



December 8, 2010

Charles Pruitt, President
UW System Board of Regents
1860 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706

RE: 2011-2013 Unclassified Pay Plan – Annual 2% Pay Increases

Dear President Pruitt:

Later this week, the Board of Regents will be considering the recommendation of UW System President Kevin Reilly to request funding for 2% annual pay increases as a part of the unclassified pay plan in the 2011-2013 biennial budget. I fully recognize that this practice is a part of the usual budgetary process of the UW System.

However, the severe fiscal crisis being faced by the State of Wisconsin and the extreme economic suffering of many citizens in this state would suggest that the UW System should not take a business-as-usual approach to the request for pay increases. I am confident that the Board of Regents has been updated on the growing fiscal imbalance for the remaining six months of the current fiscal year and more than \$3 billion deficit in the next biennium.

I also believe that the Board of Regents had ample time to reflect on the results of November 2nd election and the clear message sent by the taxpayers of Wisconsin. The fiscal and economic policies of the current Governor and Legislature were overwhelmingly rejected by the people of this state.

It would appear that the best course of action for the Board of Regents would be to adopt a pay plan requesting a 0% increase or freeze during the 2011-2013 biennium. Such an action would be a positive development having long lasting beneficial impacts for the System's relationship with the public and the new Legislature. I suspect that Governor-Elect Scott Walker would also view such an action as an indication that the Board of Regents wants to be a part of the solution to the state's financial emergency.

I respectfully encourage the Board of Regents to place the interests of the taxpayers as the paramount concern and adopt a pay plan request with no increase in the 2011-2013 biennium.

Sincerely,



Steve Nass

State Representative – 31st Assembly District

Incoming Chairman, Assembly Colleges and Universities Committee

cc:

Kevin Reilly, UW System President

Speaker-Elect Jeff Fitzgerald

Governor-Elect Scott Walker