

11/19/2013

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

I.4. Research, Economic Development,
and Innovation Committee

Thursday, December 5, 2013
Room 1820 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, Wisconsin

9:00 a.m. Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee – Room 1820 Van Hise Hall

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the October 10, 2013 and November 1, 2013 Meetings of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee
- b. Incentive Grant Program Update
[Resolution I.4.b.]
- c. Incentive Grants – Panel Discussion
- d. Committee Goals and Priorities

UW System Board of Regents
Expression of Appreciation to
Regent Emeritus Jeff Bartell
and the Incentive Grant
Selection Committee

RESEARCH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE

Resolution I.4.b.:

That, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the UW System Board of Regents expresses its appreciation to Regent Emeritus Jeff Bartell and the Incentive Grant Committee for the evaluation and selection of recipients for the UW System \$22.5 million program to fund economic development, workforce development, and initiatives to improve the affordability of higher education. This resolution further encourages all grant applicants and all grant recipients to foster increased business and job growth across the State of Wisconsin through continued emphasis on research, economic development, and innovation at all campus locations.

INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE

BACKGROUND

Section 9148 (1i) (a) of 2013 Wisconsin Act 20 required the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents to establish an Incentive Grant Program under Section 36.25 (52), Wis. Stats. The established plan outlined the distribution of \$22.5 million of UW System funds to support projects to be implemented during the current biennium. These funds are not base-building, and cover one-time or start-up costs for programs that develop or enhance projects or proposals in the areas of economic development and workforce development, or that improve the affordability of postsecondary education.

Incentive grant evaluators included experts from outside the UW System and from various UW institutions, with the majority of judges external to the UW System. Eligible grant recipients include UW System campuses and UW Extension. The Incentive Grant Selection Committee held meetings via teleconference in October to select preliminary and finalist grant applications. On November 1, the REDI Committee reviewed the grant recipient finalist list and endorsed the selection committee's decision.

With 12 grant recipients selected from a total of 56 grant applications submitted, the UW System campuses put forth a wide range of innovative and collaborative programs to advance economic and workforce development and improve of the affordability of higher education. (See attached media announcement.)

REQUESTED ACTION

Approval of Resolution I.4.b.

DISCUSSION

With the evaluation process now completed, the resolution expresses appreciation to all UW System grant application entrants and encourages grant applicants and recipients to continue to foster increased business and job growth across the State of Wisconsin through continued focus on research, economic development, and innovation at all campus locations.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.

INCENTIVE GRANT PANEL DISCUSSION

BACKGROUND

Three UW campus panelists will discuss the key aspects of their innovative Incentive Grant programs that were specifically designed to develop or enhance UW initiatives in the areas of economic and workforce development, or which improve the affordability of postsecondary education.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

The panelists include the following:

Collaborative Engineering Technology Program

Grant Amount: \$1,892,000

Campus Location: UW – Oshkosh

Collaborations: UW – Green Bay

Panel Representative Name: John Koker, PhD, Dean of the College of Letters and Science (UW-Oshkosh)

SE Wisconsin Applied Chemistry Center of Excellence

Grant Amount: \$2,998,800

Campus Location: UW – Milwaukee

Collaborations: UW – Parkside

Panel Representative Name: Douglass Stafford, PhD, Director of the Milwaukee Institute for Drug Discovery (UW – Milwaukee)

Addressing the Nursing Shortage: Statewide Initiative to Increase Nursing Program Faculty, Expand Student Enrollment, and Enhance Workforce Development

Grant Amount: \$3,218,703

Campus Location: UW – Eau Claire

Collaborations: UW – Madison, UW – Milwaukee, & UW – Oshkosh

Panel Representative Name: Linda Young, PhD, CNE, CFLE, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (UW-Eau Claire)

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

None applicable.

COMMITTEE GOALS AND PRIORITIES

BACKGROUND

At the June 6, 2013 meeting of the UW System Board of Regents, President Michael Falbo directed Board Committees to review and affirm their goals and priorities. At the August 26, 2013 meeting of the REDI Committee, Regent Tim Higgins led a discussion of the REDI Committee planning and goal-setting. In his follow-up report to the Board, he noted that the Committee had continued to make progress toward setting and achieving goals in line with its strategic priorities.

REQUESTED ACTION

For discussion.

DISCUSSION

In December 2012, the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation (REDI) Committee adopted a strategic plan that provided a practical and quantifiable road map with a focus on three goals:

- Raising the awareness of and commitment to research, economic development, and innovation by the UW System;
- Identifying and building stronger connections that link UW System talent and research activities with established businesses, entrepreneurs, economic development agencies, and other resources for capital; and
- Accelerating investment in UW-generated innovations so that ideas can be more rapidly developed and businesses can be built more quickly.

These goals reflect the university's commitment to the Wisconsin Idea, whereby the boundaries of the university are the boundaries of the state. The action plan includes 20 specific recommendations designed to energize and guide the development of programs, policies, and initiatives that are characterized by collaborative outreach to a wide range of stakeholders. These include Chancellors, Provosts, faculty, academic staff, students, existing and start-up enterprises, governmental agencies, and the general public. Strategies outlined in this plan relate directly to leveraging the talent pool across the UW System, with a focus on business creation and retention, including the facilitation of research, technology transfer, and business innovation. Progress toward goal completion is reported to the REDI Committee at each regularly scheduled meeting, as reflected in the attached report.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.