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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

## WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

### 2011-12

(session year)

### Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

### Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Higher Education...

### COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

### INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
  - (**ab** = Assembly Bill)                      (**ar** = Assembly Resolution)                      (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
  - (**sb** = Senate Bill)                              (**sr** = Senate Resolution)                              (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

## Senate

### Record of Committee Proceedings

#### **Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Higher Education**

##### **Senate Bill 178**

Relating to: differential tuition at certain institutions and colleges of the University of Wisconsin System.

By Senators Olsen, Lassa, Galloway, Wirch and King; cosponsored by Representatives Ballweg, Barca, Bies, Brooks, Kerkman, Krug, Molepske Jr, Mursau, A. Ott, Petryk, Ripp, Steinbrink, Tauchen, Turner, Van Roy, Vruwink and Williams.

September 07, 2011 Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Higher Education.

October 26, 2011 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (6) Senators Schultz, Kedzie, Moulton, Hansen, Shilling and King.  
Absent: (0) None.  
Excused: (1) Senator Harsdorf.

##### Appearances For

- Joan Ballweg — Representative, 41st Assembly District
- Ryan Rutledge — UW- Stevens Point
- Greg Summers — UW- Stevens Point

##### Appearances Against

- None.

##### Appearances for Information Only

- None.

##### Registrations For

- Dale Schultz — Senator, 17th Senate District
- Tom Harden — Chancellor, UW- Green Bay
- Grant Huber — University of Wisconsin System
- Louis J. Molepske — Representative, 71st Assembly District

##### Registrations Against

- None.

##### Registrations for Information Only

- None.

October 31, 2011

**EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

Present: (7) Senators Schultz, Harsdorf, Kedzie, Moulton,  
Hansen, Shilling and King.

Absent: (0) None.

Excused: (0) None.

Moved by Senator King, seconded by Senator Kedzie that **Senate Amendment 1** be recommended for adoption.

Ayes: (7) Senators Schultz, Harsdorf, Kedzie, Moulton,  
Hansen, Shilling and King.

Noes: (0) None.

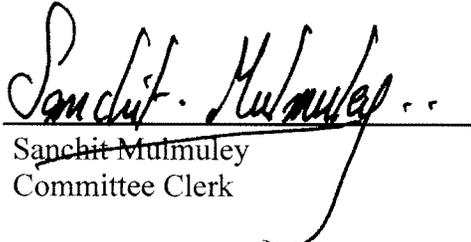
ADOPTION OF SENATE AMENDMENT 1 RECOMMENDED,  
Ayes 7, Noes 0

Moved by Senator Hansen, seconded by Senator King that **Senate Bill 178** be recommended for passage as amended.

Ayes: (7) Senators Schultz, Harsdorf, Kedzie, Moulton,  
Hansen, Shilling and King.

Noes: (0) None.

PASSAGE AS AMENDED RECOMMENDED, Ayes 7, Noes 0

  
Sanchit Mulmuley  
Committee Clerk



## Vote Record

# Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Higher Education

Date: 10/31/11

Moved by: Hansen

Seconded by: King

AB \_\_\_\_\_

SB 178

Clearinghouse Rule \_\_\_\_\_

AJR \_\_\_\_\_

SJR \_\_\_\_\_

Appointment \_\_\_\_\_

AR \_\_\_\_\_

SR \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt \_\_\_\_\_

Be recommended for:

- Passage    
  Adoption    
  Confirmation    
  Concurrence    
  Indefinite Postponement  
 Introduction    
  Rejection    
  Tabling    
  Nonconcurrence

Committee Member

**Senator Dale Schultz, Chair**

Aye    No    Absent    Not Voting

**Senator Sheila Harsdorf**

**Senator Neal Kedzie**

**Senator Terry Moulton**

**Senator Dave Hansen**

**Senator Jennifer Shilling**

**Senator Jessica King**

**Totals:**

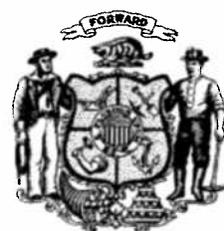
7    0    0    0

Motion Carried

Motion Failed



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





October 25, 2011

Dear Senator Shultz and Members of the Committee,

As Chancellor of the UW Colleges and UW – Extension, I am writing in support of SB 178.

