



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #820

Initiatives (UW System)

Bill Agency

[LFB 2007-09 Budget Summary: Pages 568 to 572, #2]

CURRENT LAW

In 2006-07, the adjusted base budget for the UW System is \$4,315.4 million, of which \$1,044.9 million, or 24.2%, is funded by state general purpose revenues. The University has the ability to combine its GPR-general program operations allocation, which is about 70% of its total GPR funding, with money received from tuition and certain federal indirect cost reimbursements to create a pool of funds of about \$1.67 billion with which to fund instructional, research, and public service activities. Annually in June or July, the UW Board of Regents approves budget allocation for the 26 campuses in the UW System based on past allocations, targeted budget initiatives, estimated enrollment changes, and planned programmatic changes.

GOVERNOR

Provide \$21,455,600 GPR and \$7,935,200 PR in 2008-09 for 16 initiatives within the UW System.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. In a letter to state agency heads outlining 2007-09 major budget policies, the Governor included a provision permitting the UW System to request increases in GPR funding to support instruction and research activities that focus on economic growth. In response, the UW System Board of Regents included 17 initiatives in its agency budget request. These initiatives are part of what the UW System has called its "Growth Agenda for Wisconsin."

2. According to UW System President Kevin Reilly's testimony before the Joint Committee on Finance, the goals of the "Growth Agenda" are threefold: (1) to increase the number of Wisconsin residents who have four-year college degrees; (2) to attract more college graduates to Wisconsin; and (3) to create new knowledge-economy jobs. President Reilly stated that currently only 25.5% of working-age Wisconsin residents have college degrees compared to 27.5% nationwide. The UW System seeks to increase the number of Wisconsin residents holding baccalaureate degrees by expanding capacity and increasing enrollments, increasing retention and graduation rates, and attracting non-traditional students. The UW System believes that by increasing the number baccalaureate degree holders, it would spur economic growth as employers seeking highly-skilled workers would be attracted to the state. In addition, the University itself may spur economic growth and create jobs as research discoveries made on campuses are transferred to private industry.

3. Most of the 17 initiatives proposed by the UW System were directly related to the aims of the "Growth Agenda" as outlined by President Reilly in his testimony. Several of the initiatives seek to expand capacity and increase enrollments by expanding existing high-demand programs, creating new programs in areas of high-demand by regional employers, and increasing recruitment. Other initiatives would seek to increase retention and graduation rates, either for all students or for targeted groups, by increasing the level of support available to students. The largest of these initiatives, which would provide additional funding for UW-Milwaukee, would strengthen the research program on that campus while increasing enrollments over a longer timeframe.

4. SB 40 groups 16 of these 17 initiatives, which were proposed by the UW System as individual decision items, into one item. The initiative involving UW-La Crosse, which would be funded entirely by PR tuition revenue, appears as a separate item within SB 40 and is addressed in a separate budget paper. Excluding the funding and positions requested for the UW-La Crosse initiative, the UW System requested \$4,634,300 GPR and \$1,455,600 PR in 2007-08 and \$22,401,900 GPR and \$7,935,200 PR in 2008-09 to support these initiatives. The majority of funding requested would support 15.88 GPR positions beginning in 2007-08 and an additional 297.47 GPR positions beginning in 2008-09. In general, the funding requested for 2007-08, which was less than that requested for 2008-09, would support planning and other preparation activities related with the implementation of these initiatives in 2008-09.

5. SB 40 would provide \$21,455,600 GPR and \$7,935,200 PR in 2008-09 to support the 16 initiatives included in this provision. This would be \$946,300 GPR, or 4.2%, less than was requested by the UW System for these initiatives in 2008-09. SB 40 would provide no funding for these initiatives in 2007-08. The Executive Budget Book indicates that the Governor intends to fund each of these initiatives and Department of Administration (DOA) staff has indicated that the Board of Regents is expected to find cost savings equal to the difference between the amount of GPR requested and the amount of GPR provided in SB 40.

6. Although it is the intention of the Governor that each of these initiatives be implemented, the UW Board of Regents would create the actual budget for the UW System in 2008-09. As an alternative to SB 40, the Committee could decide to specify an amount of funding

for each of the initiatives included in this decision item. In that way, the Legislature could prioritize certain initiatives as opposed to allowing the Regents to distribute the funding amongst the initiatives.

7. Although more than 80% of the funding requested by the UW System would support the salaries and fringe benefits associated with the requested positions, SB 40 includes no positions related to these 16 initiatives. UW System staff has indicated that the positions necessary to support these initiatives would be reallocated from vacant positions in 2008-09, and then created in the 2009-011 biennium using the UW System's GPR position creation authority under current law.

8. The UW System reports its GPR vacancies quarterly in its position control report. The number of vacancies is variable and typically increases and decreases in a cyclical fashion tied to the academic year. Generally, reported vacancies are lowest in October of each year, reflecting the start of the fall semester, and highest in June, reflecting the end of the spring semester. For example, the UW System's position control reports show 414.16 GPR vacancies in June, 2006, and 219.59 vacancies in October, 2006.

9. The majority of vacancies in the UW System are currently located at UW-Madison; however, few additional positions were requested for that campus in the agency request. If the UW System were to use its vacancies to fill positions related to these initiatives, UW-Madison and other campuses whose vacancies exceed the amount of positions requested as part of these initiatives would lose their ability to hire additional faculty and staff when necessary.

10. Under 2001 Act 16, the Legislature provided the UW System Board of Regents with the authority to create or abolish faculty and academic staff positions from the University's GPR appropriation for general program operations. The law provides that this authority is subject to a memorandum of understanding between the UW System and the Department of Administration dated November, 2001, relating to supplemental funding for fringe benefits. The UW System used this authority to create 88.95 GPR positions in 2001-02, for use in that fiscal year only. The UW System has not created any GPR positions using this authority since the 2001-02 fiscal year.

11. The approach used under SB 40 allowed the administration to limit the number of positions authorized under that bill; however, the initiatives would clearly result in additional staff being hired by the UW System. Although the UW System does have GPR position creation authority under the law, the budget bill would better represent the impact of this proposal if it authorized these positions, rather than relying on the Board of Regents to create the positions after enactment. As an alternative to SB 40, the Committee could provide the UW System with 300 GPR positions in 2008-09, as requested in conjunction with these initiatives, reduced by 4.2% to be consistent with the SB 40 funding level. Under this approach, since the Committee would provide the needed positions to the UW System, the Committee could delete the current law authority for the UW System to create GPR positions.

12. The 16 initiatives included in this decision item fall into three general categories:

single campus initiatives, multi-campus initiatives, and system-level initiatives. Information regarding each of these initiatives is provided in an attachment. The initiatives are organized within the three categories based on the total amount of funding requested in 2008-09. Under this approach, since the Committee would provide the needed positions to the UW System, the Committee could delete the current law authority for the UW System to create GPR positions.

