

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

of the

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

Held in the Wisconsin Room  
UW-Milwaukee Union  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Friday, June 9, 2017  
9:00 a.m.

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Friday, June 9, 2017  
8:15 a.m.

-President Millner presiding-

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**CLOSED SESSION – FIRESIDE LOUNGE**

PRESENT: Regents Robert Atwell, John Behling, José Delgado, Lisa Erickson, Margaret Farrow, Michael Grebe, Tim Higgins, Mike Jones, Regina Millner, Janice Mueller, Drew Petersen, Ryan Ring, Bryan Steil, Mark Tyler, and Gerald Whitburn

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regents Tony Evers, Eve Hall and Tracey Klein

President Millner called upon Vice President Behling to offer the resolution to move into closed session. The motion was seconded by Regent Grebe and adopted on a roll-call vote, with Regents Atwell, Behling, Delgado, Erickson, Farrow, Grebe, Higgins, Jones, Millner, Mueller, Petersen, Ring, Steil, Tyler, and Whitburn voting in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes and no abstentions.

**Closed Session Resolution**

Resolution 10872      That the Board of Regents move into closed session to consider annual personnel evaluations, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.

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**CALLING OF THE ROLL**

PRESENT: Regents Robert Atwell, John Behling, José Delgado, Lisa Erickson, Tony Evers, Margaret Farrow, Michael Grebe, Tim Higgins, Mike Jones, Tracey Klein, Regina Millner, Janice Mueller, Drew Petersen, Ryan Ring, Bryan Steil, Mark Tyler, and Gerald Whitburn

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regent Eve Hall

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## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2017 MEETING**

The minutes of the April 2017 Board of Regents meeting had been provided. Regent Petersen moved approval of the minutes. Vice President Behling seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved on a voice vote.

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## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD**

### ***Wisconsin Technical College System Board Report***

President Millner stated that the report of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board was not provided this month, but would be available before the Board's next regular meeting.

### ***Meeting Agenda***

President Millner thanked Chancellor Mone and all of his team for their hospitality. As UWM celebrates the one-year anniversary of its status as a Research-I university, President Millner expressed confidence that the Board could expect great things ahead!

Reviewing the agenda, President Millner commented that the annual Regents Academic Staff Awards for Excellence, the UW System's highest recognition for members of the academic staff, would be given later in the morning.

President Millner commented that on Thursday, the Regents welcomed three new colleagues to the Board of Regents. President Millner indicated that this is also a time of farewells for three departing colleagues whose terms of service have concluded.

Later in the morning, the Board would recognize the service of student Regent Emeritus James Langnes. The Board would formally recognize the service of Regent Emeritus Mark Bradley and Regent Emeritus Ed Manydeeds at its July meeting.

President Millner stated that all three have served the state and this great university system well, and that the Regents are proud to call them friends and colleagues.

### ***Update on Task Force on Campus Climate***

President Millner provided a brief update on the Task Force on Campus Climate, chaired by Regent Eve Hall and Regent Emeritus Ed Manydeeds. The task force was finalizing its report and recommendations, which would be presented to the Board at the July meeting.

Stating that the task force's work is of vital importance to every UW System institution, President Millner noted that we live in an increasingly global economy and multicultural society. Providing a healthy campus climate is essential to ensuring that all students are well equipped to thrive, both professionally and socially.

President Millner said she was grateful to the task force members for their work so far, as well as to Regent Emeritus Manydeeds and Regent Hall for their leadership.

### ***Spring Commencement***

President Millner observed that the close of the school year is a time of other big changes, as well. For many, that ending marks the beginning of a great new adventure. She, along with President Cross and several of her Regent colleagues, had the privilege of taking part in commencement ceremonies around the state. Though each ceremony is unique and different, President Millner said all share a sense of pride, accomplishment, and joy.

President Millner stated that she has attended quite a few of these events over the years, and it is a celebration that never gets old. She added that while it is inspiring to see the excitement and pride on the faces of the new graduates (and their family and friends as well), it is also worth remembering – and valuing – the many others who played a part, in ways both big and small, in making that big moment happen.

The System does not have final numbers yet, but is expecting that around 21,000 students earned University of Wisconsin degrees this spring – about 36,500 overall for the past academic year. President Millner said that this is something to celebrate. On behalf of the Board, she offered congratulations to all new degree-holders – and to all those who made their graduations possible.

