



# COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

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## **College Republicans of UW-Stevens Point on the Proposed Eliminations of Majors**

**STEVENS POINT-** On Monday, March 5, 2018, Chancellor Bernie Patterson released a proposal eliminating thirteen majors while either expanding or adding sixteen majors at UWSP. Students were alerted to the proposed changes via email from the Chancellor's office. Within the email that was sent out, the Chancellor details that the enrollment at UWSP has been declining for years due to students graduating in four years and fewer students in the K-12 pipeline. Those students already seeking a major that is proposed to be cut will be able to complete the major.

While the UWSP College Republicans recognize this information is difficult to hear, we understand the actions that need to be taken in order ensure the future of UW-Stevens Point are crucial. Adapting to the strengths of the University to draw students in is what makes the free market so successful. The University remains committed to giving each student a well-rounded education, including in the liberal arts. However, the change comes from several years of decreased enrollment and a continued financial pressure the University is facing.

The UW-Stevens Point College Republicans encourage the University, the Board of Regents, and Chancellor Bernie Patterson to take the necessary actions to maintain the reputation of this great University for future Pointer students.

Chair, Amelia Heup released a statement regarding the proposal;

“As a student in the political science major, along with many members of the UWSP College Republicans, this proposed ending of thirteen majors is surprising news. However, with the discussions of financial tribulation, changes were going to be an inevitable reaction to ensure the reputation of the University. This announcement is not due to the so-called devaluing of education by Governor Walker, as many in the media have portrayed it. This announcement comes after several years of a decline in enrollment. To mitigate the blame to the Governor, as some would suggest, ignores the facts at hand and the true reasons for this proposal. The UWSP College Republicans and I support the necessary actions needed to coincide with the change in the academic market.”