

10/1/2014

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

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

Thursday, October 9, 2014
UW-Stevens Point
Dreyfus University Center
Room 350 – Alumni Room
Stevens Point, Wisconsin

10:45 a.m. Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee – Alumni Room

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the August 21, 2014 Meeting of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee
- b. Review and Feedback on the October 2 REDI Committee Orientation and Planning Session
- c. Update and Strategic Review of UW-Stout Discovery Center Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Activities – Led by Randy Hulke, Executive Director, Discovery Center
- d. Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) –Update on Programs and Partnerships – Led by WEDC Vice President of Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- e. UW-Stevens Point Presentation on Building Prosperous Communities through Research, Collaboration, and Innovation

October 9, 2014

Agenda Item I.4.b

**DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF REDI COMMITTEE'S
OCT. 2, 2014, ORIENTATION AND PLANNING SESSION**

BACKGROUND

In 2012, the REDI Committee adopted its first Economic Development Strategic Road Map. This plan outlined a series of strategic initiatives designed to support university research, economic development, and innovation across the UW System. Progress on the 20 action items supporting the initiatives has been reported regularly to REDI. In early October 2014, the REDI Committee conducted an orientation and planning session to review progress to date, including the infusion of \$22.5 million in economic development incentive grants, the attraction of an additional \$4.5 million of industry matching contributions, the launch of Ideadvance for innovative start-ups with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), the recapitalization of WiSys, and the introduction of the UW System Regent Scholar Grant program. The Committee affirmed its intent to continue to foster and support initiatives that offer opportunities for additional policy and program support that generate strong faculty and student connections with business and industry.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

Over the next several months, the REDI Committee will refresh its implementation plans for moving forward and will plan to endorse and reaffirm its strategic direction. The Committee will continue to work with WEDC and its other partners across the state to assess the most effective ways to align UW System initiatives, programs, and activities with state efforts to increase economic development and job creation.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.

UPDATE AND STRATEGIC REVIEW OF UW-STOUT DISCOVERY CENTER

BACKGROUND

The University of Wisconsin-Stout, Wisconsin's Polytechnic University, is a comprehensive, career-focused university where students, faculty and staff use applied learning, scientific theory and research to solve real-world problems, grow the state economy and serve society. The Discovery Center is UW-Stout's comprehensive technology transfer and public and private research entity. Launched in July 2009, the Discovery Center serves as THE primary point of contact to facilitate access to UW-Stout's research, innovation and economic development assets. This unique structure streamlines engagement processes and ensures efficient collaboration between UW-Stout and private and public organizations, companies and partner institutions.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

Positioned to fuel Wisconsin's economic development through cross-disciplinary applied research and technology transfer activities, the Discovery Center's first five years of accomplishments include administering \$36 million in grants and contracts and compiling \$139 million in client-reported impacts from collaborative industry projects. The Discovery Center is embarking on a next-phase strategic plan that focuses on fostering innovative discoveries to advance knowledge, applying research to solve real-world challenges and facilitating technology transfer to bolster Wisconsin industry. This presentation will summarize prior accomplishments, outline the next phase strategic plan, and discuss the Center's alignment with UW-Stout's strategic direction and REDI Committee initiatives.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.

October 9, 2013

Agenda Item I.4.d

WISCONSIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (WEDC) – UPDATE ON PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

BACKGROUND

The UW System and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) continue to strengthen and expand partnership initiatives designed to identify and leverage collaborations and initiatives accelerating innovation in regional and international business development. WEDC provides regular updates to the REDI Committee on current and planned initiatives and provides progress reports on outcomes.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

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

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.

October 9, 2014

Agenda Item I.4.e

UW-STEVENS POINT PRESENTATION ON BUILDING PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES THROUGH RESEARCH, COLLABORATION, AND INNOVATION

BACKGROUND

With its roots in the heart of the state, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is focused on providing students with transformational learning in the arts and sciences. The open-minded, close-knit UW-Stevens Point community—both on and off campus—inspires students to experience the world unfolding in new ways. Through the Partnership for Thriving Communities, UW-Stevens Point works closely with business, industry and government to solve problems and leverage opportunities for growth and innovation.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

UW-Stevens Point will provide an update on the three UW System Economic Development Incentive Grants that were awarded in 2014. The presentation will provide an overview of the grants and a progress report. Equally important are the partnerships and collaborations that have developed since the beginning of the process. The Principal Investigators of the grants have invited their research and industry partners to attend and to share their perspectives and progress updates.

The following will join Chancellor Bernie Patterson to provide additional information on these initiatives and/or be available to answer questions:

- David Eckmann, Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Economic Development
- Paul Fowler, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Institute for Sustainable Technology
- Professor Karyn Biasca, Chair, Paper Science and Engineering
- Professor Eric Singaas, Director of Research for the Wisconsin Institute of Sustainable Technology
- Professor Chris Hartleb, Professor of Fisheries Biology, Director Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility & Aquaponic Innovation Center

Guests:

- Brian Higgins, Vice President of Purchasing, Pacon Corp.
- Rebecca Nelson, Owner, Nelson and Pade Aquaponics

- John Pade, Owner, Nelson and Pade Aquaponics
- Dr. Ali Manesh, President, American Science and Technology

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.