



**Board of Regents**

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DATE: December 5, 2017

TO: Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Jess Lathrop, Interim Executive Director and Corporate Secretary

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

Meeting of the UW System Board of Regents  
to be held at Gordon Dining and Event Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
770 W. Dayton Street, Madison, Wisconsin  
on December 7, 2017

**Thursday, December 7, 2017**

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Business and Finance Committee, Subcommittee on Investments –  
Overture Room

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Education Committee – Symphony Room

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Business and Finance Committee – Overture Room

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Research, Economic Development and Innovation Committee –  
Symphony Room

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Capital Planning and Budget Committee – Overture Room

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Audit Committee – Sonata Room

**11:45 a.m. All Regents—Symphony Room**

1. Calling of the roll
2. Approval of the minutes of the November 2017 meeting
3. Report of the President of the Board
  - a. Wisconsin Technical College System Board and Higher Educational Aids Board reports
  - b. Additional items that the President may report to the Board
4. Report of the President of the System
  - a. Update on recent events
  - b. News from around the UW System

12:15 p.m.

Lunch – Concerto Room

*A quorum of the Board of Regents may be present; however no Board business will be conducted.*

**1:00 p.m. (approx.) All Regents – Symphony Room**

5. Resolution of appreciation for former State Senator and Secretary Sheila Harsdorf
6. Update on Restructuring of UW Colleges and UW-Extension  
[Resolution 6.]
7. Report and approval of actions taken by the Education Committee
8. Report and approval of actions taken by the Business and Finance Committee
9. Report and approval of actions taken by the Capital Planning and Budget Committee
10. Report of the Research, Economic Development and Innovation Committee
11. Report of the Audit Committee
12. Communications, petitions, and memorials

Followed by:

13. **All Regents – Sonata Room**

Move into closed session to: (a) consider personal histories related to the naming of a facility at UW-La Crosse, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats.; (b) consider UW-Milwaukee honorary degree nominations, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats.; (c) consider a salary adjustment for a UW-Madison faculty member, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.; (d) consider annual personnel evaluations of chancellors, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.; (e) consider personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons relating to the UW-Oshkosh Foundation matter which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial effect upon the reputation of such persons, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats.; and (f) confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation (Berndt v. Board of Regents; Pergament v. Cooper; Benoy v. Board of Regents; Bank First National v. UW-Oshkosh Foundation; Board of Regents v. Sonnleitner and Wells; University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Foundation, Inc. v. Board of Regents; UW-Oshkosh Foundation, Inc. Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Filing) and potential litigation, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(g), Wis. Stats.

*Information about agenda items can be found during the week of the meeting at <https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/meetings/> or may be obtained from Jess Lathrop, Interim Executive Director, Office of the Board of Regents, 1860 Van Hise Hall, Madison, WI 53706, (608)262-2324.*

*Persons with disabilities requesting an accommodation to attend are asked to contact Jess Lathrop in advance of the meeting. The meeting will be webcast at <http://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/board-of-regents-video-streaming/> on Thursday, December 7, 2017, from 11:45 a.m. to approximately 12:15 p.m. and approximately 1:00 p.m. until approximately 2:15 p.m.*

Amendment of Resolution 10956  
“Approval of Restructuring of  
UW Colleges and UW-Extension”

BOARD OF REGENTS

Resolution 6.:

WHEREAS the Board of Regents approved Resolution 10956 in November 2017 regarding the restructuring of UW Colleges and UW-Extension, to include moving UW Colleges Online and the UW-Extension’s Division of Broadcasting and Media Innovation, Division of Business and Entrepreneurship, and Division of Continuing Education, Outreach, and E-Learning, to UW System Administration; and

WHEREAS the Higher Learning Commission has subsequently advised that the institution offering the UW Colleges Associate Degree Online and the UW Colleges Associate Degree in the Flex format must be an accredited degree-granting authority; and

WHEREAS the lengthy process for UW System Administration to ensure the existence of the needed infrastructure and secure such accreditation would not allow for the seamless continuation of these two important programs;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that effective July 1, 2018, UW Colleges Associate Degree Online and UW Colleges Associate Degree in the Flex format will be offered by one of the accredited four-year institutions of the UW System, amending the action taken with the approval of Resolution 10956 in November 2017;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents provides the UW System President with the authority to determine which four-year institution will offer the UW Colleges Associate Degree Online and the UW Colleges Associate Degree in the Flex format, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents.

**AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 10956, APPROVING THE  
RESTRUCTURING OF UW COLLEGES AND UW-EXTENSION**

**BACKGROUND**

In October 2017, UW System President Ray Cross announced a proposal to restructure UW Colleges and UW-Extension, integrating UW Colleges campuses into UW four-year institutions, and assigning divisions within UW-Extension to UW-Madison and UW System Administration. The impetus for President Cross's restructuring proposal included enrollment declines due to the state's demographic challenges, budgetary constraints, as well as the need for closer alignment between research and practice.

At the November 9, 2017 meeting of the Board of Regents, the Board approved President Cross's proposal to restructure UW Colleges and UW-Extension as of July 1, 2018 with the approval of Resolution 10956. This resolution joined each of the UW Colleges' 13 campuses with a four-year UW System institution, and joined the UW-Extension's Cooperative Extension Division and the UW-Extension Conference Centers with UW-Madison. The remaining divisions within UW-Extension – the Division of Business and Entrepreneurship, the Division of Broadcasting and Media Innovation, and the Division of Continuing Education, Outreach, and E-Learning, as well as UW Colleges Online – were moved to UW System Administration.

At the Board's December meeting, President Cross will provide on an update on the status of the restructuring efforts and seek a change to one aspect of the restructuring proposal detailed in Resolution 10956.

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Adoption of Resolution 6., amending Resolution 10956 to provide the System President with the authority to determine which four-year institution will offer the UW Colleges Associate Degree Online and the UW Colleges Associate Degree in the Flex format.

**DISCUSSION**

UW Colleges currently offers an Associate of Arts and Sciences degree, which is considered the foundation for many college majors and for the bachelor's degree. This Associate degree is currently offered at each of the UW Colleges' 13 campuses, as well as through UW Colleges Online and through the UW Flexible Option format.

The Higher Learning Commission recently advised that the Associate degree offered through UW Colleges Online and through the UW Flexible Option format can only be offered by an institution accredited as a degree-granting authority. Although UW System Administration

could pursue the accreditation needed to offer these two programs, the lengthy accreditation process would not allow for the seamless continuation of these two programs.

President Cross is seeking an amendment to Resolution 10956 that would permit the Associate degree currently offered through UW Colleges Online and in the Flexible Option format to be offered by one of the four-year institutions of the UW System, rather than UW System Administration. President Cross is also seeking the authority to determine which four-year institution will offer the Associate degree through UW Colleges Online and in the Flexible Option format.

## **RELATED BOARD OF REGENTS ACTIONS**

Resolution 10956, Approval of Restructuring of UW Colleges and UW-Extension