

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

KEVIN P. REILLY

WHEREAS, Kevin P. Reilly has served with exceptional commitment since September 2004 as the sixth President of the University of Wisconsin System, one of the longest and most productive tenures in the System's 40-year history; and

WHEREAS, access across the UW System grew significantly during his tenure, with the present-day enrollment of 181,000 students representing a nearly 9% increase, and private grant aid more than doubling to almost \$26 million; and

WHEREAS, Kevin has been a tireless champion of more college graduates, with 330,000 UW diplomas bearing his signature, and the annual number of degrees conferred by UW campuses having grown by 13%, including an increased number of graduates in high-demand science, technology, engineering and math fields; and

WHEREAS, Kevin led the formation of the University's broadly supported *Growth Agenda for Wisconsin*, showcasing the myriad ways UW institutions play a key role as Wisconsin looks to the future – sparking human ingenuity, invigorating the economy, and sustaining a high quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Kevin was instrumental in the leadership and direction of every UW campus, having hired more than 31 Chancellors and worked with 65 members of the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, Kevin joined Governor Scott Walker and Chancellor Ray Cross to announce the UW Flexible Option, an innovative effort to create self-paced, competency-based UW degree programs for working adults, with UW faculty ensuring the hallmark quality of a UW degree, and the program being widely lauded as a national model; and

WHEREAS, Kevin's tenure saw increased access to the University through live web streaming of Board of Regents' meetings; the launch of the UW System eCampus gateway to more than 70 online UW degrees and certificate programs; an enhanced transfer website that helped achieve record numbers of transfer students; a mobile-enabled web portal to serve veterans; participation in the KnowHow2Go pre-college campaign; and selection as the first pilot partner for the Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) initiative; and

WHEREAS, under Kevin's guidance, the UW System continued its national leadership in accountability, expanding its annual accountability reports and joining the national Voluntary System of Accountability, designed to use standardized data to increase understanding of how public colleges and universities perform; and

WHEREAS, Kevin enhanced research and economic development collaborations throughout the state, with UW institutions being awarded more than \$7.5 billion in research funds and constructing more than \$3.9 billion worth of projects, including \$770 million from private gifts, and UW institutions benefiting from greater operational flexibility within a unified UW System, an area for which he is a staunch advocate; and

WHEREAS, Kevin elevated the stature of the UW System through service on national boards, speaking engagements, editorial columns, and his current service as President of the National Association of System Heads and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the American Council on Education; and

WHEREAS, Kevin shared his love of literature and maintained his connection to students and teaching throughout his presidency, co-teaching the James Joyce course at UW-Madison and establishing a unique tradition of reading a poem, apropos to the season or occasion, at most Board of Regents' meetings; and

WHEREAS, Kevin's pride in his Irish-American heritage – his grandparents having emigrated from Ireland to the United States to provide a better future for their children – led to his first-hand experience of higher education as “an accessible gateway that provides anyone who has the desire and the drive with a chance to rise from poverty into the promise of opportunity”;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents highly commends and thanks Kevin P. Reilly for his accomplished tenure and distinguished service to the citizens of Wisconsin and to the institutions of the UW System, service imbued with integrity, respect, generosity, dedication, and a keen Irish intellect and wit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW Board of Regents confers upon Kevin P. Reilly the title of President Emeritus; and extends its sincere best wishes in all his future endeavors, with a special vested interest in the success of his next challenge, attracting and developing future leaders of higher education.

*Michael J. Falbo
President of the UW Board of Regents*

*Madison, Wisconsin
This Sixth Day of December
Two Thousand Thirteen*