

## **Background**

### **University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point:**

UWSP, founded in 1894 as a teacher's college, has a current enrollment of 8,800. UWSP is a part of the University of Wisconsin System, which is comprised of two doctoral institutions, eleven comprehensive institutions (known as the University Cluster or the sister campuses), and thirteen two-year colleges. Of the eleven University of Wisconsin sister campuses, UWSP ranks fifth in enrollment.

The student to faculty ratio at UWSP is 20:1, and UWSP has the highest percentage in UW System of undergraduate courses taught by tenure-track faculty. The academic program includes 48 undergraduate majors, 78 minors, 12 master's degree programs, and one doctorate (in cooperation with UW-Madison). UWSP provides a strong liberal arts education; among well-known programs are Natural Resources, Biology, Communication, Fine Arts, Health Promotion/Wellness, and Education. Study abroad programs are offered in 20 locations around the globe with 1 of 5 graduating seniors having participated.

The campus is approximately 400 acres including the 275 acre Schmeckle Reserve (natural area with a lake). The campus includes 35 buildings with 14 residence halls. The newly expanded University Center opened in spring 2008.

### **University Library:**

Staffing and structure: The current Library Director was hired in 2005 and reports directly to the Provost. The Library organization chart (see appendix) shows a flat structure with all librarians having equal status. Librarians have faculty status with the scholarship and service responsibilities that this carries. Ten of the twelve have nine month appointments. Both an MLS and a subject area master's (or higher degree) are required for tenure. Faculty governance is an important tradition at UWSP, and the library faculty are active on campus committees and have held campus leadership roles.

Classified staff (15.8 FTE) and academic staff (2 FTE, with an additional one assigned from IT) have twelve month contracts and hold responsible positions throughout the Library. Until recently, staff have had amazing longevity in their positions. Recent retirements, with more to come, have impacted the accustomed stability of the staffing of the Library. Student employees number approximately 90 a semester and are relied upon especially for week-end and late night hours.

Facility: The Library main structure was built in 1970, with an addition in 1986. The lobby was remodeled in 2002; and The Food for Thought Café, just off the lobby, was opened in 2006. Several public and staff areas have been updated, but much of the building still carries a 1970s feel.

Service areas: Assistance for users is found on five of the building's six floors. Main circulation and reference room (1<sup>st</sup> floor), periodicals (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), IMC (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), archives (5<sup>th</sup> floor), and government documents (6<sup>th</sup> floor) each have service desks. Check out is offered at all these locations except reference and archives. The Library is open 104 hours a week during the regular academic year.

Access: The Library building is fully wireless. On and off campus access to library resources—online catalog, databases, ejournals—is provided through an EZproxy server. The campus provides over 700 computers in 20 public labs and 13 residence hall labs for student use.

### **University of Wisconsin System Libraries:**

The UWSP Library's affiliation with UW System and the Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries (CUWL) brings a wide array of resources for users that the Library could not afford as an individual campus. UW libraries each use the Voyager catalog system and a service called Universal Borrowing allows patrons to initiate requests and receive books and many AV materials from other libraries in two days (delivered by daily van). Campuses use the same Interlibrary Loan system. The CUWL directors meet regularly. A newly reorganized system of statewide committees allows campuses to cooperate in new initiatives as well as continue to participate in decision-making on system-funded resources. The system is working toward a "One System, One Library" ideal.