SB 178 gives us the option to engage our Student Government Associations and Student Government Councils across 13 campuses in a process that secures their input. This process will give us the opportunity to work together and develop a comprehensive plan that will reflect diverse perspectives and a blueprint to move forward.

As my colleagues will attest, the opportunity to pursue differential tuition is also important from a fairness perspective. An unintended consequence of not giving us this option creates winners and losers in the UW System.

SB 178 assures fairness in the UW System and provides opportunities for all of us at the table, to prepare Wisconsin students for the possibilities and challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

- The UW Colleges provide the first two years of a liberal arts general education in 13 locations across our state. We have campuses in: Baraboo, Fond du lac, Janesville, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marshfield, Menasha, Rice Lake, Richland Center, Sheboygan, Waukesha, Wausau, West Bend and UW Colleges Online which serves the entire state of Wisconsin.
- Students who start with the UW Colleges and then transfer to UW four-year schools persist (81%) and graduate with baccalaureate degrees at higher rates (72%) than students who transfer from technical colleges, other four-year universities or private colleges.
- The UW Colleges are the most affordable higher education institution in the UW System. Our tuition is \$4,500 per year. This is because our tuition was frozen at 2006 levels for five years.
- The UW Colleges are efficient and unique to the UW System because our counties and our cities build our campus facilities and pay for their upkeep.

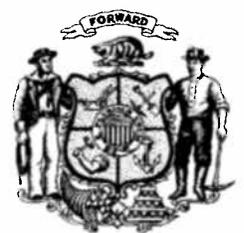
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ray Cross'.

Ray Cross



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





# JOAN BALLWEG

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PO Box 8952, State Capitol  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8952  
(608) 266-8077  
Toll-free: (888) 534-0041  
Rep.Ballweg@legis.state.wi.us

41<sup>ST</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**SB 178: Differential Tuition**  
**Testimony by Representative Joan Ballweg**  
**Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Higher Education**  
**October 26, 2011**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and committee members, for hearing testimony on SB 178. This bill helps level the playing field for our institutions of higher education. Differential tuition is being used by 10 of the 13 University of Wisconsin comprehensive campuses and has proven to be a helpful tool for our universities, allowing campuses to focus on the areas of student support, access, and affordability.

The 2011-2013 State Budget included a provision that froze tuition preventing campuses from applying to the Board of Regents for differential tuition. When I learned of the affect this would have, I tried to introduce a budget amendment to this end but there was not enough time. There are only four entities in the UW System that do not currently have differential tuition; UW-Stevens Point, UW-Green Bay, UW-Parkside and UW Colleges. This bill would allow those four entities to proceed through stringent process, already established by the Board of Regents. Passing this bill does not mean that these four entities will raise tuition; it simply allows the opportunity for them to go through the process. In order to have differential tuition, a plan must be supported by the campus students, Chancellor, UW System President and ultimately approved by the Board of Regents. Proof of that student support must be presented to the Board of Regents, and maintained through the differential tuition review process.

We believe this bill is important now, because it allows these four institutions the opportunity to prove their case to their students, campus governance and Regents. There are successful examples of differential tuition being used at UW-La Crosse, UW-Eau Claire, and UW-Madison. It is my belief that this is an issue of fairness, and we should have in place the ground rules for these campus' to move forward. I'm sensitive to the cost of education, and in fact supported the tuition cap in the last budget. But opening the door to those without differential tuition is a matter of fairness and competition. We are giving the option to apply, not mandating they raise tuition.

We have introduced an amendment to this bill. Its purpose is to protect the differentials that were put in place prior to June 1, 2011. A memo has been prepared by Legislative Council to explain in more detail.

