

# Community Leaders Support the University of Wisconsin System

May 7, 2003

To: Members of the Joint Committee on Finance:

Senator Alberta Darling  
Senator Robert Welch  
Senator Mary Lazich  
Senator Ted Kanavas  
Senator Sheila Harsdorf  
Senator Scott Fitzgerald  
Senator Russell Decker  
Senator Gwendolynne Moore

Representative Dean Kaufert  
Representative Michael Huebsch  
Representative David Ward  
Representative Dan Meyer  
Representative Jeff Stone  
Representative Kitty Rhoades  
Representative Spencer Coggs  
Representative Dan Schooff

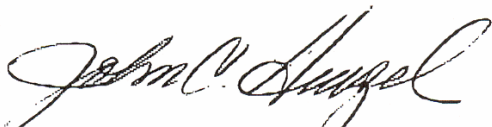
Shortly you will be voting on a matter of great importance to us – the University of Wisconsin System budget for 2003-05. We are very much aware of the state's fiscal constraints but we also know that the university is critical to Wisconsin's economy.

Every state dollar spent on the UW leverages an additional two dollars that are equally important to Wisconsin's economic health. The overall annual impact of the university is 28,000 graduates to work in our state economy and \$10 billion dollars or 5% of Wisconsin's economic productivity. This represents "brain gain" jobs for Wisconsin that we can't afford to lose. We work closely with the universities in our communities and we know first-hand how important they are to our economic vitality. Please hold the line and go no deeper than the \$250 million in cuts proposed by Governor Doyle for 2003-05. This is far more than the university's "fair" share.

We also urge you to support the tuition increases, without which these cuts to the university will be truly dire. Even after these increases, UW tuition will remain low compared to neighboring universities – and we support the added financial aid to make these increases affordable to the state's poorest students.

As alumni, employers, public officials, and business leaders, we know that balancing budgets is not easy, but we also know what a tremendous value our university system is for the money spent. We strongly urge you to support the university in your upcoming vote. A stronger economy and brighter future for us all will be your reward.

Sincerely,



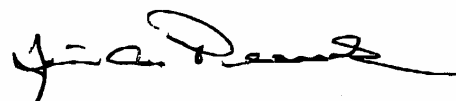
John Heugel  
Partner  
Liebmann, Conway, Olejniczak & Jerry, S.C.  
Green Bay



Theodore Richards  
President  
Strand Associates, Inc.  
Madison



Susan Finco  
President  
Leonard & Finco Public Relations  
Green Bay



Jill Pelisek  
President  
UW – Milwaukee Foundation  
River Hills



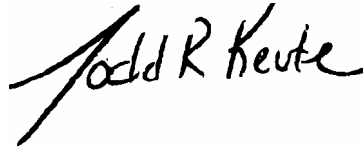
Daniel Gelatt  
President  
NMT Corporation  
La Crosse



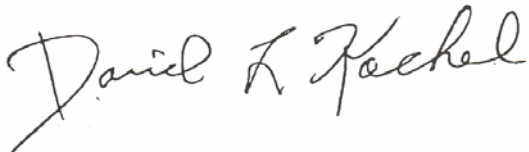
Mary Jurmain  
Chief Executive Officer and President  
Realityworks  
Eau Claire



Karl Zimmermann  
President, Board of Visitors, UW Colleges  
Realtor/Builder, Franz & Zimmermann Homes  
Marshfield



Todd Keute  
Publisher  
Daily Telegram  
Superior



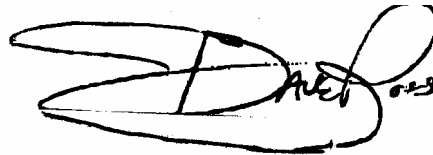
David Kachel  
Owner/Manager  
DLK Enterprises  
Whitewater



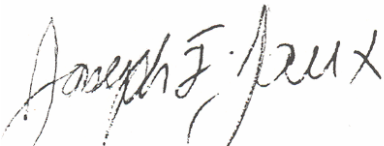
Lolita Kachel  
Owner/Manager  
DLK Enterprises  
Whitewater



Eileen Nickels  
Councilperson, Platteville City Council  
Agent, Bell Real Estate & Auction



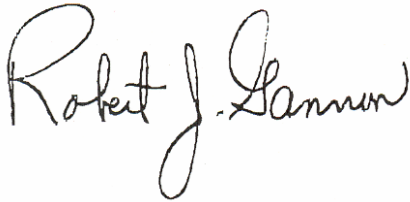
Dave Ross  
Mayor  
City of Superior



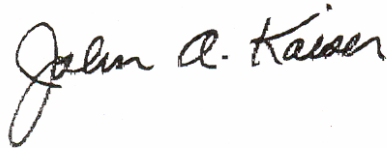
Joseph Laux  
Mayor  
City of Menasha



Douglas Finn  
Chairperson  
Douglas County Board of Supervisors  
Superior



Robert J. Gannon  
President  
Marinette School Board



Jack Kaiser  
Attorney  
Schrage & Kaiser  
Eau Claire



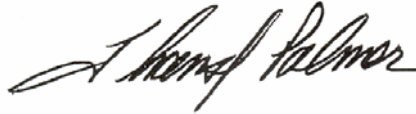
Leon Berenschot  
President  
WI Associated County Extension Committees  
Glenwood City



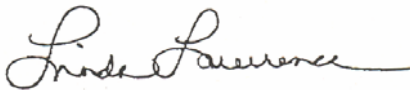
George Nelson  
Executive Vice President  
Evening Telegram Company  
Madison



Hooshang Zeyghami  
President  
Central Wisconsin Engineers & Architects  
Weston



Thomas J. Palmer  
President  
First National Bank of River Falls



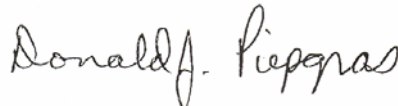
Linda Lawrence  
Mayor  
City of Wausau



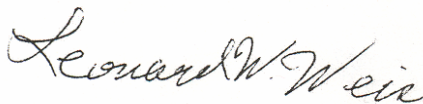
John Neis  
CFA, Senior Partner  
Venture Investors  
Madison



James Van Eyck  
Administrator  
New Economy Workforce (NEW) Coalition  
Wausau



Donald Piegras  
President  
St. Croix Valley Natural Gas Co.  
River Falls



Leonard W. Weis, Ph. D.  
Emeritus Professor of Geology  
UW-Fox Valley  
Menasha



Keith Summers  
Senior Resource Center Manager  
Foth & Van Dyke Associates, Inc.  
Green Bay




Roy F. Valitchka  
Owner  
Protective Coating Specialists, Inc.  
Appleton



Roger Van Vreede  
President  
Van Vreede TV & Appliance  
Appleton



Lisa N. Weiner  
Executive Director/President  
St. Elizabeth Hospital Community Foundation  
Appleton



Joyce Bytof  
President  
Coldwell Banker, The Real Estate Group, Inc.  
Appleton

cc: Governor Jim Doyle  
Speaker John Gard  
Senator Mary Panzer  
Senator Jon Erpenbach  
Representative Jim Kreuser



*State Financial Services Corporation*

May 6, 2003

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Sincerely,

**Michael J. Falbo, President and Chief Executive Officer**

10708 W. Janesville Road • P.O. Box 467 • Hales Corners, WI 53130-0467 • Phone (414) 425-1600 • Fax (414) 425-8939