

Dear Colleagues,

I'm writing to provide an update regarding next steps for financial planning in Academic Affairs and the colleges. At Monday's UBAC meeting, several questions were raised regarding how instructional areas of campus will be evaluated for potential reduction of expenses. While we all agree that increasing revenue through enrollment is the best lever to move, finding savings is going to be unavoidable, because we will not be able to improve our enrollment "overnight."

While our colleagues work through the challenging expense reduction exercises outside of academic affairs, here are the steps on the academic side:


- Starting immediately and through the next few weeks, I will be working with the Deans and others to examine the fall schedule to identify areas where efficiencies in the class schedule can help us find savings. This will allow us to have more time to conduct the next steps of our instructional analyses.
- Over the next several months we will prepare information and data that can inform longer-term reviews of our course rotations, curricular requirements, and program array. Those longer-term reviews will then begin in earnest when faculty are back on campus.
- The provost's areas will also be evaluated for potential savings and efficiencies over the next several months.

During this process we will continue to focus on students as a priority, along with faculty and staff, but I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that there are particularly challenging decisions ahead of us. In these difficult times, I want to acknowledge the stress and uncertainty that this creates. Yet, we are here because teaching and ultimately impacting the trajectory of our students' lives have meaning and value. We must not lose sight of the importance of providing a positive experience for our students. To that end, the Chancellor, the rest of the leadership team, and I will continue engaging intentionally with the Student Government Association.

We will also engage in regular communications with Faculty, Academic Staff, and University Staff shared governance leadership. In addition, we will provide weekly updates to the campus on Fridays. Please check your email regularly for those or visit this [website](#). Below are other sources that provide additional information about our financial situation.

Best regards,

Wes

- If you were unable to attend the recent Falcon Forum in person, consider watching the April 18 session, which was  [recorded live](#). The forum provided updates about the budget, finance and Deloitte Report. The [power point presentation](#) is also available online.
- This [webpage](#), has UWRF's response to the Universities of Wisconsin financial and strategic assessment for UW-River Falls, which was facilitated through engagement of

the third-party consultants, Deloitte, as well as the full analysis which includes a “Current State Assessment” and an “Opportunity Report”.

- You are also welcome to read this [statement](#) by UW President Jay Rothman, as well as the [webpage](#) where he has published the summaries of the financial assessments of seven UW universities, along with the respective chancellor approaches that have been shared with the Board of Regents.



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