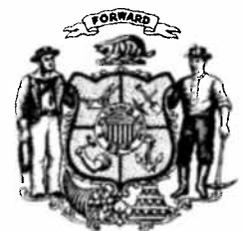
I would like to thank Senator Olsen for his support and work on this bill. Unfortunately he could not be here with me; his obligation to the Joint Finance Committee has him in their hearing. But I'm sure many of you know that his commitment to education in Wisconsin is outstanding.

Along with me today showing support of SB 178 are representatives from UW Systems and campuses. They are the experts on how this affects their campuses and I encourage you to utilize their knowledge today.

Thank you again and I appreciate your support of this bill.



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**Louis J. Molepske, Jr.**  
71ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

October 26, 2011

Senator Dale Schultz  
Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Higher Education  
Wisconsin State Capitol, 122 South  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Chairman Schultz:

I am writing this morning in regards to Senate Bill 178, which is up for public hearing today in the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, and Higher Education.

Senate Bill 178 is designed to level the playing field among all of the University of Wisconsin system campuses. As you may know, UW-Stevens Point is one of only four campuses currently prohibited from applying to the Board of Regents for differential tuition. In light of the 2011-2013 state budget provision that froze tuition levels for UW campuses, this hampers the ability of UWSP to serve and educate its students to the fullest. Should SB 178 become law, however, UWSP would be able to apply to the Board of Regents for differential tuition, enabling it to stay a competitive institution.

It is worth noting that this bill represents the flexibility that the Governor has spoken about so frequently. I also want to bring to your attention the support for SB 178 that has been voiced by student leaders in UWSP's Student Government Association.

For these reasons, I ask for your support of SB 178. I believe that SB 178 is a necessary and fair proposal, enabling not only UWSP but three other UW campuses to stay competitive within our state and throughout the nation.

Thank you for your attention to this bill and for holding a public hearing on it. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Louis J. Molepske, Jr.

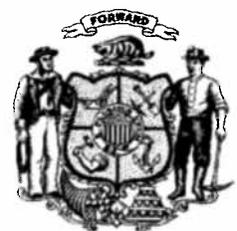
cc: Senator Harsdorf  
Senator Kedzie  
Senator Moulton  
Senator Hansen  
Senator Shilling  
Senator King

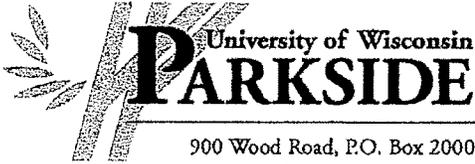
DISTRICT:  
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Stevens Point, WI 54481  
Rep.Molepske@legis.wi.gov

STATE CAPITOL:  
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# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





900 Wood Road, P.O. Box 2000  
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141-2000

Office of the Chancellor  
Telephone: 262-595-2211  
Fax: 262-595-2630

October 26 2011

Senator Dale Schultz  
Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry  
and Higher Education

Dear Senator Schultz and Senate Committee:

Differential tuition has become an important financial tool for maintaining high quality academic programming and support for students as state support diminishes. It allows the campus administrative leadership to work together with students to provide support for services and programs that meet the specific needs of the students.

Although UW Parkside is one of the few institutions in the University of Wisconsin System that have not submitted a request to implement differential tuition, we would like the opportunity to consider differential tuition as a tool in the implementation of our academic plan to retain and graduate more students. Specifically, we would to consider using differential tuition to keep the library open longer, to provide more tutors for students, and to enhance high impact pedagogies such as experiential learning (e.g., internships, undergraduate research, and community-based learning).

The Board of Regents has wisely provided campuses with strict guidelines for differential tuition initiatives that ensure that plans are developed with students and have their full support for implementation. The Regents also provide careful monitoring and oversight of differential tuition initiatives, ensuring that the tuition is used to meet the needs of the initiative.

We urge support for differential tuition as a vital fiscal tool for universities to fulfill their mission to provide high quality education for Wisconsin's students.

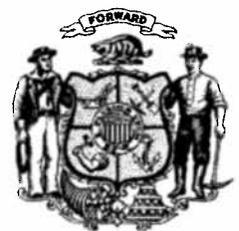
Signed,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Teresa M. Brown'.

