



Dr. Bernie L. Patterson, Chancellor  
Dr. Greg Summers, Provost  
University of Wisconsin Stevens Point  
2100 Main Street Stevens Point, WI 54481-3897

Dear Chancellor Patterson and Provost Summers:

It is with deep concern we write regarding the proposed elimination of humanities and social science programs at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. We urge you to continue offering the political science major and to reconsider the elimination of these programs.

We understand the fiscal constraints that underpin this proposal and share your respect for a comprehensive liberal arts education at the undergraduate level. Political science students hone the writing, communication, analytical, and data skills that are fundamental to the liberal arts and a wide spectrum of careers. The development of these skills is a component of many of the social science and humanities programs. Political science in particular provides insight into critical issues facing the public and private sector today, including globalization, terrorism, civil rights, international development, and the environment. Discontinuing the political science major would deny students the opportunity to gain a critical understanding of their rights and responsibilities as citizens, and to interrogate, challenge, and improve the structures that shape the world around them.

The department of political science at UW-Stevens Point emphasizes key elements of the political science discipline, including public administration, policy analysis, and international relations, that are in demand in today's globalized workforce. UW-Stevens Point political science graduates have gone on to careers in law, marketing, healthcare, education, and more. Discontinuing the UW-Stevens Point department of political science would be a loss for current and future students who, no matter their major or concentration, will pursue careers that are inextricably linked to the power structures studied in the discipline of political science. We urge you to reconsider the elimination of the political science major.