ALTERNATIVES TO BILL

A. Funding

1. Approve the Governor's recommendation.

ALT A1	Change to Bill Funding	Change to Base Funding
GPR	\$0	\$21,455,600
PR	0	<u>7,935,200</u>
Total	\$0	\$29,390,800

2. Modify SB 40 to fund each initiative as a separate budget item, adjusting funding for each proportionately to match the amount of GPR funding provided in SB 40, compared to the larger amount under the agency budget request. The table below shows how GPR funding would be distributed by initiative under this alternative. Agency budget request figures are provided for comparison.

Initiative	Agency Budget Request			Alternative A2			Difference
	GPR	PR	Total	GPR	PR	Total	
Milwaukee	\$8,769,900	\$1,230,100	\$10,000,000	\$8,399,400	\$1,230,100	\$9,629,500	-\$370,500
Eau Claire and Stout	2,209,700	852,900	3,062,600	2,116,400	852,900	2,969,300	-93,300
Nursing Education	2,021,700	1,088,600	3,110,300	1,936,300	1,088,600	3,024,900	-85,400
Teacher Education	1,757,500	946,400	2,703,900	1,683,300	946,400	2,629,700	-74,200
Colleges and Extension	1,703,100	917,100	2,620,200	1,631,200	917,100	2,548,300	-71,900
Oshkosh	1,691,000	910,600	2,601,600	1,619,600	910,600	2,530,200	-71,400
Green Bay	1,140,400	614,000	1,754,400	1,092,200	614,000	1,706,200	-48,200
Parkside	817,800	440,300	1,258,100	783,200	440,300	1,223,500	-34,600
Superior	734,900	395,700	1,130,600	703,800	395,700	1,099,500	-31,100
Platteville and Colleges	369,500	199,000	568,500	353,900	199,000	552,900	-15,600
Applied Research	250,000	0	250,000	239,400	0	239,400	-10,600
Whitewater	248,000	133,500	381,500	237,500	133,500	371,000	-10,500
River Falls	211,300	113,700	325,000	202,400	113,700	316,100	-8,900
Transfer IS	173,700	0	173,700	166,400	0	166,400	-7,300
Stevens Point	173,400	93,300	266,700	166,100	93,300	259,400	-7,300
Early Math Placement	<u>130,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>130,000</u>	<u>124,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>124,500</u>	<u>-5,500</u>
Total	\$22,401,900	\$7,935,200	\$30,337,100	\$21,455,600	\$7,935,200	\$29,390,800	-\$946,300

3. Delete one or more of the individual initiatives and the related funding.
4. Delete provision.

ALT A4	Change to Bill Funding	Change to Base Funding
GPR	- \$21,455,600	\$0
PR	- <u>7,935,200</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	- \$29,390,800	\$0

B. Positions

1. Approve the Governor's recommendation. The UW System would be able to hire for positions related to these initiatives by using vacancies and creating positions using its GPR position creation authority under current law.

2. Delete the current law authority for the UW System to create GPR positions. Provide the UW System with 300.0 GPR positions in 2008-09 to support these initiatives.

ALT B2	Change to Bill Positions	Change to Base Positions
GPR	300.00	300.00

Prepared by: Emily Pope
Attachment

ATTACHMENT

Information Relating to the Proposed 16 Initiatives

Single Campus Initiatives

UW-Milwaukee

1. UW-Milwaukee is one of the two doctoral campuses in the University of Wisconsin System. It is the second largest campus in terms of student enrollment in the System; only UW-Madison is larger. In the fall of 2006, 19,855 undergraduate and 2,892 graduate full-time equivalent (FTE) students were enrolled in UW-Milwaukee. In 2006-07, the Milwaukee campus has a total campus budget of \$508.8 million. Of this amount, \$123.5 million (24.3%) is state general purpose revenue and \$147.5 million (29.0%) is federal grants and contracts.

2. The UW Board of Regents requested \$8,769,900 GPR and \$1,230,100 PR and 110 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Milwaukee to expand its research capacity and training programs. With this funding, UW-Milwaukee would: (a) expand its existing research initiative to compete for additional extramural research funds; (b) hire twenty leading faculty in targeted clusters, such as biomedical and health technologies, advanced manufacturing, and other science and engineering areas; and (c) enhance the level of graduate and undergraduate education and research. The positions requested are for: (a) 50.0 graduate assistantships; (b) 35.0 research faculty; (c) 15.0 positions to staff the research initiative; and (d) 10.0 academic staff to support the expansion of the undergraduate research program and the research initiative. UW-Milwaukee estimates that campus enrollment would increase by 2,000 headcount students by 2010-11 if funding for this initiative were to be provided in this and the 2009-11 biennium.

3. With this funding, UW-Milwaukee would expand on its existing research growth initiative. Currently, this initiative is funded through a reallocation of 5% of UW-Milwaukee's state GPR base. By increasing funding for research on the campus, UW-Milwaukee hopes to increase to amount of extramural research funding it receives. According to UW Board of Regents budget materials, UW-Milwaukee estimates that for every \$1 of additional state funding, it will be able to leverage an additional \$3 in extramural research funds. From 2001-02 to 2006-07, the amount of federal grants and contracts received by UW-Milwaukee increased from \$86.1 million to \$147.5 million, or by approximately 71%.

4. As part of this initiative, UW-Milwaukee would increase existing research opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students. In its request, the UW Board of Regents requested funding for 50.0 graduate assistantships. UW-Milwaukee believes that this additional funding would allow it to recruit more top-quality graduate students who may be interested in attending UW-Milwaukee but are unable to do so for financial reasons. The additional funding would also be used to expand the existing undergraduate research opportunity program. This program allows undergraduate students to participate in faculty research projects. Currently, the

program is limited to 30 or 40 students a year. The UW Board of Regents request included 15 faculty positions that would have formal ties to the undergraduate research opportunity program. A portion of the funding would also be used to provide stipends to undergraduates participating in the undergraduate research opportunity program and to develop a website for that program.

5. The Legislature provided funding for a similar initiative involving UW-Milwaukee in the 2001-03 biennial budget. In 2001 Act 16, the Legislature approved \$14,750,000 GPR and \$5,050,000 PR and 239 positions during the 2001-03 biennium for the implementation of the Milwaukee Idea. The major goals of this initiative were to encourage public-private partnerships, expand faculty and enrollments in high-demand programs, and increase research efforts. At the time UW-Milwaukee believed that it would increase headcount enrollment from approximately 23,000 in 2000-01 to 30,000 in 2004-05; however, funding to continue the second phase of the proposal was not provided in the 2003-05 biennium and funding reductions for the UW System were made. In the fall of 2006, headcount enrollment was 28,300.

