



The Question

As the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point works with its Student Government Association to develop a differential tuition proposal aimed at adding additional instructors and advisors to meet student demand, it's reasonable to ask:

- ❖ **Has the university exhausted all other possibilities in managing institutional resources efficiently?**

The Answer

Streamlined Core Curriculum

In the fall 2013, UW-Stevens Point launched a new General Education Program that reduced graduation requirements by an average of 15 credits for each student.

Program Prioritization

This year, the university is conducting an institution-wide program prioritization exercise aimed at streamlining curricula (eliminating low enrollment majors, minors, concentrations, and courses), aligning resources with strategic regional priorities, and ensuring that faculty and staff workload yields the maximum benefit for students.

Streamlined Majors

As part of program prioritization, this year the university is also requiring faculty to reduce all high-credit majors to the established minimum 120 credits.

New Budget Model

The university is adapting a new, entrepreneurial budget model aimed at reducing program revenue balances, incentivizing program development aimed at regional needs, and moving resources to areas of high student demand.

More Focused Differential Tuition Proposal

The Student Government Association has streamlined its own differential tuition proposal to create a pool of resources that can be used flexibly from year to year to provide more instruction and advising in high-demand areas. This approach will have the greatest impact on reducing time-to-degree, improving retention and graduation rates, and reducing the overall cost of education.

The Conclusion

Despite the actions outlined above, UW-Stevens Point continues to struggle to meet student needs for coursework and academic advising in key areas of the curriculum. Few universities in the state have done as much proactively to address public concerns about the use of resources than UW-Stevens Point, and yet we remain the only university whose students are being denied the opportunity to implement a differential tuition to improve their education.