



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 19, 2025

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Murphy Statement on UW DEI Division Review

MADISON, WI - State Representative Dave Murphy (R-Greenville) issued the following statement on the UW DEI review.

Last week the findings of a University of Wisconsin-Madison internal review of the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Vice Chancellor LaVar Charleston's practices were released. The review led to his removal in January as Vice Chancellor and his return to a faculty position.

The abuses uncovered by the review included extreme financial mismanagement such as giving large salary increases and bonuses outside of the rules and procedures that the rest of the UW divisions follow. The report also outlined excessive spending on office supplies and travel expenses. In the private sector, Mr. Charleston would not have been given the opportunity to continue in another position after these serious abuses had been uncovered.

"The lack of judgement displayed by Mr. Charleston in this case is astounding. Equally astounding is the lack of oversight that allowed this situation to develop in the first place. It seems that DEI spending has been given little oversight and spiraled out of control," Murphy said.

"It seems that DEI programs are a magnet for financial abuse. The UW is spending massive amounts of money on DEI to get no return on investment," Murphy said. "Backup jobs do not exist in the private sector and the lack of true accountability is concerning."

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