

**Minutes of the UW System Board of Regents  
Education Committee Meeting on  
April 6, 2017**

Regent Petersen convened the meeting of the Education Committee on Thursday, April 6, 2017 at 9:06 a.m. Regents Farrow, Klein, Langnes, Manydeeds, and Tyler were present. Regents Whitburn and Evers were absent.

**Committee Actions**

On April 6, 2017, unanimously adopted the March 7, 2017, Minutes and the following eight resolutions:

- **Resolution I.1.b.**, approving the Collaborative Online Bachelor of Science in Applied Computing Degree Completion Program from UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point and with support from UW-Extension;
- **Resolution I.1.c.**, approving the Master of Science in Atmospheric Science from UW-Milwaukee;
- **Resolution I.1.d.**, approving the Doctor of Philosophy in Atmospheric Science from UW-Milwaukee;
- **Resolution I.1.e.**, approving the Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology from UW-Milwaukee;
- **Resolution I.1.f.**, approving the Post-Tenure Review Policy for UW Colleges;
- **Resolution I.1.g.**, approving the Post-Tenure Review Policy for UW-Madison;
- **Resolution I.1.h.**, approving the Post-Tenure Review Policy for UW-Stevens Point; and
- **Resolution I.1.i.**, approving the Post-Tenure Review Policy for UW-Whitewater.

**Collaborative Online Bachelor of Science in Applied Computing Degree-Completion Program from UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point and with support from UW-Extension**

UW-River Falls Provost, Dr. Faye J. Perkins, and UW-Extension Provost, Dr. Aaron Brower, spoke in support of the Collaborative Online Bachelor of Science in Applied Computing Degree Completion Program.

This collaborative degree completion program will be taught fully online, and it is comprised of 21 courses and a capstone project. The courses were developed by faculty from all participating institutions.

This program follows a home campus model where students apply to one of the five participating institutions and will receive all of their academic support and degree from their home institution. Tuition will be identical at all five institutions. The degree will predominantly attract non-traditional learners who already have 60 credits or an Associate Degree. Strong enrollment is anticipated with 285 students enrolling and 40 students having graduated by the end of year five.

Applied computing is unique in that it focuses on the practical implications of computing to address real work problems in work settings. This is one of the fastest growing professional fields in the United States. Graduates will find work managing computer systems, developing computer software and applications, managing database administration systems, providing technical support and analysis, and in software engineering.

Regent Peterson lauded the participating campuses for collaboratively developing this degree, noting that no single campus could have created this program on its own. He also noted that the national average the starting salary for this degree is \$81,430, and that students who earn the degree will be in high demand within the marketplace.

Regent Tyler asked about the role of collaborative degree programs, and Provost Brower explained that these programs allow participating institutions to collaboratively leverage strengths, so that degree programs, which have significant demand but could not otherwise be developed, can indeed be achieved. Provost Perkins responded that the five campuses supporting this degree program worked collaboratively to identify what would be the ideal curriculum. Then, they analyzed what courses each campus already had in place, and focused on having each campus provide its expertise—building on the strength of faculty and offerings that already were available and that were relevant to developing the ideal curriculum.

Regent Farrow asked whether this degree program is part of the Flex Program. Provost Brower responded that this is not part of that program. Because these collaborative programs are built on standard courses and credits, they have a different format than the coursework offered the Flex Program.

Regent Farrow lauded the collaborative nature of this program and the willingness of campuses to meet a demonstrated student and market need. Provost Brower responded by stating that each campus has career placement offices at which students will gain assistance in seeking employment in the field.

Regent Langnes asked whether this program will attract out-of-state students, and Provost Brower responded that, yes, the program will attract a national audience of students, as well as a state audience.

Regent Manydeeds moved to approve the degree program. Regent Langnes seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **UW-Milwaukee Master of Science in Atmospheric Science**

UW-Milwaukee Provost Johannes Britz and Dr. Kyle Swanson, Professor of Mathematical Sciences spoke in support of the Master of Science Degree Program in Atmospheric Science.

This degree program will replace an existing master's degree option, which now exists within the Department of Mathematical Sciences, with a stand-alone degree program in Atmospheric Science. Thereby, UW-Milwaukee will gain greater national and regional exposure in the field of Atmospheric Science, as well as the potential for increased student enrollment and grant funding.

Regent Klein moved to approve the degree program. Regent Langnes seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Committee.

#### **UW-Milwaukee Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program in Atmospheric Science**

UW-Milwaukee Provost Johannes Britz and Dr. Kyle Swanson, Professor of Mathematical Sciences spoke in support of the Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program in Atmospheric Science.

Dr. Swanson described that this doctoral degree program is likely to graduate one or two Ph.D. students per year. As professionals in the field of Atmospheric Science, they will go on to work as professors, industry weather management predictions, or for federal agencies such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Regent Langnes moved to approve the degree program. Regent Farrow seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Committee.

#### **UW-Milwaukee Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program in Epidemiology**

UW-Milwaukee Provost Johannes Britz, and Dr. Ellen Velie, Professor of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health spoke in support of this degree program.

Professor Velie stated that this degree program responds to ongoing health challenges not only in Milwaukee, but across the United States. Presently, there is an increased need for advanced training of epidemiologists. The strongest projected demand will come from students who already are enrolled in the UW-Milwaukee School of Public Health, and who seek to pursue an advanced degree in epidemiology.

Regent Manydeeds moved to approve the degree program. Regent Farrow seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Committee.

