Greetings Colleagues--
I wanted to give you a quick update from the Faculty Representatives meeting with the UW system leadership earlier today. The reps met with President Reilly and his team for several hours today and covered a variety of issues that you might find interesting. I'll elaborate on all of this more in my report to the Senate, but the issues that came up that you might find interesting are:
--President Reilly emphasized the idea that there will be a pay plan proposal, but they are still working out the details; --The push for the "Flex Degree" program came about in part due to recent data that shows that there are 17k Wisconsin residents in for-profit schools and another 750k with some college credit but with no degree, all of whom are likely enrollees in the programs; --The Flex degree will NOT be a degree from Extension--Extension will be simply providing the infrastructure for the individual campuses to develop the programs individually; --There was a lot of discussion around the question of how we address the "competencies" questions--meaning how do we give credit to these students for skills they have that are not connected to existing courses?
--There will be a work group formed to address these issues from a faculty perspective that will address issues of quality, assessment, and modeling.

I'll have more information and take any questions you may have at our first meeting!

See you then--

Geoff Peterson