

# UW Oshkosh Budget Perspectives

## 1. Confidential Opinion Questionnaire - Campus Views

This is a confidential opportunity to provide constructive criticism. You can submit this information anonymously (IP tacking has been turned off on the survey collector), but we will analyze results and share findings with the UW Oshkosh community. The survey will close at 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

1. [Background Note: You are accessing and reviewing survey results that include responses from 472 individuals received during the period March 2-24,2009. If all input across all 12 questions were presented in a single document, the 75,668 words would convert to approximately 252 pages of text (Times Roman 12-point, double-spaced with one-inch margins).]

CONTEXT: "The state has a \$5 billion plus projected shortfall for the 2009-2011 biennial state budget. To address this structural budget deficit, the UW System is required to cut up to \$174 million in funding over two years. UW Oshkosh has established a set of budget development criteria that have guided us in previous budget planning scenarios. They are:

- Budget for activities that are central to the mission, add value, or are required.
- Protect the direct instructional undergraduate and graduate teaching mission.
- Protect the integrity of services supporting the central university mission.
- Continue a commitment to the strategic plan and university priorities.
- Value employees and abide by contracts, policies and established procedures."

QUESTION: "Are the above-listed budget development criteria appropriate?"

2. Are we missing any important criteria?

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## 2. Campus Priorities

3. In the past, we have protected such priorities as: (1) direct instruction, (2) student academic support, and (3) campus safety. What should we protect as our top three highest priorities?

4. How much of a priority is maintaining existing enrollments?

5. How much of a priority is completing this year's Growth Agenda faculty searches?

## 3. Budget Context

6. CONTEXT: "The impact of large budget reductions will undoubtedly result in fewer class sections, larger class sizes, reduced student services, and across-the-board cuts."

QUESTION: "What suggestions do you have to help us reduce the negative impacts of the types listed above?"

7. We will do our best to avoid lay offs. Do you have any ideas on how we can work together to make sure we provide key services?

## 4. Communications and Coordination

8. CONTEXT: "Our budget planning communication process includes sending to all employees memos and updates on the Governor's budget as it moves through the legislative process. We also hold open budget forums and meet with governance groups and UPLAN to provide information and to seek input on our campus budgetary actions and priorities."

QUESTION: "What other ways can you recommend for the University to better inform and engage the campus community on its budgetary actions and priorities?"

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## 5. Tuition and Costs

9. CONTEXT: "The Governor's budget preserves affordability and access by freezing tuition increases for students of families earning less than \$60,000. The median family income in 2006 (estimated) for all Wisconsin ACT test takers is \$59,000."

QUESTION: "What suggestions do you have for additional ways to minimize costs for our students?"

10. CONTEXT: "The UW System and its universities have the lowest administrative costs in the nation and rank among the "five most productive state systems...of higher education relative to their resources" (National Center for Higher Education Management Systems)."

QUESTION: "What recommendations do you have on how we can increase our operational efficiency?"

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## 6. Other Comments, Suggestions, Advice

11. CONTEXT: "The Governor's biennial budget proposal is presently under review by the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee. As the budget review process continues, we will provide additional information to the campus community."

QUESTION: "Please use this space to share any other comments, suggestions, or advice."

12. This optional question was added the day after the survey was initially launched. Which of the following best describes you?

enrolled student

faculty member

instructional academic staff member

professional academic staff member

classified staff member

UW Oshkosh graduate (alumna/alumnus)

other (e.g., member of the public at large)

Other (please specify)