

# Rep. Shankland: Statement on Walker's UW System budget proposal

Posted on Tuesday, Feb 7, 2017

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MADISON – Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point), a member of the legislature's Joint Committee on Finance, released the following statement today in response to Governor Walker's UW System budget plan:

"Last year, state support for the UW System was the lowest it has been in state history when adjusted for inflation. Excluding debt service, the UW System has lost \$795 million in state aid under Governor Walker and the Republican majority. And now, as the governor sets the stage for his reelection campaign, he is restoring a fraction of what he cut from our universities – with strings attached.

"The deep cuts to the UW have had a devastating impact on faculty retention, course availability, time to degree, and the quality of a UW education. Governor Walker's new proposal essentially serves as an admission that his cuts to our education systems have failed. He does not deserve praise for making a weak attempt to repair the damage that he himself caused."