President Millner suggested that commencements are perhaps the most joyful of all of the Regents' duties, allowing Board members to see families celebrate both first-generation graduates and those for whom graduation is a long family tradition. She encouraged the new Regents to participate in this special opportunity whenever they can.

President Millner added that these ceremonies – so filled with pomp and poignant memories – also should remind everyone of the importance of a quality institution, where dedicated and creative faculty inspire students to want more, where innovative research expands possibilities, and where fellow students challenge and encourage their peers. That is what this great UW System is all about, she concluded.

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## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SYSTEM**

President Millner turned to President Cross for his report.

## ***Update on Recent Events***

### **UW System Diversity Council**

President Cross said he was pleased to announce the inaugural members of the new UW System Diversity Council, which is designed to help foster increased diversity and inclusion in Wisconsin. The Council is made up of a group of leaders in business, the community and other key organizations from around the state. President Cross suggested that the Council's connections to campus communities will be key in helping the state prepare for an increasingly global world, where diversity and inclusion are both expected and valued in the workplace and in our communities.

The Diversity Council held its first meeting last month, and three important themes emerged: education, employment, and health. President Cross stated that the UW System looks forward to building on this strong start to help address key issues such as educational achievement, workforce development, and the future of Wisconsin's economy.

### **Wisconsin Idea Dairy Summit**

President Cross said he was excited to announce the first "Wisconsin Idea Summit," a key initiative in the 2020FWD framework. On June 19<sup>th</sup>, the UW System would host a Dairy Summit at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison. This event would bring together industry leaders as well as world-renowned UW researchers to help identify key priorities for Wisconsin's dairy industry moving forward.

Invited guests included federal and state legislators; Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Ben Brancel; researchers from UW-Extension, UW-Madison, UW-Platteville and UW-River Falls; leaders from the Center for Dairy Research; and representatives from the dairy and agriculture industries.

### **1+3 Program**

President Cross reported on a recent announcement in Oshkosh of the 1+3 program, which is designed to help meet the demands of the state's growing IT industry.

Through this program, students can complete their first year of college while in high school, allowing them to potentially earn a bachelor's degree in three years. This will get them into the workforce more quickly and help keep college more affordable for students and families, since the first year of college is completed in high school.

What sets this program apart, President Cross said, is that it not only targets the state's business needs but also partners with those businesses. He added that Governor Walker, who joined the UW System and its Fox Valley business partners to make this announcement, is enthusiastic about this program and its great potential to help the state's workforce development.

The 1+3 program builds upon the state's largest long-time concurrent enrollment program, the Cooperative Academic Partnership Program (CAPP) at UW-Oshkosh. Collaborators in the initiative include the UW System, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Green Bay, the regional UW Colleges, and local technical colleges.

President Cross said he was very pleased to report that since the announcement, UW-Oshkosh has already been receiving calls from high schools and businesses around the state. With things off to a terrific start, the UW System looks forward to growing this program in the coming months.

### ***News Around the UW System***

President Cross next shared some news from around the UW System, through a video presentation.

#### **Community Rallies around UW-Milwaukee Theater Students and Faculty**

President Cross reported that a fire in UW-Milwaukee's theater building in April could have been devastating, but the community rallied around students and faculty. Shorewood High School offered space to rebuild the set, and the Milwaukee Repertory Theater offered its stage – and the show went on.

#### **UW-Superior Speaks Out Against Sexual Assault**

Members of the UW-Superior community took part in an important conversation to help prevent sexual assault at the "Speak Out Superior" event. This program engages new voices in the fight against sexual assault.

#### **UW-Stout Student Research Spotlited at U.S. Capitol**

Research by a UW-Stout student was in the spotlight at the U.S. Capitol. Alexis Econie's research on the Red Cedar River watershed was highlighted at Posters on the Hill. This event gives students the opportunity to showcase their research to members of Congress.

#### **UW-Stevens Point Receives Green Ribbon Schools Award**

UW-Stevens Point is among the 2017 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools. This award acknowledges the university's comprehensive approach to sustainability. UW-Stevens Point is one of only nine postsecondary awardees in the nation.

