Resolution: Renaming the UW-Madison Medical School

BOARD OF REGENTS

Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents has been supportive of the University of Wisconsin Medical School’s decade-long effort to bridge biomedical and population health sciences as it integrates public health into its mission; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a $300 million endowment resulting from the conversion of Blue Cross/Blue Shield United of Wisconsin to a for-profit entity has accelerated the UW Medical School’s commitment to improving the health of all the citizens of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the UW Medical School, consistent with its vision, approvals, existing programs, and statewide mission, has requested that its name be changed to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee elected officials, including the mayor and state legislators, have expressed concerns that by renaming the UW Medical School, the Board of Regents will be eliminating Milwaukee’s chances to secure its own school of public health; and

WHEREAS, health representatives from other areas of the state, including rural Wisconsin, are equally concerned that their health care needs are being addressed and are supportive of the UW Medical School’s name change, commitment to collaboration, and further extending its resources statewide.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents directs the UW Medical School to immediately commence a good faith dialogue with the city of Milwaukee and the chancellor of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee on specific strategies to increase collaboration on public health education, research, and service with the purpose of addressing the challenging public health issues facing Milwaukee. The dialogue shall include the consideration of the establishment of a UW Medical School “branch campus” at UWM for the purpose of advancing public health programs and an understanding that the UW Medical School will not object to a PhD in public health at UW-Milwaukee. The UW Medical School shall report back to the Board regarding this dialogue by Tuesday, November 8, 2005, and will include in its report a summary of its collaborations to date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents approves the renaming of the University of Wisconsin Medical School to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, effective Friday, November 11, 2005, subject to a review of the above-mentioned report.

10/07/05        I.1.b.