6. In addition to this initiative, the Governor's budget includes two other measures that would support research activities in the Milwaukee area. The first would provide \$2,500,000 GPR in a new, biennial appropriation for a biomedical technology alliance in southeastern Wisconsin. These funds would replace \$500,000 GPR from the Wisconsin Development Fund under the Department of Commerce provided for this purpose under 2005 Act 25. According to DOA staff, the biomedical technology alliance promotes collaborative research involving UW-Milwaukee, UW-Parkside, the Medical College of Wisconsin, Marquette University, and the Milwaukee School of Engineering. The second measure would provide the Medical College of Wisconsin with \$2,500,000 GPR in 2008-09 for a translational research program. These funds would support the operation of a 7 TESLA long-bore magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner. The Building Commission has recommended that the state provide \$10 million in general fund supported borrowing for the purchase and installation of this scanner. These proposals are addressed in a separate budget paper.

UW-Oshkosh

7. UW-Oshkosh is one of the eleven comprehensive universities in the UW System, meaning it grants both bachelors and masters degrees, but not doctoral degrees. In the fall of 2006, there were 9,524 undergraduate and 585 graduate FTE students enrolled in UW-Oshkosh. In 2006-07, UW-Oshkosh has a total budget of \$152.5 million of which 27.1% is state GPR.

8. The UW Board of Regents requested \$1,691,000 GPR and \$910,600 PR and 22.95 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Oshkosh for a plan to increase enrollment. Under the plan, UW-Oshkosh would expand existing programs including: (a) biology and microbiology; (b) medical technology; (c) psychology; (d) nursing; (e) criminal justice; and (f) teacher education. In addition, new programs related to business, applied science, and fire and emergency response management would be offered. The majority of the new positions (19.7) would be for new faculty, instructional academic staff, and other academic positions to support the enrollment growth. Additional clerical and office support positions (3.25) were also requested.

9. Using this additional funding, UW-Oshkosh proposes to increase enrollment in three ways. First, UW-Oshkosh would increase the number of graduates in high demand programs, including biology, psychology, criminal justice, medical technology, and business. Demand for these programs on the Oshkosh campus has increased significantly over the past few years. For example, the number of students majoring in biology and psychology has increased by 20% over the past four years. This increase in demand requires greater resources, especially additional faculty members, to maintain the level of service to students. In addition, Oshkosh would establish a new emphasis in supply chain and operations management within its College of Business Administration. Oshkosh has proposed to provide this new emphasis in response to an increase in student demand as well as local business demand. A position for a director of business entrepreneurship was also requested to lead a center for family business education and research.

10. Second, UW-Oshkosh would increase enrollment by expanding its existing nursing and teacher education collaborations. Currently, students at UW-Manitowoc, UW-Marathon County, and UW-Sheboygan may earn bachelors of science in nursing from UW-Oshkosh through a collaborative program. UW-Oshkosh would increase the capacity of these three collaborative nursing programs by adding additional online and classroom course offerings. Similarly, UW-Oshkosh collaborates with UW-Sheboygan to allow students at that campus earn teacher's licenses and masters degrees in education. UW-Oshkosh would expand this program by siting a four year program at the UW-Sheboygan campus. Initially, this program would offer degrees in early childhood and elementary education.

11. Lastly, UW-Oshkosh would increase enrollment by creating two new degree completion programs for graduates of Wisconsin technical colleges. These programs would award bachelors degrees in applied sciences and fire and emergency response management.

12. According to UW System budget documents, this request is the first part of a three biennia plan that would increase campus enrollment by 1,440 headcount students. Three-quarters of this growth would be accomplished through increased access to programs and majors. The remaining growth would result from increases in retention and graduation rates. This expansion would be supported by additional facilities, including a new academic building and a new residence hall that have been included in the 2007-09 building program as recommended by the Building Commission.

UW-Green Bay

13. UW-Green Bay is one of the eleven comprehensive universities in the UW System. In the fall of 2006, there were about 4,652 undergraduate and 67 graduate FTE students enrolled in UW-Green Bay. In 2006-07, UW-Green Bay has a total budget of \$76.2 million of which 31.5% is state GPR.

14. The UW Board of Regents requested \$1,140,400 GPR and \$614,000 PR and 24.3 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Green Bay to expand several high demand programs, including programs in business, education, and biology, and increase enrollment by 70 undergraduate

students. The requested positions would support this increase in campus population as well as projected increases in students in future years. The largest number of these positions (12.0) would be used to increase faculty. Additional positions were requested for programs such as admissions, library services, maintenance, academic support, and technology.

15. Over the past ten years, applications for admission to UW-Green Bay have increased by 40%, while enrollments have stayed relatively constant. As a result, the campus has lowered its admission rate and has had to turn away qualified candidates because of a lack of space. This request is the first step in increasing capacity at UW-Green Bay in response to an increase in demand. UW-Green Bay proposes to increase total enrollment by 2,100 headcount students by 2016-17.

16. In addition to increasing capacity, UW-Green Bay would also increase the amount of student services provided that are geared to students of color and non-traditional students. In recent years, there has been significant growth in the number of minority students enrolled in area school districts. In the Green Bay Area School District for example, minority student enrollment as a portion of total enrollment has increased from 28.5% in 2002-03, to 34.6% in 2006-07. This initiative would increase student services to better accommodate the needs of these students, who are expected to make up an increasingly large percentage of the UW-Green Bay student body.

17. Similarly, this initiative would increase the student services specifically geared to nontraditional students. Reflecting a statewide trend, the number of nontraditional students on the UW-Green Bay campus declined from approximately 1,200 in 1995 to 900 in 2005. Through this initiative, UW-Green Bay would increase the number of nontraditional students on its campus as part of a systemwide effort.

18. According to UW System staff, UW-Green Bay could accommodate an additional 500 to 600 students in its existing facilities. However, this request represents the first phase of a three biennium plan in which UW-Green Bay proposes to increase its enrollment from approximately 5,400 headcount students in the fall of 2005 to 7,500 headcount students by 2017. In order to accommodate this enrollment growth, UW-Green Bay would have to add additional academic and residential space to its campus. According to the UW System, UW-Green Bay would begin planning for these additions during the 2009-11 biennium. The current UW-Green Bay master plan, which was prepared in 2006, shows five potential sites for additional classroom and office buildings that could be built in the future. UW-Green Bay also plans to have 40% of all students enrolled live on campus in residential halls. In order to maintain this level in the future, UW-Green Bay would have to add approximately 900 beds to the campus.

UW-Parkside

19. UW-Parkside is one of the eleven comprehensive campuses in the UW System. In the fall of 2006, UW-Parkside enrolled 3,879 undergraduate and 54 graduate full-time equivalent (FTE) students. In 2006-07, UW-Parkside has a total budget of \$63.6 million of which 39.6% is state GPR.

20. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$817,800 GPR and \$440,300 PR and 14.0 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Parkside to increase student retention and graduation rates, enhance student performance, and reduce credits to degree. The additional funding would be used to: (a) improve diagnostic tools for determining students' needs and deficiencies; (b) expand advising; (c) develop learning communities and first year seminars; (d) establish faculty, staff, and peer mentoring programs; (e) improve orientation programs for transfer and transitioning students; and (f) improve campus-wide communication. This program would be targeted to high-risk students, which include first-generation college students, students who graduated in the bottom half of their high school class, and adult students. The positions requested would be for new faculty and support staff. UW-Parkside expects this initiative to increase student retention and result in an additional 67 to 127 graduates per year.

21. UW-Parkside has the most diverse student population of all of the four-year campuses in the UW System. In the fall of 2006, students of color made up 20.1% of the student population at UW-Parkside. By comparison, students of color made up 9.4% of the student population systemwide, 11.6% at Madison, and 15.3% at Milwaukee. Nearly one-quarter of all students enrolled in UW-Parkside are non-traditional students compared to a systemwide average of 17.6%. Finally, 26.8% of all resident undergraduates enrolled at UW-Parkside received Wisconsin higher education grant (WHEG) awards in 2005-06; systemwide, 20.5% of all resident undergraduates received WHEG awards.

22. Through this proposed initiative, UW-Parkside hopes to increase student retention and graduation rates. Currently, UW-Parkside has the lowest first-to-second year retention and six-year graduation rates of any of the 13 four-year campuses in the UW System. Of new freshmen enrolling in UW-Parkside in the fall of 2005, 63.0% returned the following fall compared to 79.5% systemwide. Similarly, of all new freshmen enrolling in UW-Parkside in the fall of 2000, 37.2% had graduated from any UW System school six years later. Systemwide, the six-year graduation rate is 64.2%.

23. One reason for these low rates of retention and graduation might be that, on average, UW-Parkside students are less prepared for academic work at the college level. In the fall of 2004, the most recent semester for which data is available, 43.2% of all new freshman at UW-Parkside required remediation in English and 55.3% required remediation in math. This compared with a systemwide average of 8.1% for English remediation and 14.9% for math remediation. In addition, in the fall of 2006, 39% of all new freshmen enrolling in UW-Parkside graduated in the bottom half of their high school class.

24. This initiative would increase retention and graduation rates by providing additional services to first-year students. To do this, UW-Parkside would hire three new faculty members to teach in departments with large first year enrollments and three new lecturers to provide supplemental instruction, learning assistance, and expanded course time for introductory math and English courses. Four new advisors would be hired to work with the newly-created learning communities, first-year seminars, sophomore transition programs, major declaration, career courses, and transfer and transition orientation. This initiative would also be supported by an institutional

researcher, system development specialist, student services specialist, and a professional development training coordinator. The initiative would be coordinated by a senior member of the current faculty.

UW-Superior

25. UW-Superior is one of the eleven comprehensive campuses in the UW System. In the fall of 2006, UW-Superior enrolled 2,203 undergraduate and 140 graduate full-time equivalent (FTE) students. In 2006-07, UW-Superior has a total budget of \$54.7 million of which 32.2% is state GPR.

26. The UW Board of Regents requested \$734,900 GPR and \$395,700 PR and 12.5 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Superior to further its mission as a public liberal arts college. Through this proposal, UW-Superior would increase the number of new freshman and transfer students enrolling from outside of its traditional service area, increase its first-to-second year retention rate, and enhance its existing liberal arts curriculum. The requested positions include: (a) 1.0 admissions recruiter; (b) 1.0 coordinator of teaching and learning enhancement, who would oversee first-year experience activities and the implementation of a new graduation requirement; (c) 0.5 position increase in the University Writing Center director position; (d) 1.0 academic advisor with an emphasis on students who have not declared a major; (e) 2.0 positions for instruction in French and Mandarin Chinese; (f) 1.0 faculty in the area of global economic development; (g) 2.0 positions for staff at the Office of International Programs; (h) an increase in the existing international student advisor position from 9 months to 12 months; (i) 1.0 institutional researcher; and (j) 2.75 support staff.

27. According to UW System budget documents, the number of high school graduates within UW-Superior's traditional service area has been declining. To maintain its current student population, UW-Superior would increase the number of students enrolling from outside its traditional service area by hiring an additional admissions recruiter. UW-Superior predicts that in this way it could increase the number of new freshmen and transfer students enrolling from outside of its traditional service area by 16 students in 2008-09.

28. Currently, UW-Superior has a first-to-second year retention rate of 65.7%, which is the second-lowest among all of the four-year campuses in the UW System. Through this initiative, UW-Superior would increase its first-to-second year retention rate through a new "First Year Experience" program, which would: (a) require that all first-year students participate in a first-year seminar; (b) increase advisor/advisee contact; (c) provide peer mentoring; (d) give first-year students priority in registering for general core requirements; (e) expand the existing writing center; and (f) provide additional advising services to students who have not yet declared a major. Through these efforts, UW-Superior indicates that it should retain an additional 40 students annually which would increase its first-to-second year retention rate to 79.5%, which is the UW System average.

29. In 1998, the UW Board of Regents designated UW-Superior as "Wisconsin's Public Liberal Arts College." Three of the components of this initiative would focus on enhancing

UW-Superior's liberal arts curriculum. First, this initiative would promote academic service learning. Academic service learning combines community-based service and academic instruction by embedding service opportunities within credit bearing courses. Second, UW-Superior would strengthen its international programs. This would be accomplished by enhancing study abroad opportunities, increasing the availability of language instruction, and adding a faculty position in the area of global economic development. Finally, UW-Superior would require that all undergraduates complete a senior experience activity before graduation. The senior experience activity would require each student to engage in a significant piece of scholarly or creative work.

UW-Whitewater

30. UW-Whitewater is one of the eleven comprehensive campuses in the UW System. In the fall of 2006, UW-Whitewater enrolled 8,551 undergraduate and 670 graduate full-time equivalent (FTE) students. In 2006-07, UW-Whitewater has a total budget of \$173.2 million of which 19.2% is state GPR.

31. The UW Board of Regents requested \$248,000 GPR and \$133,500 PR and 5.5 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Whitewater to recruit and increase the retention of minority, low-income, disabled, and first generation college students. This proposal includes six initiatives that would provide for: (a) the recruitment of these students to the campus and to specific programs; (b) transitional support for these students during the summer before and during their freshman year; (c) a learning community program for these students during their freshman year; (d) smaller class sizes and supplemental instruction in certain courses that are required before entry into specific majors; (e) faculty mentors and resource people in education, business, and science; and (f) on-campus employment opportunities. The requested positions are: (a) 1.0 recruiter; (b) 2.0 graduate assistant transition counselors; (c) 1.0 instructor to support additional course sections; (d) 0.75 position for faculty mentors in Education, Business, and Science; and (e) 0.75 position to provide increased support for six learning community course sections.

