

**E-mail message sent to all UW-Eau Claire faculty and staff, Aug. 12, 2010**

***Elimination of University Rental Vehicle Fleet and 12- and 15-Passenger Vans***

Colleagues,

With the beginning of the new academic year quickly approaching, I am writing to announce new policies relating to passenger vehicle use.

This past spring, with input from our Facilities Management staff, users of the rental vehicle fleet, members of my Cabinet, and others, I decided to eliminate UW-Eau Claire's rental vehicle fleet and, for safety reasons that have received national discussion, to eliminate our use of 12- and 15-passenger vans. Vice Chancellors Patricia Kleine and Beth Hellwig have been working with departments and units that rely most on fleet vehicle use to minimize the impact of these changes.

The new state rental vehicle contract (primarily serviced by Enterprise in Eau Claire) now offers considerably lower costs than could be achieved by our own management of a vehicle rental fleet. Eight passenger vans will be available through the new contract, and our administrative staff members continue to work with those units dependent on larger vehicles and/or longer term usage to find both immediate and long-term solutions that allow us to maintain quality academic and co-curricular experiences for our students.

Our Facilities Management and Business Services staff are working with both UW System and Enterprise to ensure that our needs are met. If you encounter problems with the service from Enterprise, please pass that information along to Vickie Gardner in Business Services at 36-4528 or [gardnevl@uwec.edu](mailto:gardnevl@uwec.edu).

This change in policy will result in some additional vehicles being "owned" by units and departments in the university. To assure the safety of all university vehicle users, all vehicles must now undergo an annual maintenance and safety inspection performed by mechanics in Facilities Management.

Thank you in advance for your help in implementing these changes.

Chancellor Brian Levin-Stankevich, Ph.D.