Provost Terry Brown (on behalf of Chancellor Debbie Ford)  
University of Wisconsin-Parkside



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



I am Greg Summers, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point.

On behalf of Chancellor Patterson and the students, faculty, and staff at UWSP, I want to thank Chairman Schultz and all the committee members for this opportunity to speak this morning. Many members of this committee have four or two-year UW System campuses in their respective districts and know firsthand how a local campus brings both academic and economic benefit to a community and region. We are grateful to this committee's willingness to proceed on a bipartisan public hearing on Senate Bill 178.

I would be remiss not to thank Senator Olsen for his leadership in introducing SB 178, as well as a heartfelt thanks to Representative Ballweg for her leadership role on this critical fairness issue and her introduction of the companion bill AB 241. Our own leadership in Portage County, Senator Lassa and Representative Molepske, early on understood this issue as one of fairness and equity. Let me also thank cosponsors Senator Galloway and Representatives Vruwink, Williams, and Krug who were also early sponsors and we are grateful for this broad, bipartisan support.

The matter before us today is, quite simply, an issue of haves and have-nots. In a well-intended effort to keep tuition costs reasonable for UW System students, the current budget created some unintended consequences for campuses such as UW-Stevens Point, which does not have a differential tuition plan.

As you can see in the handout we have provided, in terms of tuition revenue generated per student FTE, UW-Stevens Point is \$3.9 million behind average revenues of our four peer campuses this year. That goal will increase to \$5.6 million in two years.

The bill would correct this institutional imbalance and put Stevens Point, Green Bay and Parkside on a more equal footing with the other state comprehensive universities in our state. We are here today to address the unequal playing field that has developed among the UW System comprehensive universities. In just the 2012 fiscal year alone, differential tuition will generate an additional 1.2 million dollars at UW-Oshkosh, 2 million at UW-Whitewater, 7.6 million at UW-Eau Claire and 10.6 million at UW-La Crosse, while at UW-Stevens Point, UW-Green Bay, UW-Parkside and the UW-Colleges that number will be zero. We have been working through the summer with representatives from the student government association as well as the faculty and staff on a specific plan targeted directly at improving student success and reducing the overload of a four year degree by reducing time to degree.

**Current UW-Stevens Point student body president Ryan Rutledge will give his administration's view later this morning. (tentative)**

Chancellor Patterson and the entire UWSP leadership team, including our four academic deans, believe a well-crafted differential tuition plan, the Pointer Compact, will increase student financial aid; increase student research and mentoring support and opportunities; create a framework for increased student academic excellence; expand student tutoring and advising; and increase the number of course sections we offer in core courses that have traditionally been “bottle necks” for students. A campus oversight committee of faculty, staff and students would guide us in these efforts. Students have been involved in the process and will continue to be engaged from start to finish.

Together, initiatives such as these will help our students better navigate their undergraduate studies in a more cost-effective and efficient manner. Those who successfully complete their studies under this plan by graduating in four years rather than five years can realize a one-year savings of \$15,000 to \$17,000 and, of course, will have the chance to become productive members of the state’s economy that much sooner.

