## **2016 Federal Priorities**

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM** 

UW System Board of Regents Meeting – February 4, 2016 Kris Andrews, Associate Vice President for Federal and Corporate Relations

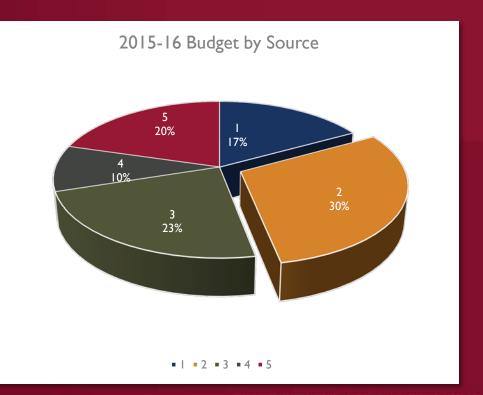


#### Topics

- Review of 2015
- Federal priorities for 2016
  - FY 2017 Budget
  - Student financial aid
  - Research and development
- Legislative priorities
  - Higher Education Act reauthorization
- Regulatory priorities
  - Fair Labor Standards Act

# Federal dollars are a large share of the UW System budget.

"Federal supportin all its variety and complexitytouches each and every institution and program in the UW System."





## **2015 Review**

- <u>No. I priority</u>: Continuation of Federal Perkins Loan program
- ✓ Update: Perkins Loan program extended

In 2013-14, the Federal Perkins Loan program disbursed almost \$29 million to approximately16,000 UW System students.



"We did [win] in getting a two-year extension of this important student loan program, a victory that would not have happened without your leadership and that of the senior management at the University of Wisconsin."

-Harrison Wadsworth, Executive Director, Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations



#### **2015 Review**

## <u>A second victory:</u> FAFSA Change

 ✓ Update: Use of priorprior year tax data is adopted "The change [to allow prior-prior year tax data] will ease the burden on families who would often have to rush to fill out their taxes before applying or resort to vague estimates."

-Doug Christiansen, Chair, College Board



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#### **2015 Review**

- Additional victories:
- ✓ Maximum Pell Grant award increased by \$40
- ✓ National Institutes of Health received largest single increase in a decade
- ✓ National Science Foundation funding was increased
- ✓ Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture and Natural Resources funding of \$5 million included in the omnibus



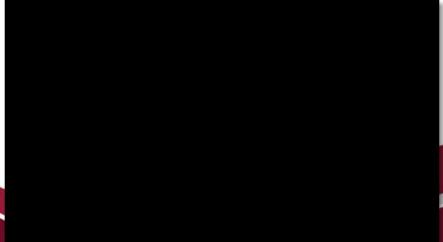
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#### **Looking Ahead – 2016 Priorities**

- Fiscal Year 2017 Budget
- Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act
- U.S. Department of Labor pending administrative action



- Federal 2017 Budget
  - Ensuring support for student financial aid
  - Total federal student aid to UW System students is approximately \$1 billion
  - The Federal Pell Grant program is critical, especially for students and families who rely on need-based aid







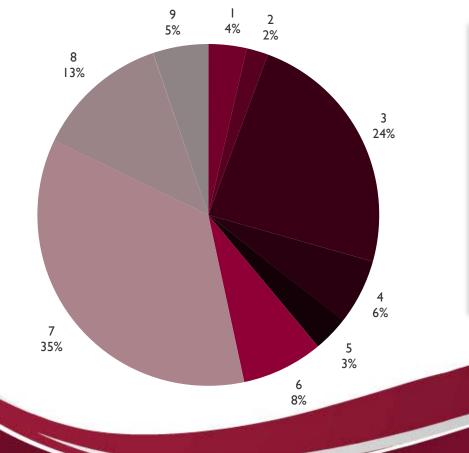
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#### **2016 Priorities**

- Federal 2017 Budget (cont'd)
  - Continued investment in Academic Research & Development
  - Research funding priorities:
    - National Institutes of Health
    - National Science Foundation
    - U.S. Department of Agriculture
    - U.S. Department of Energy
    - Non-Land Grant competitive funding and broadening aquaculture & energy-water research



#### FY15 FEDERAL AWARDS: \$878,139,980



"If not for academic research and development and the ability of academic institutions to attract federal dollars for that purpose, the state would find itself in the bottom half of the states in an important 'new economy' indicator."

> -Tom Still, President, Wisconsin Technology Council



- Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act
  - Competency-based education
    - Flexible Option program
  - Campus safety
    - Campus Accountability and Safety Act
  - Regulatory overreach



Senator Tammy Baldwin pictured with UW System Task Force on Sexual Violence & Harassment co-chairs Anne Bilder (left) and Vicki Washington.



- Obama Administration Regulatory Agenda
  - Fair Labor Standards Act proposal
    - Final rule anticipated in late summer





Thank you to Wisconsin's congressional delegation for an excellent, collaborative and productive working relationship. They are great advocates for and partners on behalf of the University of Wisconsin System.



### **Stay Informed & Involved**

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  - Biweekly updates
  - Higher education news, policy and politics at the federal level that impact the UW System
- Questions? Contact info:

Contact Kris Andrews: <u>kandrews@uwsa.edu</u> Wisconsin.edu/Washington-View-Blog

