

**Minutes of the Research, Economic Development, & Innovation Committee**  
**University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents**  
**UW-Madison**  
**December 4, 2014**

Chairman Higgins convened the meeting of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation (REDI) Committee at 2:51 p.m. Regents Petersen, Farrow, Hall, Harsy, and Pruitt were present. Regent President Falbo and Regent Millner also attended.

**a. Approval of the Minutes of the October 2, 2014, and October 9, 2014, Meetings of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee**

Chairman Higgins asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2014, and October 9, 2014, REDI Committee meetings. Motion was made by Regent Petersen and seconded by Regent Pruitt to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**b. Remarks by Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch on UW System Economic Development Activities and Accomplishments**

Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch attended the meeting and made brief remarks in support of UW System activities that help align educational pathways with economic and workforce development initiatives. This was a continuation of her advocacy for increased collaboration across the state's higher education network with a focus on developing talent to meet the anticipated needs of Wisconsin's growing 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy.

Lt. Governor Kleefisch responded to questions from Regents about ongoing UW System programs in the areas of economic development and research, interactions with students, and opportunities to work together moving forward. Lt. Governor Kleefisch encouraged Regents and UW System officials and faculty to contact her about projects, programs, and areas of opportunity that would encourage businesses outside of Wisconsin to relocate in Wisconsin.

**c. Economic Development Incentive Grant Recipient Update: UW-Madison Progress Report on the Igniter – An Engine for Technology Commercialization**

Jon Biondi, the D2P Initiative Direct at UW-Madison, provided an update on the UW System Economic Development Incentive Grant awarded in 2014 for D2P. The presentation provided both an overview of the grant and a progress report on achieving program objectives, which included:

- Transforming UW–Madison culture to embrace entrepreneurship;
- Producing new products that benefit the state and world;

- Creating new companies that boost the state's economic strength;
- Making more venture capital available in the state; and
- Attracting more companies to Wisconsin

**d. Economic Development Incentive Grant Recipient Update: UW-Oshkosh and UW-Green Bay Progress Report on the Collaborative Engineering Technology Program**

Dr. John Koker, Dean of the Colleges of Letters and Science at UW-Oshkosh, and Scott Furlong, Dean of the Colleges of Letters and Science at UW-Green Bay, provided an update on the UW System Economic Development Incentive Grant awarded in 2013 for the Collaborative Engineering Technology Program at UW-Oshkosh and UW-Green Bay.

The presentation included both an overview of the grant and a progress report on the partnerships and collaborations that have developed since the program was launched. Project leads at both campuses and their research and industry partners shared their perspectives and progress updates.

**e. Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) – Update on Programs and Partnerships**

Lisa Johnson, WEDC's Vice President of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and Kelly Lietz, WEDC's Vice President for Marketing, provided an update on current initiatives and programs, with a focus on WEDC's efforts to collaborate with the university and with state businesses to foster entrepreneurial activities and business innovation, and to speed the time from idea to product commercialization across the state.

**f. Update on the 2015 Economic Development Incentive Grant Process and Proposals**

Due to time constraints, this agenda item held over for discussion at a future meeting.

Chairman Higgins adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.