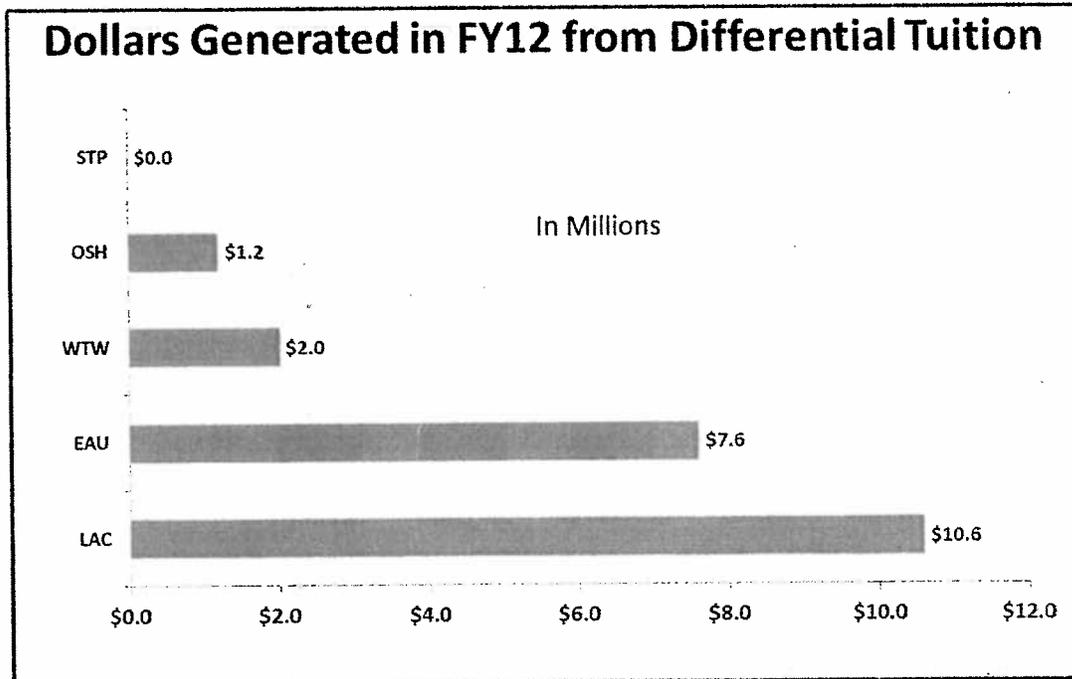
Members of the Legislature fully understand that circumstances beyond our institutional control have brought us to this time and place and this request is nothing more than a bridge to hopefully a brighter tomorrow for every UW System campus.

The bottom line is that UWSP, UW Colleges and Extension, and other UW System campuses deserve the same authority that has already been granted to a vast majority of our fellow System institutions. This is an issue of fairness that eliminates a ‘haves vs. have not’ paradigm within the UW System campuses.

The Legislature and Governor Walker understand the need for greater administrative flexibilities for campus leaders, as demonstrated in the recent budget bill. This bill before us today reaffirms that position. I thank the chair and the committee for this time and will gladly answer any questions you may have on our draft Pointer Compact proposal.

