2015 FEDERAL PRIORITIES

UW Board of Regents Meeting
UW-Waukesha
April 10, 2015
Kris Andrews, Associate Vice President for Federal & Corporate Relations
Topics

- Federal Student Financial Aid
  - Federal Perkins Loan Program
  - Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Research and Development
  - National Institutes of Health
  - Department of Energy, Office of Science
  - Department of Agriculture
  - National Science Foundation
  - Undergraduate Research
- 2015 Higher Education Policy Agenda
A Growing Need for Financial Aid

More and more Wisconsin students and their families are in need of financial aid to help make the possibility of obtaining a UW System college degree a reality.

The number of students with need and amount of need is growing.

As a result, students have more loans and more unmet need.
State Aid & Student Debt

Decreasing state support per student has led to increased tuition to supply a greater share of the cost to educate a student. These tuition increases have led to higher levels of unmet need and loan debt for students.
Perkins At Risk

• Highest priority is continuation of the Federal Perkins Loan program
• Perkins offers low-interest, subsidized loans
• Perkins disbursed $29M to 15,800 students in 2013-14
• Program expires in September
Pell Grants

Largest grant program provides need-based financial aid

Pell Grants make it possible for tens of thousands of UW students to attend our institutions.

In 2013-14, 41,506 UW students received a Pell Grant.

The 2013-14 avg. Pell Grant was $3,746.
Loans are a Reality

74% of Wisconsin graduates incur student loans
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- Student unmet need after grants and scholarships is $10,159, nearly doubling in the last decade.
- In 2013-14, 74% of Wisconsin students who graduated had outstanding student loan debt, averaging $30,452.
Loan Defaults

*UW students are below the national average*

- Although the percentage of students graduating with loan debt has increased in the past several years, the three-year student loan default rate of 5% for UW students remains low compared to the national average of 13%.
- The great majority of student loan borrowers remain committed to making their loan payments.
- Income-based repayment plans and loan forgiveness programs make it easier to deal with student debt.
Federal Research

• For the better part of 100 years, Wisconsin’s academic research and development infrastructure has been strong, thanks in large part to federal investments.

• This university, like so many others, is at risk if federal academic research and development funding stagnates or declines.
FY 2014 Federal Awards

Total: $911,343,857

- NIH: 35%
- NSF: 13%
- DOD: 3%
- DOE: 7%
- DHHS: 5%
- DED: 26%
- AGRIC: 4%
- COMM: 2%
- OTHER: 5%

Other: 5%

Total: $911,343,857
Thanks to the leadership of this Board, there has been intentional, sustained undergraduate research and economic development activity in Wisconsin.
Issues on the Horizon

• Higher Education Act reauthorization
  • Simplification of student aid programs and processes
  • Deregulation of higher education
  • Campus sexual assault legislation

• Obama Administration active regulatory agenda
The Federal government remains an important source of support for UW System students and it’s an engine that drives innovation on all our campuses.