

Colleagues,

UW campuses have been asked by President Cross to plan for significant state budget reductions in the coming year. As the economy and tax revenues have contracted, the question appears not to be whether there will be additional cuts, but how big they will be. We are looking at scenarios that involve 10, 15, and 20 percent cuts in our allocation from the State for the coming year. State funding is roughly half of what we use to operate. With the other half coming from tuition and fees, if our enrollments remain flat, the overall cuts might be 5 - 10 percent. This range will be impacted if our enrollment revenues increase or decrease.

Currently, Summer enrollment is up 8.4 percent (headcount) and 15.7 percent (credit hours) over last year (--though Summer revenues are only 4 percent of our annual total). Fall enrollment is up 6.2 percent (headcount) and 1.2 percent (credit hours) compared to this time last year. These increases are driven by master's and online program growth as well as improvements in graduation rates. While encouraging, we need to make every possible effort to stay connected to current students and successfully on-board those who plan to begin their studies at UW-Parkside this fall.

Currently, seven teams are helping us plan for fall. One group, led by Scott Menke, has developed a plan, Ranger Restart, to ensure a safe staged-resumption of some campus activities by students, faculty, and staff.

Six teams are working on recommendations in Academic and Student Affairs: In-person Instruction (chaired by Gary Wood and Peggy James), Remote Instruction (chaired by Dirk Baldwin and John Skalbeck), Student Services, Activities, and Residence Life (chaired by Tammy McGuckin and DeAnn Possehl), Research Continuity (chaired by Emmanuel Otu and Rob Barber); High Impact Experiences (chaired by Debra Karp), and Creative and Artistic Practice (chaired by Lesley Walker and Jake Bray). Sixty-nine faculty, staff, students, and administrators are thinking through the numerous issues in each of these areas. Their recommendations will be completed by June 19<sup>th</sup>. I will integrate these into a single document and share it with you. The team assignments and rosters are listed in the attachment.

Almost 300 of our non-instructional colleagues were asked to take small to large furloughs and pay reductions this summer to cope with COVID-related losses from the Spring semester and a five percent current year lapse in State funding. With the abrupt transition to remote delivery, months-long confinement in our homes, anxiety over our own health and the health of family, friends, and community, and racial strife tearing at the already strained fabric of our nation, your efforts amidst the tumult have kept us moving forward. In fact, UW-Parkside graduated the largest number of students in its history over the last academic year (876) and increased its graduates from the previous year by 13 percent, a good step en route to achieving the goal in our Strategic Framework to increase annual graduates by 50 percent by 2025.

Thank you for all you continue to do, enjoy the summer, and please take care of yourselves.

- Rob

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