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Wisconsin's lawmakers are debating new legislation that would link the UW System's tuition policies to the campus free speech rules. This possible bill aims to freeze tuition rates and add financial penalties to UW campuses that violate a student's or a speaker's freedom of expression rights. The supporters argue that this is to protect free dialogue and accountability in higher education. The critics are warning that this could create political pressure on academic institutions. This debate reflects ongoing tensions between legislative oversight, academic freedoms, and the role of universities.

Questions to ask during the interview:

1. Have you heard anything about the new laws surrounding free speech and the universities across Wisconsin?
2. What comes to mind when you think about free speech on college campus?
3. What roles do you think universities should play in free speech?
4. How may this affect YOUR experience here at UW-Whitewater? Or other students?

Work Cited

Spears, Baylor. "Lawmakers take up UW tuition constraints, penalties for free speech violations." Wisconsin Examiner, 16 October 2025,

https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2025/10/16/lawmakers-take-up-uw-tuition-constraints-penalties-for-free-speech-violations/?utm_source=chatgpt.com.