

**Minutes of the Research, Economic Development, & Innovation Committee**  
**University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents**  
**UW-Madison**  
**February 5, 2015**

Chairman Higgins convened the meeting of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation (REDI) Committee at 8:45 a.m. Regents Petersen, Behling, Bradley, Farrow, Hall, Harsy, and Pruitt were present.

**a. Approval of the Minutes of the December 4, 2014 Meeting of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee**

Chairman Higgins asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2014 REDI Committee meeting. Motion was made by Regent Petersen and seconded by Regent Harsy to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**b. Regent Scholar Award Presentation**

Chairman Higgins thanked all the Regent Scholar applicants, recipients and UW System staff for their efforts to make the Regent Scholar program a success. He noted that the initial call for Regent Scholar entries drew 32 applications from faculty and their business collaborators from across the state. Chairman Higgins also noted that a committee of UW System and outside evaluators selected five grant recipients to receive Regent Scholar awards this year.

Regent Emeritus Mark Tyler, the chair of the Regent Scholar Selection Committee, recognized and awarded each Regent Scholar grant recipient with recognition certificates. Regent Emeritus Tyler also provided an overview of each grant program. The 2015 Regent Scholar grant recipients include:

**UW-Eau Claire, Dr. Jennifer Dahl (\$50,000 grant)**

- Janus nanoparticles: A practical pathway toward functional materials for efficient photovoltaics, optical circuits, and nanomedicine

**UW-La Crosse, Dr. Heather Schenck (\$36,706 grant)**

- Rotation barriers in hydroxamic acids: Optimization of metal-binding molecules for medical and industrial applications

**UW-Milwaukee, Dr. Junhong Chen (\$50,000 grant)**

- Smart phone-supported sensors for real-time monitoring of heavy metal ions in water

**UW-River Falls, Dr. Tim Lyden (\$50,000 grant)**

- Development and testing of a new miniature bioreactor system prototype as an enabling technology for the "Living Biopsy" approach to cancer research and diagnosis

**UW-Stevens Point, Dr. Christopher Hartleb (\$50,000 grant)**

- Aquaponics innovation through undergraduate education and discovery

### **c. UW-Extension Division of Business and Entrepreneurship Update**

UW Colleges and UW-Extension Chancellor Cathy Sandeen introduced Mark Lange, Executive Director, Business and Entrepreneurship, who provided an update on his organization's initiatives and programs. He also provided information about the "Wisconsin Core Business Economy" and new economic and business research resources now available to UW System institutions.

Terra Johnson, Director of the Food Finance Institute, provided additional information on the aid, support, and collaboration that the UW-Extension Division of Business and Entrepreneurship can provide to Wisconsin businesses and economic development organizations.

### **d. Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) – Statewide Network and Regional Partnership Update**

Secretary and CEO Reed Hall opened with brief remarks and then introduced Tricia Braun, WEDC's Vice President of Economic and Community Development. She provided an update on current initiatives and programs, with a focus on WEDC's efforts to collaborate with the university and with state businesses and economic development organizations to build stronger communities and to support opportunities for job creation.

### **e. A High-level Overview and Illustration of UW-Madison's Research Enterprise**

The UW-Madison research enterprise is the product of over 100 years of state and federal investments during which time the university has remained focused on:

- Improving people's lives—the quality and quantity of life for Wisconsinites and others.
- Improving the teaching and learning of students—focused on student outcomes/success.
- Growing the state's economy—As a Federal Land Grant institution, this is in the university's DNA; it is fundamental to its mission.

Steve Ackerman, UW-Madison's Associate Vice Chancellor for Research-Physical Sciences, and Ms. Jacola Roman, a PhD student in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, provided an overview of UW-Madison's research enterprise. Vice Chancellor Ackerman highlighted the complicated and interdependent relationship between UW-Madison's research enterprise and all other administrative, educational, and support functions across campus.

Chairman Higgins adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.