>		<i>President, UW-Platteville</i>	<i>Vice President, UW-Platteville</i>
<i>President, UW-River Falls</i>		<i>Legislative Issues Director, UW-Stevens Point</i>	
<i>President, UW-Stout</i>	<i>Vice President, UW-Stout</i>	<i>President, UW-Superior</i>	<i>Vice President, UW-Superior</i>
	<i>Vice President, UW-Waukesha</i>	<i>President, UW-Whitewater</i>	<i>Vice President, UW-Whitewater</i>
<i>President, United Council</i>			