32. With this initiative, UW-Whitewater hopes to increase the proportion of minority, low-income, disabled, and first generation college students on its campus such that it is equal to the proportion of these groups relative to the state's population. In the fall of 2006, students of color made up 9.2% of the total student population at UW-Whitewater, compared to 9.4% systemwide. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, persons of color made up 14.0% of the state's population in that year. According to UW-Whitewater, there are approximately 330 disabled students currently enrolled at that campus, which is equal to about 3.6% of total campus enrollment. Approximately 14% of the state's population has some kind of disability, according to U.S. Census Bureau data. In addition, using Wisconsin higher education grant awards (WHEG) as a proxy to measure the number of low-income students at UW-Whitewater and in the UW System, low-income students at UW-Whitewater make up a slightly smaller percentage of total enrollment than in the UW System as a whole. In 2005-06, 19.5% of all resident undergraduates enrolled at UW-Whitewater received WHEG awards compared to 20.5% systemwide. No data regarding the number of first generation college students enrolled at UW-Whitewater is available.

33. UW-Whitewater would increase the number of minority, low-income, disabled, and first generation college students enrolled at the campus by increasing its efforts to recruit students who are members of these targeted groups and by offering them additional support once they have enrolled. As part of this initiative, UW-Whitewater would add an additional recruiter position and expand its existing summer programs and learning communities. Additional instructors would allow for reduced class sizes for these students in three learning community classes. Students who have participated in these programs on the Whitewater campus, which are generally targeted to minority and low-income students, have shown higher first-to-second year retention rates than other entering students with similar profiles.

34. In addition, UW-Whitewater would increase the number of instructors teaching so-called "gateway" classes and provide additional student help for "gateway" course sections. "Gateway" classes are classes that students must take before they can begin the required coursework for certain majors. Analysis performed by the campus has shown that minority, low-income, disabled, and first generation college students have had difficulty passing the gateway courses that lead into majors in the College of Business and Economics and the College of Education. To increase the number of these students enrolled in those two colleges, UW-Whitewater would provide additional assistance to minority, low-income, disabled, and first generation college students enrolled in certain lower-level math, economics, and special education courses.

35. UW-Whitewater estimates that it will enroll 50 additional minority, low-income, disabled, and first generation college students each year as the result of this initiative. The campus assumes that roughly 50% of these students would graduate in six years, increasing the total number of campus graduates by about 25 per year. UW-Whitewater currently has a six-year graduation rate 51.8% for all students.

UW-River Falls

36. UW-River Falls is one of the eleven comprehensive campuses in the UW System. In the fall of 2006, UW-River Falls enrolled 5,387 undergraduate and 225 graduate full-time equivalent (FTE) students. In 2006-07, UW-River Falls has a total budget of \$86.2 million, of which 31.1% is state GPR.

37. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$211,300 GPR and \$113,700 PR and 3.0 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-River Falls to support: (a) a transitioning student workshop series; (b) the development and implementation of a first-year curriculum; (c) an emerging leaders program; and (d) a parent communication tools program. According to UW System budget documents, these programs would help first-year and transitioning students, the majority of whom are low-income and first-generation college students, acquire the skills necessary to become successful college students. Through this initiative, UW-River Falls hopes to increase its first-to-second year retention rate from 72.5% to 80%. If this retention rate is increased to 80%, then an additional 60 students would be retained each year.

38. UW-River Falls reports that more than 50% of its new students are first-generation

college students. These students are sometimes less prepared for college success than students who have at least one parent who attended college. In addition, UW-River Falls reports that a large number of its first-year and transitioning students are low-income students. Low-income students generally have lower first-to-second year retention and graduation rates than students with from higher-income families. This initiative would provide first-year and transitioning students with greater support with the goal of increasing the first-to-second year retention rate.

39. The positions requested would be for: (a) 1.0 director of first-year and transitioning student programs; (b) 0.5 faculty and 0.5 student services staff person to act as co-coordinators of these programs; and (c) 1.0 program assistant position to provide office support for these programs.

UW-Stevens Point

40. UW-Stevens Point is one of the eleven comprehensive campuses in the UW System. In the fall of 2006, UW-Stevens enrolled 7,969 undergraduate and 196 graduate full-time equivalent (FTE) students. In 2006-07, UW-Stevens Point has a total budget of \$131.6 million of which 29.4% is state GPR.

41. The UW Board of Regents requested \$173,400 GPR and \$93,300 PR and 4.0 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Stevens Point to fully implement a health science major that is currently being offered on a preliminary, limited basis. This program would be targeted to students who: (a) wish to pursue a baccalaureate degree or a certificate; (b) are practicing professionals who have only an associate degree or a certificate; (c) are adult students who are seeking to complete a second or interrupted baccalaureate degree; and (d) other students interested in working in health care. The positions requested would be for 3.5 faculty, who would teach health sciences courses, advise students, and coordinate the program with health care institutions located in the region, and a 0.5 program assistant who would provide clerical support and otherwise coordinate the program. If fully implemented, UW-Stevens Point estimates that 50 students per year would graduate from the major.

42. The health science major at UW-Stevens Point has been designed in response to regional demand for baccalaureate degree holders in the health care industry. According to UW System budget documents, there are 50 hospitals and clinics located in the area. This major is designed to prepare graduates for entry-level positions in acute, outpatient, and long-term care facilities. For practicing professional, the degree may lead to career advancement in health care-related industries such as pharmaceutical sales, administration, and the health insurance industry. This program would also prepare students for graduate-level work in the fields of physical therapy, occupational therapy, health care administration, and health care informatics.

43. One-time funding for the major for 2006-07 has been secured through a campus grant and institutional reallocation. The ongoing funding provided by SB 40 would maintain support for the faculty and support staff related to this major in future academic years.

Multi-Campus Initiatives

Nursing Education

44. Currently, there are several different means by which students can attain nursing degrees in the UW System. There are four schools of nursing, located at UW-Eau Claire, UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Oshkosh, that offer both undergraduate and graduate degrees in nursing. In addition, UW-Green Bay has a degree completion program for qualified registered nurses (RNs) and UW-Milwaukee operates an off-site nursing program at UW-Parkside allowing students at that campus to earn nursing degrees. UW-Oshkosh offers a nursing degree completion program in collaboration with UW-Manitowoc, UW-Sheboygan, and Lakeshore Technical College. UW-Milwaukee similarly collaborates with UW-Washington County in a nursing degree completion program. Online courses are also available to RNs who wish to complete a bachelor's degree.

45. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$2,021,700 GPR and \$1,088,600 PR and 27.5 GPR positions in 2008-09 for a systemwide initiative that would: (a) expand off-site programs through UW-Eau Claire, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Green Bay, and UW-Milwaukee to reach areas of the state that currently do not have access to nursing programs; (b) develop accelerated programs at UW-Eau Claire and UW-Madison to serve students who already have a bachelors degree in another field; and (c) increase the capacity of the graduate programs at UW-Oshkosh, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Madison to increase the number of potential nursing faculty and clinical instructors. The positions requested would be for: (a) 11.0 faculty to increase the capacity of the graduate programs at Milwaukee, Madison, and Oshkosh; (b) 8.5 faculty to expand off-site programs to reach areas of the state that do not have access to nursing programs; (c) 6.0 faculty to develop an accelerated program to serve students who already have a bachelors degree at Madison and Eau Claire; and (d) 2.0 lab and equipment managers at Madison.

