

UW Operational Budget to Get Board of Regents Vote

Written by Wisconsin Senate Democrats

Wednesday, 08 June 2016 10:25 - Last Updated Friday, 10 June 2016 10:50



Lowest State Support Reflects Republican Cuts. It's time for the UW System and the Board of Regents to stand up to legislative bullying.

MADISON - Higher student fees and less state support for our university system are on the agenda this week in Madison and the UW System will present its upcoming operating budget to the Board of Regents for approval.

The budget reflects the ramifications of the second year of the \$250 million dollar cut to state support for higher education in Wisconsin passed by the Republican controlled Legislature. Governor Walker recommended a \$300 million cut. Student application fees will raise \$10 and segregated fees also increase an average of \$45 for every one of the 182,000 students.

The UW System has asked Governor Walker to include an increase in student financial aid of \$400 per qualified student in his next budget, but that request is expected to be rejected.



Senator **Jon Erpenbach** (D-Madison) hopes the trend to underfund the driver of Wisconsin's economy will end soon.

"State support for our public university schools, when adjusted for inflation, is the lowest it has ever been in the history of Wisconsin," says Erpenbach. "Cuts made by Governor Walker and Legislative Republicans and their attacks on UW System are anti- business, student and faculty."

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The mission of the system is to develop human resources to discover and disseminate knowledge, to extend knowledge and its application beyond the boundaries of its campuses and to serve and stimulate society by developing in students heightened intellectual, cultural, and humane sensitivities, scientific, professional and technological expertise, and a sense of purpose.

"Inherent in this broad mission are methods of instruction, research, extended training and public service designed to educate people and improve the human condition. Basis to every purpose of the system is the search for truth.' for generations to come," said Senator Erpenbach, a member of the Joint Committee on Finance, the state's budget committee.