

Documentation of Statements in the Open Letter to the Board of Regents, Nov. 2018

In 2008, the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Applied Population Laboratory projected that the number of high school graduates in Wisconsin, and in particular north central Wisconsin, would drop steadily over the following decade. These projections were repeatedly corroborated by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education and other demographic analysts.

- Applied Population Laboratory, *Wisconsin High School Graduate Projections, 2008-2019* (UW-Madison, 2008), https://apl.wisc.edu/publications/apl_grad_projections2008.pdf, 51-53
- Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, *Knocking on the College Door*, State Profiles (2017), <https://knocking.wiche.edu/state-profiles/>
- UW System Office of Policy Analysis and Research, *Comparison of High School Graduate Projections* (2017), https://www.wisconsin.edu/education-reports-statistics/download/educational_statistics/high_school_graduate_projections/Comparison-of-HS-grad-projections---2017-12-19.xlsx.

During the tenure of Chancellor Patterson and Provost Summers, the demographic projections proved accurate, with the number of high school graduates in north central Wisconsin dropping 14% from 5038 in 2011 to a projected 4355 in 2017.

- Applied Population Laboratory, *Projections for Wisconsin High School Graduates 2016/17-2025/26* (UW-Madison, 2017), https://www.wisconsin.edu/education-reports-statistics/download/educational_statistics/high_school_graduate_projections/Grads_Project_Report_Dec_2017.pdf.

In 2012, Provost Summers pointed out in a public address that state support for public higher education had been declining for decades. He predicted (correctly) that state support would likely continue downward.

- Logan T. Carlson, "UWSP Must Evolve to Meet Changing Environment, Summers Says," *The Pointer*, 15 March 2012, <http://thepointeruwsp.com/2012/03/15/uwsp-must-evolve-to-meet-changing-environment-summers-says/>

In 2014, despite full knowledge of the decline in high school graduates, Chancellor Patterson predicted that UWSP would increase its enrollment to 10,000 students. One year later, he acknowledged the impact of the demographic decline, but continued to call for growth.

- Bernie Patterson, "International Students Enrich UWSP Community," *Stevens Point Journal*, 31 March 2014.
- Patterson, State of the University Address, 26 August 2015, https://www.uwsp.edu/chancellor/Documents/SOTU_address_slides.pdf

In 2017, UWSP employed nearly as many faculty and academic staff as it had in 2010 (dropping just 4%, from 469 to 450), despite widespread awareness of the declining number of high school graduates.

- UW System, "Accountability Dashboard: Faculty and Staff," <https://www.wisconsin.edu/accountability/faculty-and-staff/>; UW-Stevens Point Institutional Research and Effectiveness Office, "Fast Facts," 2017, <https://www.uwsp.edu/ucm/Pages/FastFacts.aspx>.

Between 2010 and 2017, UWSP's Fall enrollment headcount fell from 9500 to 8208, a decline of 14% that mirrored the predicted and actual decline in high school graduates.

- UW System, "Accountability Dashboard: Access," <https://www.wisconsin.edu/accountability/access/>.

In 2014, UWSP released its new strategic plan, entitled "A Partnership for Thriving Communities." It can be reviewed here: <https://www.uwsp.edu/acadaff/Pages/thrivingCommunities.aspx>

In 2018, UWSP received an unsatisfactory rating in a UW System audit, which found accounting problems dating back to at least 2012.

- Kelly Meyerhofer, "UW-Stevens Point's 'unsatisfactory' bank management audit found problems going back to 2012," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 25 June 2018, https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/education/university/uw-stevens-point-s-unsatisfactory-bank-management-audit-found-problems/article_07413b31-263b-535c-b0c2-6c8abe43c2cc.html

In mid-2015, an internal investigation determined that Assistant Dean of Students Shawn Wilson had violated UWSP's sexual harassment policy. Wilson submitted his resignation effective Jan. 2016, but was allowed to return to work until then. During the intervening months, he continued to harass a female co-worker. Meanwhile, Dean Troy Seppelt and Vice Chancellor Al Thompson twice failed to mention his history of harassment when called for reference checks, even though he was applying for other positions where he would be responsible for Title IX enforcement.

- Karen Herzog and Alan Hovorka, "UW-Stevens Point sexual harassment case spurs UW System to review hiring policies," *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, 31 May 2018, <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2018/05/31/uw-stevens-point-sexual-harassment-spurs-uw-system-review-hiring/658084002/>
- Alan Hovorka, "Woman accused former UWSP official of sexual misconduct after he quit for other allegation," 3 July 2018, <https://www.stevenspointjournal.com/story/news/2018/07/03/uwsp-univeristy-wisconsin-stevens-point-sexual-harassment-shawn-wilson-accused-three-times/750625002/>

An October 2018 report compared UWSP staffing levels to peer UW System schools, showing that UWSP employs many more staff in non-instructional categories.

- Comparison of Staffing Load, 10-05-18, <https://campus.uwsp.edu/sites/acadaff/collaboration/abawg/layouts/xviewer.aspx?id=/sites/acadaff/collaboration/abawg/Shared%20Documents/Comparision%20of%20Staffing%20Load,%2010-05-18.xlsx> (password protected)
- 102 Funds devoted to non-academic divisions were found using a spreadsheet developed by Ken Menningen for the budget planning process (attached).

In March 2018, the Point Forward proposal sparked widespread protest and got nationwide attention. In Oct. 2018, Provost Summers described the response to the proposal as a "collective freak out."

- Valerie Strauss, "A University of Wisconsin campus pushes plan to drop 13 majors," *Washington Post*, 21 March 2018, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2018/03/21/university-of-wisconsin-campus-pushes-plan-to-drop-13-majors-including-english-history-and-philosophy/?utm_term=.392d7732bd83
- Aaron Zimmerman, "Provost updates the campus on budget cuts yet to come," *The Pointer*, 13 Oct. 2018, <http://thepointeruwsp.com/2018/10/09/provost-updates-the-campus-on-budget-cuts-yet-to-come/>

Over 2018, estimates of UWSP's structural deficit, and of the number of positions that must be cut, have fluctuated drastically, with public proposals often understating the numbers of staff and students affected. Neither version of Point Forward promised to save more than a fraction of the total needed to close the deficit.

- <https://www.uwsp.edu/pointforward/Documents/Academic%20Affairs%20Open%20Forum%20Presentation%20-%20March%2015,%202018.pdf>
- <https://www.uwsp.edu/pointforward/Pages/FinanImpact10-29-18.aspx>
- <https://www.wpr.org/uw-stevens-point-considering-eliminating-70-positions-balance-budget>
- <https://www.uwsp.edu/pointforward/Documents/PointForward-November2018.pdf>