46. In recent years, UW-Eau Claire, UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Oshkosh have each created new programs designed to increase the number of students graduating with nursing degrees. UW-Eau Claire has partnered with the Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) to create a program which allows students who have been denied admission to the nursing program at UW-Eau Claire due to the lack of space to earn nursing degrees through a combination of coursework at both institutions. UW-Madison conducts an off-site program located on the UW-La Crosse campus that permits students at that campus to earn nursing degrees. This program is currently funded by the Gunderson Lutheran Medical Foundation with cooperation from UW-La Crosse. UW-Milwaukee has developed a program to increase the number of masters prepared nurses and nurse educators using an accelerated and modified nursing curricula, which has been funded by a federal grant. Finally, UW-Oshkosh has developed an accelerated nursing degree program for students who have already earned a bachelors degree in a different field. Due in large part to these programs, enrollment in nursing programs has increase by 47% since 2000.

47. However, the existing nursing programs cannot accommodate the number of students seeking admission and a number of qualified applicants are currently turned away due to

lack of space. One of the major factors limiting enrollment in existing nursing programs is the shortage of nurse educators. This problem will only be exacerbated in the coming years as many nurse educators retire. This initiative seeks to expand the pool of potential nurse educators by increasing enrollment in three of the four graduate nursing programs in the UW System.

48. This initiative would increase nursing program enrollments by expanding existing programs and creating new programs. With this funding, off-site programs would be created in Marshfield, Wausau, Marinette, and Washington County. UW-Eau Claire and UW-Madison would develop accelerated nursing degree programs for students who have already earned a bachelors degree in a different field. These programs would be similar to a program already in operation at UW-Oshkosh. Finally, graduate programs in nursing located at UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Oshkosh would be expanded to increase the number of potential nurse educators in the state. In total, the UW System estimates that this initiative would result in an additional 130 baccalaureate-level nurses and 92 graduate-level nurses who would have the potential to become nurse educators.

UW-Eau Claire and UW-Stout

49. UW-Eau Claire and UW-Stout are two of the eleven comprehensive campuses in the UW System. In the fall of 2006, UW-Eau Claire enrolled 9,470 undergraduate and 258 graduate full-time equivalent (FTE) students and UW-Stout enrolled 6,841 undergraduate and 481 graduate FTE students. In 2006-07, UW-Eau Claire has a total budget of \$158.9 million of which 27.1% is state GPR and UW-Stout has a total budget of \$128.4 million of which 26.8% is state GPR.

50. The UW Board of Regents requested \$2,209,700 GPR and \$852,900 PR and 21.0 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Eau Claire and UW-Stout to improve training in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in collaboration with Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC). The request would: (a) educate more students in advanced sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines including nanotechnology, biotechnology, polymer engineering, and computer and electrical engineering; (b) improve access to science and engineering facilities and expertise for both students and regional businesses and industry; and (c) enhance science, engineering, and technology training for graduates to attract and retain high-end employers in the region. The requested positions would be for: (a) 1.0 faculty member and 1.0 technical instrumentation specialist at UW-Stout for nanotechnology; (b) 2.0 faculty members at UW-Stout for computer and electrical engineering; (c) 3.0 positions at UW-Stout for polymer engineering; (d) 2.0 faculty members at UW-Stout for biotechnology; (e) 8.0 faculty members, including 2.0 in chemistry, 1.0 in physics, 1.0 in geology, 2.0 in biology, 2.0 in mathematics, and 1.0 instrument technician, and 1.0 support staff, at UW-Eau Claire for nanoscience; and (f) 2.0 technical instrument specialists at UW-Eau Claire for teacher education and outreach. The UW System estimates that UW-Eau Claire and UW-Stout would enroll 172 additional students in 2008-09 as the result of this initiative. Further, the UW System estimates that enrollment at these campuses would increase by an additional 482 students from 2009-10 through 2012-13.

51. UW-Stout is one of four campuses in the UW System that has a School of Engineering. Through this initiative, UW-Stout would create new programs in computer and electrical engineering and polymer engineering and expand three existing concentrations within majors. The new computer and engineering program would focus on the design and development of electronic and computer hardware and related devices. This program would be interdisciplinary in that coursework would be provided through existing programs in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science and Electrical and Computer Engineering located at UW-Stout and in Computer Science/Software Engineering located at UW-Eau Claire. This program would also integrate introductory level electronics courses offered at CVTC. The new polymer engineering program, designed in response to industry workforce needs in the region, would include coursework in polymer science, plastics processes, design of plastics machinery and processes, and basic engineering science. This new program would be supported in part by existing faculty and infrastructure related to the Manufacturing Engineering program. In addition, this initiative would expand three recently established concentrations including nanoscience concentrations in the Applied Science and Engineering Technology programs and a biotechnology concentration in the Applied Science program. The biotechnology concentration was established in the fall of 2005 in collaboration in with UW-River Falls. The nanoscience concentrations, which are designed for students have graduated from CVTC with associate degrees in nanotechnology, were implemented in fall of 2006. The funding requested would support the expansion of these existing concentrations.

52. At UW-Eau Claire, the funding requested for this initiative would support a new interdisciplinary nanotechnology program and community outreach. The new program would involve faculty from the Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Geology, and Mathematics departments. These faculty members would also be charged with the implementation of a capstone internship program for student enrolled in the nanotechnology associate degree program at CVTC. In addition, UW-Eau Claire would coordinate an outreach program that would encourage K-12 students to pursue advanced degrees in nanoscience and engineering and provide local business and industry with access to expertise and instrumentation related to nanoscience. Similarly, UW-Stout would develop a pre-college program to encourage women and minority students to enroll in engineering programs, including those proposed as part of this initiative.

53. Approximately 30% of the funding requested (\$890,500) would be used to purchase new equipment to support these programs at each campus. These funds would be used to purchase new nanoscience instrumentation, sample preparation equipment, and to support instrumentation at UW-Eau Claire. At UW-Stout, the funds would be used to purchase equipment and instrumentation needed for advanced study, characterization, fabrication, and processing in nanoscale engineering.

Teacher Education

54. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$1,757,500 GPR and \$946,400 PR and 28.5 GPR positions in 2008-09 for a teacher education initiative that would: (a) recruit and retain a diverse student body; (b) assess and evaluate UW System teacher education programs; and

(c) enhance the cultural and social competencies of education students, especially in the areas of urban and rural education.