#### **Post-Tenure Review Policies from UW Colleges, UW-Madison, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Whitewater**

Regent Petersen asked UW System General Counsel, Tomas Stafford, as well as all of the Provosts from the participating institutions to collectively appear before the Committee in order to discuss the four pending post-tenure review policies.

Provost Greg Lampe appeared on behalf of the UW Colleges. Provost Sarah Mangelsdorf appeared on behalf of UW-Madison. Provost Greg Summers appeared on behalf of UW-Stevens Point. Provost Susan Elrod appeared on behalf of UW-Whitewater.

Regent Petersen thanked all of the campuses for their work, noting that this was not an easy process across all of the campuses.

General Counsel Stafford noted that all four policies were carefully reviewed by the Office of General Counsel, and that all four policies meet all of the legal requirements set forth in the Regent Policy Documents.

On behalf of UW Colleges, Provost Lampe stated that the Post-Tenure Review Policy had been approved by the Faculty Senate. Regent Petersen expressed his gratitude for the work of faculty at UW College campuses across the State of Wisconsin in completing this policy despite the challenge of an expedited timeline. Provost Lampe also expressed gratitude to his Faculty Senate, noting their dedication, hard work, good faith, and diligence especially given the challenges faced by geographically diverse institutions.

On behalf of UW-Madison, Provost Sarah Mangelsdorf expressed gratitude for both the Faculty Senate and Office of Legal Affairs for their work in advancing and approving the campus policy.

On behalf of UW-Stevens Point, Provost Greg Summers noted that their campus policy was not only compliant with the Regent Policy Documents, but also that the policy includes a built-in, automatic raise for professors who earn a successful post-tenure review.

On behalf of UW-Whitewater, Provost Susan Elrod thanked the Chancellor and Faculty Senate for their ability to create a policy that fits the campus culture by including elements that were important to faculty leaders while simultaneously achieving consistency with existing campus and Regent Policy Documents.

Regent Petersen combined the resolutions for all four campus Post-Tenure Review Policies into a single motion for approval. Regent Langnes moved to approve the motion. Regent Farrow seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Committee.

### **Report of Vice President for Student and Academic Affairs, Dr. James Henderson**

Vice President Henderson provided an update regarding the Math Remediation Initiative. Vice President Henderson attended the Math Pathways for Student Success (MPSS) Summit on Mathematic Pathways in Indianapolis, Indiana from March 6-7, 2017. This summit brought together national leaders and experts in mathematics, all of whom seek to increase student achievement in mathematics courses. In follow-up, these leaders and experts will collaborate across their multiple programmatic efforts, so as to achieve greater impact on student success at their respective campuses and systems of higher education. Specifically, on behalf of the UW System, Vice President Henderson will work with these leaders to seek funding for their collaborative efforts by submitting a large grant proposal to the Lumina Foundation.

Vice President Henderson updated the Committee regarding staffing changes in the UW System Office of Academic and Student Affairs. Dr. Christina Navia will now serve as the Interim Vice President for Student Success, overseeing student admissions and services. Dr. Carleen Vande Zande, who is now the Associate Vice Chancellor for Curricular Affairs and Student Academic Achievement at UW-Oshkosh, will begin serving as the Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Programs and Educational Innovation, beginning on May 15, 2017.

Regent Farrow asked whether any of the UW System's efforts are focused upon K-12 education. VP Henderson responded that UW System is focused on K-12 education via several different efforts, particularly with the Math Remediation Initiative.

Regent Klein noted that math remediation is vital and asked whether there are any immediately applicable initiatives that we can implement, perhaps next year. Regent Klein stated that at the high school level, math courses also are related to coursework in biology and chemistry, especially for Advanced Placement classes. Thus, she stated that it is critically important to have both qualified math teachers and counselors at the high school level, and that if there was funding to support the development of qualified teachers and counselors, then the State of Wisconsin would reap dividends for years to come by facilitating success for generations of students. Regent Klein asked Regent Petersen to place this item on the agenda as a reporting item for the June meeting.

Regent Tyler affirmed Regent Klein's request and commented that school counselors are grasping at what they need to deliver as part of academic and career planning, because they often do not have the knowledge they need to facilitate student success. Thus, the Committee has an opportunity before the Fall of 2017 to inform school counselors, letting them know what students need in order to qualify for college and university admission.

Regent Langnes affirmed the urgency of these issues, and especially of providing funding to develop high quality K-12 math teachers.

Vice President Henderson affirmed Regent Klein's request to provide key information at the next Education Committee meeting. He stated that it is difficult to find qualified math teachers at the high school level, which in turn, creates math phobia among students at the college level and dissuades students from pursuing degrees that require math courses as a prerequisite. Vice President Henderson also described the importance of developing math pathways for college students, which offer introductory mathematics courses that are more relevant to a student's major. As to K-12 schools, Vice President Henderson stated that high school standards often do not align with college admission standards, and thus, UW System institutions are striving to align their standards with high schools. Moreover, through a forthcoming Rural Schools Initiative the UW System will pursue ways to provide access for high school students to university math faculty, as a way of sharing resources with Wisconsin high schools that do not have funding for advanced mathematics classes.

#### **Presentation by Host Campus UW-Platteville**

UW-Platteville Provost Elizabeth Throop completed a presentation that was entitled: "Pioneers in the Field: UW-Platteville as a leader in Experiential Learning."

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Submitted by Laura A. Dunek, JD, PhD  
Education Committee Staff