

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

of the

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

UW-Milwaukee
Held in the UW-Milwaukee Union
Wisconsin Room
May 7, 2009
9:00 a.m.

- President Bradley presiding -

PRESENT: Regents Jeffery Bartell, Mark Bradley, Elizabeth Burmaster, Eileen Connolly-Keesler, Judith Crain, Mary Cuene, Danae Davis, Michael Falbo, Thomas Loftus, Kevin Oppenorth, Charles Pruitt, Brent Smith, Michael Spector, Colleene Thomas, David Walsh, and Betty Womack

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regents John Drew and José Vásquez

- - -

Remarks by President Reilly and Regent President Bradley

In opening remarks, Regent President Bradley expressed appreciation to UW-Milwaukee Chancellor Carlos Santiago and his staff for the warm welcome to campus and for the student-oriented focus of the meeting. In that regard, he noted that preparing students to be contributing members of the 21st century knowledge economy is the mission of the university and a key component of the Growth Agenda for the future prosperity of Wisconsin.

President Reilly commended Chancellor Santiago for his leadership in building UW-Milwaukee's research capacity, noting that one way in which research is tied directly to learning is through student involvement with faculty mentors in undergraduate research projects.

- - -

UW-MIWAUKEE PRESENTATION: ROLE OF STUDENTS IN RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Chancellor Santiago began his remarks by referring to the substantial progress that has been made through the Research Growth Initiative, which began with reallocation of existing dollars to provide seed money needed for research.

Before the Research Growth Initiative, faculty participants generated an average of \$3 million per year in research funding – an amount which almost doubled after two years of the initiative to \$5.8 million. Funding generated by the second cohort of faculty has grown almost 50% in one year.

In addition, the number of doctoral programs has increased to 29, in areas that align with the needs of the region. PhD programs in development relate to the new schools of Freshwater Science and Public Health, as well as other areas.

Progress has been made, the Chancellor stated, toward the goal of \$100 million per year in research funding. Growth Agenda funding in the 2007-09 budget permitted the hiring of faculty who have yet to arrive on campus and whose work will bring in more research funding.

Emphasizing the importance of regional corporate partnerships, Chancellor Santiago indicated that there is much corporate support for new research in areas of the university's strengths in fields such as healthcare, water/environment, biomedical engineering, and advanced manufacturing.

Work was continuing on acquisition of new land for the School of Public Health and Innovation Park, both of which would be funded with private dollars. The School of Freshwater Science, with public and private support, will make Milwaukee a national fresh water center.

Concluding his remarks, Chancellor Santiago said that UW-Milwaukee will continue to raise money and press forward for the Growth Agenda. In that regard flexibility provided by the Board and the Governor is of great importance.

He then introduced a number of student researchers who worked in a variety of disciplines, exemplifying the breadth of research opportunities at UW-Milwaukee.

Mike Brzeski, a research scientist in the College of Engineering and Applied Science, described his work in building a robot to replicate the motion of a human head in an MRI machine, which allows validation of the scanning process. He hoped that the research might lead to a patent and valuable career opportunities.

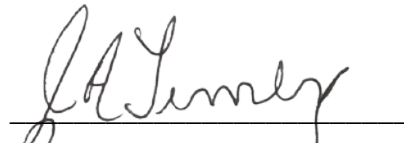
Veronica Rigo, a research assistant in the College of Letters and Science, spoke of her work in using an optical-fiber sensor for monitoring freshwater eco-systems – research that has applications for environmental protection, medicine, aquatic life, and homeland security.

Joe Sacco, a teaching assistant in the Peck School of the Arts, demonstrated his work at the media center called “docuwm.”, using as an example his documentary on a Hmong woman’s journey to find her identity.

Mina Saeed, a senior in the College of Letters and Science, described his work in the Pediatric Neuromotor Laboratory with infants who have spina bifida, using a treadmill to help them gain muscle control of their legs and improve their prospects of being able to walk. This research, which was presented at a national conference, was of particular relevance to his goal of becoming a physician.

Following the presentation, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted by:



Judith A. Temby, Secretary