55. Approximately two-thirds of the funding requested for this initiative would be used to increase marketing and recruitment activities with the goal of enrolling more minority, low-income, and educationally disadvantaged students in teacher education programs and producing more graduates in high demand subject areas. To increase the number of minority, low-income, and educationally disadvantaged students enrolling in education programs, the University would hire a systemwide marketer and an additional staff member for each of the twelve teacher education programs in the System who would focus on recruiting and retaining these students. To expand capacity in high demand programs, an additional instructional staff member would be added to each program. According to the Department of Public Instruction's 2005 Supply and Demand Report, these high demand subject areas include special education, mathematics, general science, and technology.

56. The second component of this initiative would enhance and coordinate the System's efforts to assess education graduates in order to better meet the requirements of state and federal laws and national accrediting agencies. Currently, evaluations of education graduates are done on a campus-by-campus basis and are generally limited to surveys of the perceptions of graduates and their employers. This initiative would increase the sophistication of these evaluation efforts and coordinate them across campuses. The positions requested for this component of the initiative would include a full-time assessment coordinator and a LTE position on each campus to oversee data collection and database maintenance.

57. The third component of this initiative seeks to address the existing achievement gap between white and non-white students by providing funding for the Institute for Urban Education, expanding the Institute's model to rural areas, and providing professional development opportunities for certified teachers. The Institute for Urban Education was created to improve collaboration between the ten UW System Schools of Education who send students to MPS and to coordinate offerings and scholarship opportunities related to urban education for students and faculty at these Schools. The Institute for Urban Education was established in 2006-07 using a \$100,000 PK-16 initiative grant from the UW System. The positions requested for this component of the initiative would include a 1.0 director, a 1.0 evaluator to coordinate the expansion of the urban education model into rural areas, and a 0.5 graduate assistant to coordinate student teachers.

58. The Institute for Urban Education proposes to create a model for study and scholarship that could be replicated in other urban centers. This model has four core elements: (1) pre-service curriculum; (2) in-service curriculum; (3) master teacher-in-residence; and (4) scholar-in-residence. The pre-service curriculum would prepare education students to work in urban education environments. This preparation would include coursework focused on urban education and work in an urban environment. The in-service curriculum would provide ongoing professional development in the area of urban education for certified teachers. Through the master teacher-in-residence program, the expertise of an experienced teacher would be integrated into the pre-service and in-service curricula. The scholar-in-residence program would support scholarly work in the

area of urban education and especially work focused on the training of pre-service and in-service teachers.

59. According to the UW System, the Institute for Urban Education model, once established, could be adapted to create a rural initiative. The potential rural initiative would prepare education students to work in rural Wisconsin school districts.

UW Colleges and UW-Extension

60. The UW Colleges consists of 13 two-year campuses located throughout the state. Each of these campuses has the authority to award associate degrees; some campuses are able to offer bachelors degrees through collaborations with one or more four-year campuses. In the fall of 2006, the 13 UW Colleges had a combined enrollment of 9,153 undergraduate FTE students. In 2006-07, the UW Colleges have a combined total budget of \$88.4 million of which \$27.5 million, or 31.1%, is state GPR. The facilities related to the UW Colleges are owned and maintained by the cities and counties in which the campuses are located. In 2005-06, the most recent year for which information is available, city and county governments provided \$9.0 million for facilities maintenance, operations, and debt service. This \$9.0 million is excluded from the \$88.4 million as it is not considered to be part of the UW Colleges budget.

61. The UW-Extension's mission is to provide access to the University's resources and opportunities for learning to all Wisconsin residents. The UW-Extension operates four divisions: Outreach and E-Learning Extension; Cooperative Extension; Business and Manufacturing Extension; and Broadcasting and Media Innovations. The Cooperative Extension maintains offices in each county in the state. In 2006-07, the UW-Extension has a total budget of \$203.2 million, of which \$65.9 million, or 32.4%, is state GPR.

62. The UW Board of Regents requested \$1,703,100 GPR and \$917,100 PR and 33.6 GPR positions in 2008-09 for a proposal by the UW Colleges and UW-Extension to increase the number of baccalaureate degree holders in the state by serving adult learners. To do this, the UW Colleges and UW-Extension would: (a) identify and recruit potential adult learners; (b) expand opportunities for these students by making courses more accessible; (c) make better use of prior learning assessment to enhance degree completion and student success; and (d) provide increased counseling, student services, and advising to improve student retention. The positions would be used for 14.5 faculty and academic staff positions for course development and 19.1 academic advisors to recruit and serve students.

63. According to the UW System's accountability report, the UW System has attempted to attract adult, non-traditional students without reducing access for traditional populations. However, from 1996 to 2006, the number of non-traditional students declined from 36,476 to 29,818 systemwide, a decrease of 18.3%. Over that period of time, the number of non-traditional students enrolled in undergraduate programs decreased at all UW System campuses except UW-Superior and the UW Colleges. In contrast, enrollment of non-traditional students in the UW Colleges increased by 21.5% over that period of time, from 3,321 in 1996 to 4,035 in 2006.

Currently, 20% of all non-traditional students enrolled in the UW System are enrolled in the UW Colleges. This initiative would allow the UW Colleges to increase the number of non-traditional student served.

64. The UW Colleges and UW-Extension have existing infrastructures that could support this initiative. Each UW Colleges campus has an adult student advisor and UW Colleges campuses work to schedule their courses in such a manner to make them accessible to working adults. For its part, UW-Extension collaborates with many of the four-year campuses, which would enable it to offer collaborative degree programs. In addition, as the Cooperative Extension has offices in every county, UW-Extension could facilitate recruitment and advising.

65. The UW Colleges and UW-Extension have invested a significant amount of funding in preparation for this initiative. In each year of the 2005-07 biennium, the UW Colleges and UW-Extension reallocated \$250,000, which was used to conduct market research, develop a distance learning website, and do preliminary work related to online programs and courses. In addition, the UW Colleges and UW-Extension received an allocation of \$100,000 in 2006-07 and 2007-08 from funding provided in 2005 Act 25 to implement the recommendations of the Committee on Baccalaureate Expansion. This funding is being used to establish a network of field advisors to provide information and counseling to returning and adult students, recreate high-demand programs in hybrid and online formats, develop new online courses, and support and update the distance learning website.

66. Under SB 40, the UW Colleges and the UW-Extension would create degree programs that would be accessible to non-traditional students. As proposed, the UW Colleges and UW-Extension would create 14 degree programs that would enroll 1,100 students during the 2007-09 biennium. However, as SB 40 does not provide funding for this initiative in 2007-08, it is likely that the UW Colleges and UW-Extension would create a fewer number of new programs and enroll a lesser number of students in the 2007-09 biennium than initially proposed.