#### **UW-River Falls STEMteach Graduate Program Receives NSF Grant**

UW-River Falls received a prestigious grant from the National Science Foundation worth nearly \$1.5 million to support the STEMteach graduate program. STEMteach produces highly qualified teachers in STEM fields to help meet state and regional needs.



### **UW-Platteville Chemistry Professor Receives NASA Grant**

UW-Platteville chemistry professor James Hamilton has received a grant from NASA to develop his telescope-cleaning polymer. With the help of his students, Dr. Hamilton will develop a polymer system specifically for the special needs of NASA's Starshade Telescope Project, which will be launched in the next decade.

### **UW-Parkside Students Win National Collegiate Sales Competition**

UW-Parkside students Phillip LaBar and Ashley Marchetti took home the championship title at the National Collegiate Sales Competition. UW-Parkside's business department now holds more than 36 national sales and marketing awards.

### **UW-Oshkosh *Engage* Magazine Marks 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

UW-Oshkosh's *Engage* magazine marked its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with its Spring 2017 issue. *Engage* serves as the cornerstone communications vehicle to share the university's success stories with alumni, faculty, staff, and students.

### **"Worm Mobile" Donated to UW-La Crosse Vermicomposting Center**

A local car dealership celebrated Earth Day by donating an electric vehicle to UW-La Crosse. The car carries food waste to a community vermicomposting project that originated at UW-La Crosse. This partnership helped the new Student Union earn Gold LEED building certification for excellence in green building.

### **UW-Madison Dairyland Initiative Helps Keep Cows Happy and Productive**

UW-Madison's Dairyland Initiative helps dairy producers build barns that keep their cows happy and productive. Based on scientific principles developed by the School of Veterinary Medicine, these barns are designed to maximize cow comfort.

### **Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Highlights Need to Expand UW-Green Bay**

An updated strategic plan for the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce highlighted the necessity to expand UW-Green Bay. The plan noted that student talent drives economic development. Chancellor Miller spoke at the event, sharing the university's support for the plan and his optimism about the future.

### **UW HELP Develops New App to Help Students Find Best-Fitting UW System Campus**

UW HELP, a part of UW-Extension, developed a new app that gives students a starting point to find the UW System campus that fits the students best. UW Journey will be available in the App Store and Google Play in June.

## **UW-Eau Claire Research Studies Water Quality in Western Wisconsin**

Student and faculty researchers from UW-Eau Claire are studying the quality of surface water and groundwater in western Wisconsin. This research will help the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources establish reasonable and responsible regulations for the silica sand mining industry.

## **UW Colleges Holds Undergraduate Research and Performance Symposiums**

UW Colleges recently held Undergraduate Research and Performance symposiums. Eight campuses highlighted student research in various fields. The event at UW-Marinette reached a significant milestone in celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year.

## **UW-Whitewater Students “Hired before Graduation”**

UW-Whitewater students participated in the popular Hired before Graduation campaign. Graduating seniors who have landed jobs before commencement are invited to have their photos taken and posted to social media. This year, UW-Whitewater set a new record with 200 participants.

## ***Update on Biennial Budget Process***

Next, President Cross offered a brief update on the biennial budget. He indicated that the UW System put forth a reasonable budget request that strategically aligns its resources with the state’s greatest needs, and he was happy to see the Joint Finance Committee support a funding increase for the UW System. He reiterated his sincere thanks to Speaker Vos, Majority Leader Fitzgerald, and Joint Finance Co-Chairs Darling and Nygren, as well as Senator Harsdorf and Representative Born, for their commitment to the UW System and for their close work with the university throughout the budget process.

President Cross noted that there are still a couple of issues that remain unfinished. Key among those issues are compensation and the capital budget.

He indicated that compensation is the UW System’s top priority, and that every legislator with whom System representatives have spoken is committed to providing an increase for UW employees in this budget. President Cross expressed appreciation for this strong signal of support from the legislature; he said, however, that it is not yet known how much that increase might be, or whether it will be fully funded.

President Cross observed that a key difference between the UW System and state agencies is that, historically, the UW System has paid 30 percent of any state pay plan. However, tuition has now been frozen for four years, and the budget proposes to continue that freeze for an additional two years. Thus, the Board has asked the state to fully fund a pay plan for a two-percent increase in each year of the biennium, just as it would for every other state agency.

President Cross pointed out that if the UW System has to pick up 30 percent of the pay plan beginning in July of each year, the pay plan will cost the university \$23 million. He added that other variations of a pay plan are also being considered.

