



THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

2005-07 BUDGET REQUEST

ABOUT THE UW SYSTEM

The University of Wisconsin System is one of the nation's foremost public university systems. With 26 campuses, statewide UW-Extension, and more than 31,000 employees, the UW System annually serves more than 160,000 students and their families, making it the nation's eighth-largest university system.

Beyond its formal instruction programs, the UW System enriches the lives of nearly every Wisconsin citizen through its outreach programs, hospital and clinics, public broadcasting, business services, athletic events and community service-learning programs.

The UW System is a vital economic engine for the state, generating \$9.5 billion for Wisconsin's economy annually and producing more than 30,000 skilled graduates each year, more than 80 percent of whom remain in Wisconsin to live and work. One of every three Wisconsin high-school graduates immediately enrolls at a UW campus, and state citizens believe the UW System is a major benefit for their tax dollar.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

In the 2003-05 state budget, the University of Wisconsin System, its 26 campuses and UW-Extension took \$250 million in state budget cuts. The state made up for \$150 million of those cuts by approving double-digit tuition increases for two years. The university was the only one of the five major areas of state spending to take significant cuts in the last biennium. As a result of fewer state funds, educational quality and student access at UW campuses have suffered.

Over the coming two years, the \$12 billion state tax revenue budget is projected to grow \$600 million per year. In that context, the UW System Board of Regents unanimously passed a budget request in August that, over two years, seeks to restore \$140 million of the cuts in the last biennium and keeps tuition increases to a modest 4.3 percent per year. The Regents believe this modest reinvestment in the UW System will reap substantial economic rewards for students and the state in the years to come.

STUDENT ACCESS

► **FINANCIAL AID:** This budget includes a new program that would provide financial aid to freeze tuition for the state's neediest students – those from families with annual incomes in the low \$40,000-range and below.

► **QUALITY IN THE CLASSROOM:** This budget will begin to restore quality in our classrooms where it is needed most. In the last decade, student enrollment has grown by 8,700, while the number of faculty has declined by 670. This budget will allow UW to hire the faculty needed to teach, conduct research and keep class sizes manageable.

► **UPDATED FACILITIES:** The building projects included in this budget through state bonding will provide urgently needed classrooms, laboratories and student service buildings. The projects will also support 6,000 private sector construction jobs.

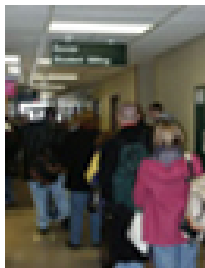
WISCONSIN SUCCESS

► **HIGHER INCOMES:** This budget will allow UW to produce more graduates eligible for higher-paying jobs in Wisconsin workforce. If more Wisconsin workers have college degrees, our economy can improve through higher per capita incomes.

► **QUALITY OF LIFE:** This budget will enable the UW to continue graduating 30,000 students a year in fields like nursing, teaching, medicine, business, law, music, public administration – professions on which Wisconsin citizens depend for health and quality of life.

► **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** After 5 years, this budget would add \$87.5 million annually to Wisconsin's personal income base. In addition, the increasing full-time faculty would bring in additional outside grants and federal funding that generate well-paying jobs and educational opportunities.

ON CAMPUS — IMPACTS OF 2003-05 BUDGET CUTS



▶ AT UW-GREEN BAY:

Ask David Littig, a veteran political scientist at UW-Green Bay, about how budget cuts have impacted campus, and he'll tell you what he saw on the first day of the 2004 spring semester.

"It's the first day of classes, and my classes are huge," he said.

"The class sizes have really increased, and the workload is going up."

Or ask Jon Virant, a junior from Sheboygan and president of the UW-Green Bay Student Government Association.

"I was in a class today with 35-plus students, and it's supposed to be a discussion-type thing," Virant said.

"That doesn't make a lot of sense. It's just not as personal as it used to be."

▶ AT UW-WHITEWATER: Marketing

department chair Lois Smith says last spring, two faculty resigned to take higher paying positions out of state, but the department could only afford to hire one replacement, Smith said.

"The impact of this combination of reduced faculty and increased student demand has caused us to change the way we serve our students," she said. John Heyer, dean of the College of Arts and Communication, says leading candidates in many faculty searches are declining to even come for interviews after learning of the salary limits and teaching loads in Wisconsin.

And for the first time in his 24 years of administration, Heyer said he is losing his top candidates to schools in the South, including South Carolina, Louisiana and Mississippi.

"That never happened to me before three years ago," he said.

WISCONSIN LOSING GROUND TO NEIGHBORING STATES

	Wisconsin	Minnesota	Iowa	Illinois
State per capita income, 2003 ¹	\$30,898	\$34,443	\$29,043	\$33,690
State spending on need-based student aid, 2002-2003 ²	\$72,281,000	\$136,582,000	\$49,620,000	\$343,262,000
Federal research expenditures, FY 2001 ³	\$304,009,000	\$264,289,000	\$155,249,000	\$195,316,000
Percentage of adults with college degree or higher, 2004 ⁴	24.1	32.7	24.6	28.1
Size of enrollment in public 4-year institutions, 2003-04 ⁵	147,221	116,498	69,262	193,783
State spending per capita on higher education, 2001	\$221	\$278	\$284	\$234

¹ Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2004

² National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs, 2004

³ National Science Foundation, 2001 (Science and Engineering Spending only)

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 2003

⁵ The Chronicle of Higher Education Almanac, 2003-2004

⁶ The Chronicle of Higher Education Almanac, 2001-2002

MEDIA SUPPORT FOR THE UW BUDGET

"No question, policy-makers must reverse course and step up aid to the UW — aid that will pay for itself several times over in economic benefits to Wisconsin."

— Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, June 2004

"Gov. Jim Doyle and the Legislature should do everything possible to make sure that tuition increases slow in the coming years and the state stops exacting large spending cuts from this vital state service."

— Eau Claire Leader Telegram, June 2004

"The UW System is one of the best in the nation, but if these trends continue, it will be less available for those of more modest means. It is an issue that policy makers must address."

— La Crosse Tribune, July 2004

"[Financial aid] would be a wise investment. Growing the state's economy will require growing the number of its college graduates. We can't afford to price thousands of Wisconsin students out of a college education."

— Green Bay Press Gazette, July 2004

"[T]he Governor and Legislature must realize that the state budget cannot be balanced on the backs of students. Students around Wisconsin are mobilizing to elect citizens who understand the state's obligation to maintain an affordable and world-class institution. The people of Wisconsin need elected officials who champion funding for college to protect Wisconsin's future."

— United Council of UW Students, August 2004

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