UW-Platteville, UW-Fox Valley, and UW-Rock County

67. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$369,500 GPR and \$199,000 PR and 4.0 GPR positions in 2008-09 for UW-Platteville, UW-Fox Valley, and UW-Rock County to fund the third phase of a collaboration that would provide electrical and mechanical engineering programs to non-traditional students throughout the state. This funding would increase access to these programs by providing increased instruction, mobile laboratory facilities, and the ability to transmit programs throughout the state via distance education formats. This initiative would expand the existing programs at UW-Fox Valley and UW-Rock County by 200 students and add up to 300 students at other UW Colleges campuses.

68. As with the first two phases of this collaboration, the goal of this initiative is to provide non-traditional working and place-bound adults with the opportunity to earn undergraduate degrees in electrical and mechanical engineering. The first phase of the collaboration, which was funded with \$295,000 GPR under 2001 Act 16, established a mechanical engineering degree

program at UW-Fox Valley with engineering courses taught by UW-Platteville faculty and upper-level non-engineering courses provided by UW-Oshkosh. Laboratory facilities required to support the program were constructed on the UW-Fox Valley campus using funding provided by private industry. This program has now been fully implemented and presently has an enrollment of approximately 170 students.

69. A mix of GPR and PR funding was provided for the second phase of the collaboration under 2005 Act 25. This phase established an electrical engineering program on the UW-Rock County campus. As with the program located at UW-Fox Valley, engineering courses are taught by UW-Platteville faculty. In addition, laboratory facilities are currently being constructed on the UW-Rock County campus with the support of private industry. There are currently 50 students enrolled in the UW-Rock County program; however, this program is still in its start-up phase and the UW System anticipates that when the program is fully implemented, program enrollment will be similar to that of the UW-Fox Valley program.

70. This initiative would fund the third phase of this collaboration, which would make electrical and mechanical engineering degrees available to students on both the UW-Fox Valley and UW-Rock County campuses. To accomplish this, UW-Platteville would supply additional courses in electrical engineering to students at UW-Fox Valley and additional courses in mechanical engineering to students at UW-Rock County. UW-Platteville proposes to do this by adding a mechanical engineering instructor to the UW-Rock County campus and by providing additional courses to each campus through alternative delivery methods, primarily streaming video. In this way, full degree programs in both electrical and mechanical engineering would be offered at both UW-Fox Valley and UW-Rock County. By expanding these existing programs, the UW System estimates that enrollments would increase by 200 students.

71. Courses created for the UW-Fox Valley and UW-Rock County would be broadcast to other UW Colleges campuses where the demand for such courses exists. To support engineering courses that might be offered UW Colleges campuses which currently lack the required laboratory facilities, UW-Platteville proposes to construct mobile laboratories. The UW System estimates that up to an additional 300 students at other UW Colleges campuses might be served by this initiative.

System-Level Initiatives

Applied Research Grant Program

72. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$250,000 GPR in 2008-09 for the applied research grant program to match a private sector grant. The applied research program provides additional grant funding to faculty and academic staff who are conducting research in partnership with the private sector. To be eligible for these funds, this research must be likely to promote economic growth within the state. The program has a base budget of \$425,000 annually and the maximum allowable grant is \$50,000. The UW System has been offered a grant of \$250,000 per year for four years contingent upon the availability of matching funds, which would

expand this program.

Transfer Information System

73. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$173,700 GPR and 1.0 GPR position in 2008-09 to implement the fourth phase of the technology information system (TIS). TIS phase four would establish a system to generate unofficial degree audits for UW System and WTCS students considering transfer into or between UW System institutions using a web-based interface.

74. The first three phases of the TIS project were designed to provide course and transfer equivalencies for courses completed at UW System and WTCS institutions as well as information about admissions and transfer procedures, articulation agreements between UW System institutions and between UW System and WTCS institutions, and degree program requirements. These three phases were implemented and made web-based by 1996-97.

75. Through the implementation of the fourth phase of TIS, the UW System would be joining the course applicability system (CAS). This system allows students to measure their progress towards a specific degree at a number of different institutions based on the courses they have completed or plan to complete. Using CAS, students would be able to measure their progress towards a degree not only at all UW System and WTCS institutions but also at all CAS member institutions. Currently, most of the institutions located in Minnesota, Illinois, and Ohio are members of the CAS network. This means that if the fourth phase of TIS would be implemented, students enrolled in CAS member institutions, including private colleges located in Wisconsin and other states, would have access to information regarding transferring to UW System and WTCS institutions and vice versa. TIS would also have the capability to allow students to electronically transfer their records from one institution to another.

76. However, the UW System may require significantly more funding than the \$173,000 GPR requested in 2008-09 to implement the fourth phase of TIS. In addition to the funding requested for 2008-09, the UW System requested \$495,700 GPR, including \$424,500 in supplies and services, in 2007-08 which was not included in the Governor's budget. Presumably, a large part of this funding would be for software licensing and implementation.

Early Math Placement Test

77. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$130,000 GPR and 1.5 GPR positions in 2008-09 for an early math placement testing program. The early math placement testing program is designed to measure the math skills of college-bound high school juniors and encourage them to take additional math courses in high school with the goal of reducing the number of incoming UW System students who must take remedial math.

78. The UW System uses a math placement test to place incoming students in one of five math skill levels. Students who score in the second, third, and fourth levels are either required to successfully complete a 100-level math course that would count towards the students' general education requirements or are not required to take any additional math courses. Students who score

in the first or zero-level, however, must successfully complete one or two remedial non-credit bearing math courses before moving on to the 100-level math courses. Although these courses are required, students do not earn credits towards a degree through remedial coursework. As a result, having to take remedial coursework may increase both the time needed to complete a degree and the cost of that degree to the student.

79. Data shows that the number of incoming UW System students requiring remediation in math increased in the past four years for which data is available. In 2000-01, 10.2% of incoming students needed remediation in math; in 2004-05, the most recent year for which data is available, 14.9% of incoming students required remediation in math.

80. The goal of the early math placement test (EMPT) is to inform students of the math requirements of a college degree, assess their math skills in the context of these requirements, and encourage high school students to take additional math courses prior to entering college. The UW System requires that all students demonstrate a certain level of math competency, either by completing math coursework or by earning a high score on the math placement test, in order to earn an undergraduate degree. The EMPT, which can be administered to high school students in their junior year, is a shorter version of the math placement test used by the UW System.

81. The EMPT was developed in the mid-1980s as a way to reduce the number of UW System students who needed to take remedial math courses. Data showed that students who participated in the EMPT program were less likely to need remedial math courses in college. The EMPT program was discontinued in 2001 due to lack of funding.

82. The UW System proposes to reinstate the EMPT and to translate it into a computer format. This would allow students taking the EMPT to receive their results immediately. The UW System Board of Regents requested \$40,000 to purchase the necessary software and \$10,000 annually for ongoing software maintenance. In addition, a 1.0 position for a program coordinator, a 0.5 position to recreate the EMPT, and a 0.5 position to adapt the test to the new computer format were requested.