

Public Hearing Needed on GOP Plan to Merge UW Campuses and Tech Colleges

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<http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/uwgb-student-s5.jpg>



Assembly Republicans have been meeting in secret on a plan to merge the state's 2-year UW campus system and the Technical College system. Such an important plan should not be hatched behind closed doors.

MADISON - According to recent news outlet reports, Assembly Republicans have been meeting in secret on a plan to merge the state's 2-year UW campus system and the Technical College system. The plan could have a huge impact on the students, faculty, staff and the local communities the campuses serve.

Two Democratic leaders in the State Senate's Universities and Technical Colleges Committee don't think such an important plan should be hatched behind closed doors. And they are doing something about it.



In a letter to the committee's chair, Senator Sheila Harsdorf (R-River Falls), State Senator **Dave Hansen**

(D-Green Bay) and State Senator

Janet Bewley

(D-Delta) called today for a public hearing on the impact of the plan. In the letter they said it was "disturbing to learn that meetings on the proposed merger have been held out of the public eye. Such a significant change in our system of higher education is deserving of public input early on in the process rather than waiting until a deal has been struck behind closed doors."

The senators are questioning why details of the plan, how it would work and how it would impact the campuses and the people and communities they serve have not been available to the public.

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