President Cross reiterated that, while the UW System will not know the size and scope of any pay plan increase until later in the budget process, it does greatly appreciate the support for UW employees shown by the committee so far.

Regarding the capital budget, President Cross reported that the UW System continues to advocate for an increased investment in campus infrastructure to renovate, remodel and maintain existing buildings. To remain competitive and to prepare students to meet workforce demand, the university needs appropriate and up-to-date teaching and living spaces for faculty and students. He noted that the maintenance plan submitted by the UW System impacts only about 3 percent of its existing inventory.

President Cross thanked the Governor for his support and what he has proposed, including \$100 million in all-agency maintenance money and several important projects. Observing that costs go up when projects are delayed, he suggested that if necessary repairs can be made sooner rather than later, it will save taxpayers and students millions of dollars in the future. Projects at UW-Milwaukee, UW-Whitewater, and UW-Extension have already received formal support, and System staff and chancellors are working aggressively in hopes that other institutional projects will be added to the list in the future.

Taking a closer look at the major items in the omnibus motion passed by the Joint Finance Committee, President Cross first pointed out that the UW portion of the budget includes the restoration of the \$50 million lapsed during the last budget, as well as \$36.2 million in new funding for the UW System. Of that new funding, \$28.8 million is an ongoing base increase, with most of it – \$26.3 million – tied to an outcomes-based funding model. Also, \$5 million is set aside in the first year for an innovation fund to support capacity-building in high-demand programs.

President Cross said he had asked Vice President Henderson to convene a working group to begin developing an outcomes-based – or performance-based – funding plan. Once this working group has completed its proposed model, it will be presented to the Board of Regents for review and approval and subsequently forwarded to the Joint Finance Committee for its review.

Second, turning to tuition, the Joint Finance Committee did not approve the tuition cut proposed in the executive budget, and instead froze tuition for both years of the biennium. Additionally, the Joint Finance Committee adopted the Governor's proposal to increase funding for financial aid by \$6 million; this funding would go to the Higher Educational Aids Board, not to the university. Echoing the Board's request, President Cross noted that this represents the largest increase in state financial aid in a decade.

Third, several smaller initiatives also were funded; President Cross pointed out that less funding does not mean less important. The Joint Finance Committee increased financial support

for the Flexible Option program, the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at UW-Madison, and the UW Carbone Cancer Center. It also proposed creating the Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership.

Finally, the omnibus budget approved by the Joint Finance Committee includes items that the UW System is being asked to perform that are not funded. This includes expanding free tuition for veterans and family members who move to Wisconsin from out of state, and requiring the UW System to contract for an annual audit by an external firm. In both cases, President Cross expressed concern that these are not funded, and that responsibility for such decisions will be taken away from the Board of Regents.

President Cross indicated that there could be a new budget by July 1; however, given the current challenges at the Capitol, he suggested that may not be realistic. Calling the next four weeks "crucial," he said the UW System will continue to work with its partners to advocate for its institutions.

### **Chancellors' Perspectives**

President Cross said he had asked a few of the chancellors to share their thoughts on the particular importance of compensation and the capital budget.

Chancellor Schmidt expressed appreciation for the opportunity to speak about the overall budget and specifically the importance of the compensation portion. He expressed thanks to Governor Walker for proposing the best budget the UW System has had in more than a decade, suggesting that the governor recognizes that the UW System is truly the economic driver for the state of Wisconsin.

While it is important for campuses to have good facilities, Chancellor Schmidt said that the UW institutions are really about their people: great faculty and staff. At UW-Eau Claire there is a strong culture of service, with all employees focused on the best outcomes for the students.

A recently completed analysis of UW-Eau Claire faculty and staff salaries showed that 74 percent of employees are behind the average CUPA-HR (College and University Professional Association for Human Resources) rate for the institution's upper-Midwest peers. On average, full professors at UW-Eau Claire are 21.5 percent behind their peers. Chancellor Schmidt pointed out that full professors have taken the biggest hit because they have not had a regular pay increase for a number of years. In addition, employees have had to pick up a greater share of their fringe benefit costs.

