Response to Engineering Proposal

UW System Board of Regents
UW-Platteville Engineering

• For nearly 150 years, engineering has been at the core mission of UW-Platteville.

• UW-Platteville serves 2,837 majors with two buildings dedicated to engineering: Ottensman Hall and Engineering Hall. Software engineering courses are held in Boebel Hall.

• ABET-accredited engineering programs:
  – Civil Engineering
  – Electrical Engineering
  – Engineering Physics
  – Environmental Engineering
  – Industrial Engineering
  – Mechanical Engineering
  – Software Engineering
50-Mile Radius Theory

• The assertion that engineering students are place-bound is not consistent with local or national trends.
• National studies show the students with the higher ACTs will travel to receive their educational training, and engineering students must possess higher ACTs to be prepared for and admissible to accredited engineering programs.
• Supply and demand studies demonstrate there are enough engineering programs in Wisconsin to meet the in-state demand. There are six programs in Wisconsin (including four UW schools) with 1,900 graduates and another five engineering programs producing between 70 and 854 graduates in Minnesota (totaling 1,200 students).
Duplication of High Cost Programs

• Board of Regents’ policy is to avoid duplication of high cost programs.

• “While mission and program differentiation are high priorities of the UW System, the range of professional and liberal studies programs offered by the institutions should overlap only when program duplication is clearly necessary to meet the highest priority concern: to provide the highest quality, most cost-effective university system possible for the citizens of Wisconsin.”

• Wisconsin is a Net exporter of engineers
  – Page 5 of NCHEMS report
Competition Between Institutions for Limited Resources

- Compensation
- Facilities
- Technology
- Less expensive than start-up programs
- Competition for Students
  - Base market for students is across the state
  - Additional program will draw students from current programs at UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, but primarily UW-Platteville
Collaborative Engineering Program

- Partnerships between UW-Platteville and UW Colleges respond to the technical workforce development needs of the industry.
- UW-Platteville possesses a record of effective and efficient collaborative programs for place bound students, including on-campus instruction in three locations, serving more than 360 students.
- Graduates of UW-Platteville Collaborative Engineering Program tend to stay in state (roughly more than 90 percent).
- Of the 14 May graduates in the UW-Rock County program, all had career placement before graduation.
Needs of Our Program

- Compensation
- Facilities
  - Sesquicentennial Hall is already a regents’ priority for 2017-19 biennium
  - 60 percent of Engineering Hall is paid through TSI money and UW-Platteville Foundation
- Technology
- Supporting current programs is less expensive than start-up programs that will take several years to earn accreditation.
Course Fees

• From the NWEC proposal: "This will be done through tuition and fees (similar to those approved for the Engineering Technology partnership in eastern Wisconsin). The partnering institutions are not seeking additional state funds in the current biennium and do not, and will not, seek reallocation of resources from other UW System institutions to support the new programs. The Consortium may request future support through regular UW System processes (e.g. as part of the biennial budget Talent Infrastructure or Economic Development Incentive Grant process)."

• This conflicts with UW System policy over differential tuition and fees. If the request is for operating funds and capital funds, then both would put them in competition with existing programs at UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Platteville.