



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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UW-Milwaukee Student Association Responds to Governor Walker's Allocable Segregated Fee "Opt-Out" Proposal

Governor Walker released a statement today regarding students in the UW-System being able to opt-out of paying allocable segregated fees. The Governor's press release reads:

"Allocable fees do not go towards long- term commitments or ongoing operational costs of university owned and controlled buildings. They provide support for campus student activities and services that are allocated by campus student government and university chancellors. Allowing an opt-out helps students make the decisions on what they do and do not want to fund."

Allocable student segregated fees are allocated to vital campus resources such as the Military and Veterans Resource Center and Transportation Services. UW-Milwaukee, like other campuses, is proud to serve diverse populations whose four-year graduation rates are dramatically improved by using allocable segregated fee funded resource centers. One example of this is the Military and Veterans Resource Center. UWM serves more veterans than any school in the six state region. We would be unable to meet their unique needs if we did not do our best to serve them, as they did, and continue to do, for us. Full time students pay just \$2.00 for this essential service.

Our Transportation Services allocable fee goes in part to nighttime transportation services to assure that students are not walking alone at night. It helps create a safe campus. Students pay just \$14.60 for a service that dramatically improves safety.

Reducing funding to critical campus resources would predominately jeopardize the student success of our first generation, low income, and marginalized students. If students who do not use specific centers opt out of paying for these campus centers, the burden would be far too great for the users of those centers to bear alone. Furthermore, students who set the allocable fee truly do care about the total cost of college: for two years in a row at UW-Milwaukee, the allocable fee, adjusted for inflation, has decreased.

The allocable segregated fees go much further than to fund student activities. They contribute to create a safer, more complete learning environment for those that need it most. The small amount students pay for these services goes a long way. We hope the



Governor and the State Legislature reconsider this adverse proposal.

For more information on the UWM Student Association response on the Governor's segregated fee proposal, please contact:

President Mike Sportiello

sportie3@uwm.edu

Vice President of Student Affairs Trevor Jung

tsjung@uwm.edu

