

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

**DEBORAH A. DURCAN**

**WHEREAS**, Deborah A. Durcan has honorably served the University of Wisconsin System, and all six UW System Presidents since merger, with great dedication and distinction for 37 years, including the past 14 years as Vice President for Finance; and

**WHEREAS**, her position as the university's chief financial officer is the culmination of a productive and distinguished career – greater than the sum of its parts – in which she has “risen through the ranks,” starting as an accountant after earning her degree from UW-Madison, and subsequently being promoted to Assistant Director for Financial Reporting; Director of Accounting Services/Associate Controller; Controller; Associate/Assistant Vice President for Financial Administration; and finally, in 1999, Vice President for Finance; and

**WHEREAS**, she has led a broad array of business and finance operations, including Financial Administration, Financial Reporting, Travel Management, Internal Audit, Procurement, Risk Management, and Trust Funds, with a combined staff of over 60 individuals, and has convened monthly meetings of the institutional chief business officers, engaging the collective wisdom and insights of the group to identify best practices and address challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, she has coordinated the activities of the Board of Regents' Business and Finance Committee, working closely with the committee members, UW System Administration, and institutional representatives, to ensure efficient and effective meetings, and has contributed to more standardized, streamlined operations through co-chairing the UW System Common Systems Review Group and implementing the UW System's Shared Financial System; and

**WHEREAS**, Debbie has been an active member of several professional associations, serving on the Board of Directors of the Central Association of College and University Business Officers (CACUBO), chairing the 2004 annual meeting of its national counterpart (NACUBO), and currently serving on the NACUBO Research Universities Constituent Council, while also serving on the State of Wisconsin's College Savings Board; and

**WHEREAS**, Debbie helped create WiSys, coordinating efforts to bring Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation expertise to UW comprehensive institutions, and has sponsored many significant efficiency and security efforts across UW institutions, including enterprise risk management assessments, Lean Manufacturing Principles training, and the creation of continuity of operations and pandemic plans; and

**WHEREAS**, Debbie's broad mastery of complex financial rules – together with her hallmark eloquence, calmness, good cheer, and collegiality – have led her to provide invaluable counsel to the President and Cabinet members, helping the UW System develop sound financial policies and practices, ensure fiscal integrity, and achieve academic missions in the spirit of the Wisconsin Idea;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents highly commends and thanks Deborah A. Durcan for her years of service spanning four decades, and her incalculable contributions to higher education in Wisconsin, and extends its sincere best wishes in her retirement and all her future endeavors.

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

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