



2002-03 University of Wisconsin System Academic Staff Representatives Conference Call Minutes

**Thursday, April 17, 2003
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.**

Links to Academic Staff Resources:

Tentative Schedule for 2003-04 <http://www.uwsa.edu/srvpadm/asreps/agendaminutes.htm>

Academic Staff Sites by Institution <http://www.uwsa.edu/srvpadm/asreps/index.htm>

Human Resources and Personnel Issues

George Brooks, Associate Vice President of Human Resources

Classified Represented Contracts

Speaker John Gard has indicated that there may be some movement on the 2001-03 classified represented contracts in the upcoming weeks. In addition, the 03-05 contract proposal details are slowly being revealed and it may include an increase in health insurance premiums. The premiums are structured in three tiers based on efficiency of health care providers. However, criteria for evaluating "efficiency" have not been established and premium rate proposals will not be submitted until this summer. It is therefore difficult to determine what the costs of the health insurance premium plan will be to the state and to its employees. Also, the dental insurance portion may be stripped from the plan and offered as a separate plan to be purchased by employees. By August 1, the health care providers have to submit their premium structures for 2004, so movement on this issue is likely to be soon.

Pay Plan

President Lyall has indicated to the Compensation Advisory Committee that she will discuss the 2003-05 pay plan at the June Board of Regents Meeting.

Legislative Update

David Miller, Assistant Vice President for University Relations

In writing letters to elected officials, please use the following message:

1. The Governor's proposed budget cuts of \$250 million over two years will result in serious consequences for Wisconsin citizens, students, faculty and staff. The university, though 9% of the state budget, is taking over 30% of the actual cuts in state spending, far out of proportion of its "fair share."
2. Tuition increases proposed by Governor Doyle will still result in a \$100 million reduction for the UW System—a reduction that will dramatically affect teaching and learning.
3. The UW System is committed to managing these cuts while minimizing the impact on instruction and access. But further cuts and/or lower tuition increases (which would result in deeper cuts) will compromise quality, reduce enrollment and access to courses, and significantly increase class sizes.
4. Financial aid increases are welcomed and necessary, but should be state funded.

Here is President Katharine Lyall's statements regarding this strategy:

<http://www.wisconsin.edu/news/2003/r030219b.htm>

SARS Update

Dr. Kathy McGinnis, UW-Stevens Point

Many campuses are taking precautions on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. For the latest information, check the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/>

Discussion on Academic Staff Leadership Conference

Becki Cleveland, UW-Oshkosh

The 2003 conference will be held July 17-18 at UW-Oshkosh and the theme is "Building a Shared Purpose." Information will soon be available on the web at:

http://www.uwosh.edu/acadstaff_senate/conference/

This link will appear on the UW System Administration site for Senior Vice President David Olien under the Academic Staff Representatives section.