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**SUBJECT: UW Board Of Regents Approves Merger Plan**

Last night, the UW Board of Regents agreed to begin the process of merging two-year campuses with four-year campuses.

AFSCME Wisconsin is pleased to hear UW System President Ray Cross talking about included staff in the planning of the merger process. However, with the details of the plan still murky and staff's involvement unclear, there is much to learn before AFSCME Wisconsin can endorse such a plan.

"We are committed to the front-line staff that work in the UW System," said Executive Director Rick Badger. "We understand the challenges facing the UW System and we look forward to working with President Cross on finding a solution to the Board of Regent's concerns. However, we need transparency in this process and a commitment from President Cross that this merger is not an attempt to eliminate staff."

AFSCME Wisconsin represents workers at UW System schools around the state.

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