He indicated that his institution has doubled its efforts to make up for the cuts that occurred during the last legislative session. He noted that UW-Eau Claire cut 179 full-time positions, or 15 percent of the workforce; this included a 25-percent cut in facilities, and 20-percent cuts in most non-instructional areas. UW-Eau Claire has asked all of its employees to think differently, to reorganize, and to make sure the institution can continue to achieve great outcomes for its students.

Chancellor Schmidt suggested that all of the faculty and staff, not only at UW-Eau Claire but across the System, have had great outcomes and have served the state well. The governor's proposed pay plan will send a strong signal to the hard-working faculty and staff of the UW System that they are valued by Wisconsin's citizens, the Board of Regents, and by the policymakers that make those important funding decisions.

Concluding that the compensation package is an essential part of the governor's proposed budget, Chancellor Schmidt expressed hope that the Joint Finance Committee would see fit to not only support the proposal, but also to help fund the remaining 30 percent that the university is not able to make up through tuition.

Chancellor Sandeen thanked the Regents for recognizing the importance of the "two-plus-two" salary increase. In the UW Colleges and UW-Extension, faculty and staff compensation is on average 20 to 25 percent below that of peers. This is an issue in terms of recruitment and retention.

Chancellor Sandeen pointed out that often when recruiting people to come to Wisconsin, it is suggested that great benefits and a low cost of living make up for lower salaries. However, employees are paying more for their health care benefits now. The chancellor said that she pays much more in Wisconsin than she did in California or Washington, D.C. The UW System needs to examine the assumption that benefits make up for low salaries.

The same applies to the cost of living; Chancellor Sandeen noted that Chancellor Meyer at UW-Stout recently put out a document showing that central Wisconsin's cost of living is quite high. In urban areas the cost of living is even higher. The chancellor again expressed her appreciation to the Regents for recognizing the issue with salaries, but said she was providing this broader context because of the effect on UW employees.

Adding that she was grateful that the governor put this salary increase into his proposal, Chancellor Sandeen said she would wait to see what happens with the compensation package, because it was not included in the version passed by the Joint Finance Committee. She indicated that UW Colleges and UW-Extension employees want to remain in the compensation reserve, like every other state employee, and they want their salary increases to begin on July 1, 2017, as usual when a salary increase is enacted.

UW Colleges and UW-Extension are also concerned that the compensation package is fully funded. Chancellor Sandeen emphasized that the institutions want to pay and reward faculty and staff, but also worry about possibly creating a structural deficit if this is not done appropriately. She told the Regents that anything they can do to advocate for the UW System on this issue with the legislature would be greatly appreciated by all of the institutions.

Chancellor Van Galen stated that the quality of education UW-River Falls offers depends so much on its ability to recruit, retain and support its faculty and staff. Indicating that UW-River Falls would be holding an alumni event in Milwaukee that evening, he predicted that the alumni would not be talking about the institution's buildings or administrators, but instead would talk about the faculty and staff that affected their lives when they were at the university.

To illustrate the challenges on his campus, he shared a real-life example of a chemistry faculty member that UW-River Falls recently lost to another institution. This person, who has a Ph.D. in organic chemistry, was hired in 2008 after a national search where she rose to the top. By all accounts she had been an outstanding faculty member, an excellent teacher, a productive scholar, one of the principal investigators on a \$300,000 National Science Foundation grant, and a good colleague.

During her eight years at UW-River Falls, this faculty member earned tenure and was promoted from assistant to associate professor. She received a \$3,000 increase to her salary connected to her promotion, as well as a \$2,500 campus-based increase; Chancellor Van Galen explained that UW-River Falls has a modest compensation plan for faculty, based on CUPA data, but noted that it had been very difficult to fund in this environment.

Over that eight-year period, the faculty member also received two one-percent pay plans, totaling a \$1,015 increase. Eight years after being hired at UW-River Falls, this faculty member had received \$6,515 in pay increases, culminating in a salary of \$54,515. The chancellor suggested that this number would shock many members of the public.

Last month the associate chemistry professor accepted an offer from another institution, which included about an \$8,000 increase to her salary. Chancellor Van Galen reported that UW-River Falls did provide a counter offer which, if she had accepted, would have actually created some serious salary inversion issues within the department. However, she left the university to go across the river to Minnesota.

In the last year, UW-River Falls has lost a provost, a chief information officer, a chief human resources officer, an executive director of facilities, and a director of student life. Typically they accepted offers that came with \$15,000 to \$20,000 pay increases.

