

Dear UW-Parkside Community,

Today the Universities of Wisconsin is publicly releasing the financial assessment of UW-Parkside that was recently completed by Deloitte, along with assessments of six other institutions, including Whitewater, Platteville, River Falls, Oshkosh, Green Bay, and Superior. The remainder of the institutions (except for UW-Madison), and an assessment of the UW System administration, will be completed later this year.

Universities of Wisconsin President Jay Rothman is issuing a statement and answering media questions this morning, summarizing the themes that emerged from across the seven assessments, which are also being posted to the Universities of Wisconsin website. His summation underscores that universities across the system are all facing financial challenges due to declining state financial support, a decade-long tuition freeze that ended in 2022, declining enrollment, and inflation.


I am so very proud that UW-Parkside has already made many significant decisions to address our financial challenges. Over the past few months, we've identified strategic reductions in operating expenses, resulting in notable projected savings totaling \$5.8 million. These actions put UW-Parkside on a path to have a balanced budget and begin rebuilding our reserves in the near term.

While the financial assessment sheds light on challenges, it also highlights opportunities for future growth and innovation. And we are ready to move forward! As I shared at the University Town Hall on Monday, now is the time to hone our vision for the future. The opportunity to contribute to this important conversation has just begun.

The financial assessment is well-timed as a comprehensive checkpoint that will help guide us toward a stronger future. With this in mind, I invite you to engage in "table talks" next week on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at the Student Center in the Alumni and adjacent rooms from Noon to 1:00 pm. These are informal conversations to share your reflections on the financial assessment and help shape our strategies for the future.

While some may respond to the financial assessment with doubt and fear, we, as Rangers, will confidently move forward. Rangers are courageous. We take on challenges, we are resilient, and we are committed to our mission to transform students' lives. We have what it takes to pursue a bold vision for the future, and I can't wait to see what we accomplish.

Parkside proud,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lynn D. Akey".

Lynn D. Akey  
Chancellor