# University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

## DIFFERENTIAL TUITION: The view from a "have-not" university

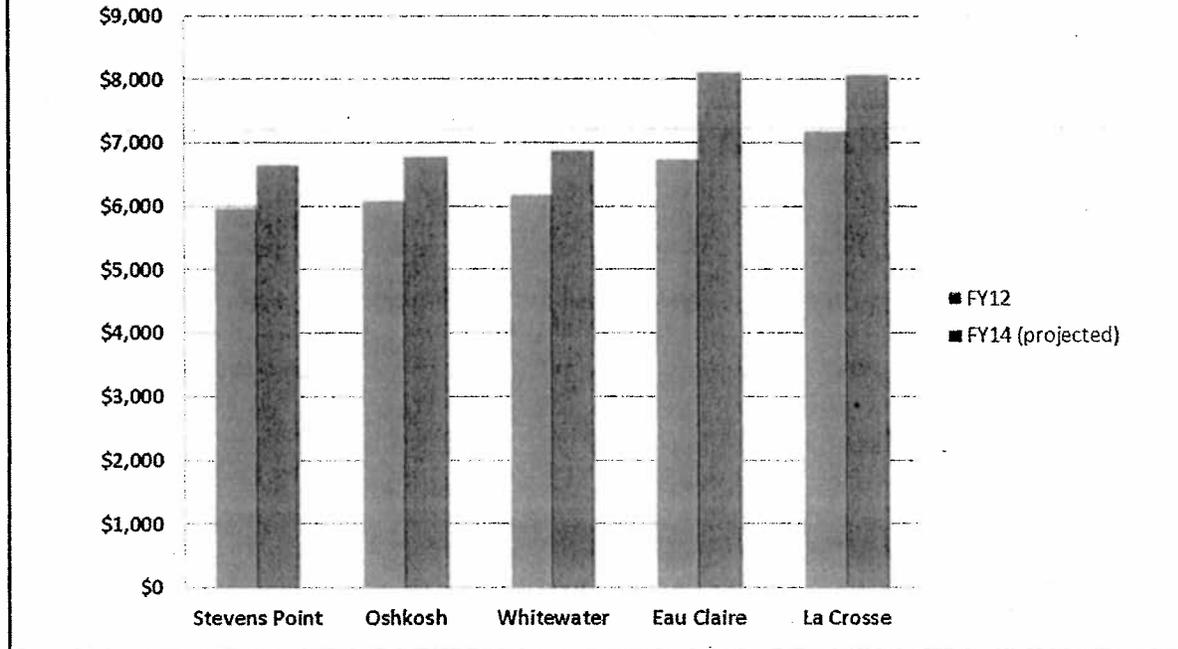


### 2010-11 Resident Undergraduate Cost of Attendance

Institution	Total Cost of Attendance	Tuition & Fees	Room & Meals
Madison	17,389	9,665	7,724
Milwaukee	16,857	8,675	8,182
Stout	14,214	8,370	5,844
La Crosse	14,069	8,139	5,930
Eau Claire	13,774	7,827	5,947
Oshkosh	13,123	6,995	6,128
Parkside	13,122	6,960	6,192
Platteville	13,013	6,971	6,042
<b>Stevens Point</b>	<b>13,012</b>	<b>7,010</b>	<b>6,002</b>
Green Bay	12,982	7,282	5,700
Superior	12,956	7,536	5,420
River Falls	12,848	7,133	5,715
Whitewater	12,596	7,042	5,554

As shown in above, UW-Stevens Point generates no differential tuition revenue, while four peer institutions generate between \$1.2 and \$10.6 million.

## Total Tuition Revenue Generated per Student FTE

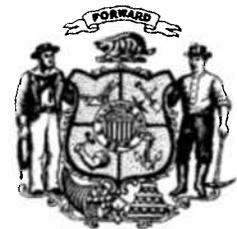


When compared to the average of the four campus peers listed above, UW-Stevens Point is \$3.9 million below their average total tuition revenue for FY12. By FY14, the disparity will grow to \$5.6 million.

This year, UW-Stevens Point will be \$6.5 million behind UW-Eau Claire. In two years, the gap will grow to \$12.5 million.



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





## University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Student Government Association  
Student Body President

Stevens Point, WI 54481  
(715)-346-3722

Good morning,

My name is Ryan Rutledge and I'm the president of the Student Government Association at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. First, I'd like to thank Chairman Schultz and the committee for allowing me to speak this morning. I'd also like to thank Representative Ballweg and Senator Olsen for their time, and their leadership, in working to correct this unintended consequence of the biennial budget. Our own representatives in Portage County, Senator Lassa and Representative Molepske- as well as many legislators from across the region understand that this issue is about equality among the University of Wisconsin campuses.

The students of UWSP do not want their campus to fall behind. Although in the past the students have been opposed to any differential, we now realize the necessity of it in order to preserve the quality of our education. The UW System is in danger of becoming a two-tier system. Stevens Point, Green Bay, Parkside and the colleges do not have the same flexibilities as the rest of the UW System. As a tuition paying student, I can appreciate the original intent of the language. However, differential tuition is voted on by the student body-it is not set by the Chancellor or any other administrator. This debate about differential tuition on our campus is a microcosm of democracy - if students want a differential tuition, it should be left for them to decide. The legislation before you today merely extends to UWSP and the aforementioned campuses the ability to bring forward a differential tuition proposal.

Lastly, I would once again like to thank representative Ballweg for her work on this simple, clean legislation that will give those UW System institutions a "tool" that all other System campuses have utilized. All we want at Point is to be on an equal playing field with our sister institutions. Our storied legacy is too important to do otherwise.

Thank you for your time.