Stating that this is a serious issue, Chancellor Van Galen expressed his appreciation for the governor's proposed increase and for the understanding of many legislators, including Senator Harsdorf and Representative Zimmerman from the UW-River Falls region.

Chancellor Shields said he had the good fortune to serve on the board of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. Each spring the current chair hosts a meeting on his or her campus, so over the last four years he has had the opportunity to visit UW-Platteville's peer institutions. He indicated that almost every one of them has a new science building; for example, SUNY Oswego showcased a new \$135-million, 200,000-square-foot science building with remarkable energy efficiency using geothermal heating and cooling.

Stating that he was "extraordinarily pleased" with the great reception that he had received from the governor and the legislature in at least entertaining UW-Platteville's capital requests, Chancellor Shields said he was especially grateful to Senator Marklein for helping to convince the Joint Finance Committee to hold its first public hearing of the budget cycle at UW-Platteville.

After the hearing was over, the Joint Finance Committee took a tour of UW-Platteville's facilities. In Boebel Hall the committee members were able to walk through outdated biology classrooms. In Ottensman Hall they were able to see firsthand how two engineering faculty are forced to share a space that used to be a closet.

The committee members also looked at a wind tunnel machine that was original equipment to one building. Chancellor Shields recalled a faculty member explaining to the visiting legislators that when something breaks on this machine, the university has to go on eBay to find replacement parts because they are not made anymore.

The chancellor suggested that actually being in these buildings had a great impact, because the Joint Finance Committee was able to see what they are like and understand what the university's needs are. As discussions continue in the legislature under the leadership of Representative Nygren, Senator Harsdorf, Representative Born, and Senator Darling, Chancellor Shields indicated that UW-Platteville projects were receiving a favorable reception.

Saying he was especially excited about a new engineering building and completing the remodel of Boebel Hall, Chancellor Shields indicated that there were other equally worthy projects around the System.

Chancellor Ford also expressed appreciation for the governor's budget, and particularly the funding for all-agency maintenance for the UW System, suggesting that she hoped this would help mitigate future deferred maintenance issues.

She explained that UW-Parkside is advocating for an infrastructure project at Wyllie Hall, which the Board had approved in the last biennial budget but which had not been funded. It was a \$30 million project at the time, but the estimated cost had escalated to about \$35 million in the current biennium.

Chancellor Ford highlighted the support of regional groups, such as the Racine Common Council, the Kenosha Common Council, the Kenosha County Board, the Village of Sommers Board, and the Racine County Board, for a resolution backing the overall UW System budget, and particularly the capital request for Wyllie Hall.

The infrastructure work for Wyllie Hall would involve improvements to the 45-year-old HVAC, plumbing and electrical systems. The chancellor said that UW-Parkside sent a video tour to all the members of its local delegation, so that the legislators could actually see the infrastructure issues that the university is most concerned about and learn how a potential failure might impact the learning environment at UW-Parkside.

Chancellor Ford expressed appreciation to Senator Wanggaard and Speaker Vos, who have been big proponents for this project and have spoken publicly on UW-Parkside's behalf. She also had an opportunity to meet with Representative Born, Senator Harsdorf, and Senator Darling about this particular project.

Stating that the delegation in southeastern Wisconsin is very supportive, the chancellor said she was hopeful that the Joint Finance Committee would include the Wyllie Hall project among the capital projects receiving funding in this biennium.

### **Discussion**

Observing that there has been excellent support for the UW System and the campuses from local business communities, President Millner asked the chancellors to share examples of this.

Chancellor Shields said that he spends one or two days every other month visiting communities across southwest Wisconsin, meeting with large local manufacturers, smaller employers, elected officials and chambers of commerce. It is the Wisconsin Idea. By talking with and listening to these groups, the university learns how it can be helpful to and supportive of the business community.

He indicated that many of the businesses from the surrounding area have attended and presented at Joint Finance Committee listening sessions. In addition, many of these people serve on UW-Platteville advisory boards, and so are very much in tune with what is happening on campus and in the various disciplines. They have written letters; for example, the chambers of commerce for many local cities wrote in support of UW-Platteville to the governor and the Joint Finance Committee.

Chancellor Shields added that UW-Platteville was represented at each one of the Joint Finance Committee's public hearings across the state. For example, business representatives from Waupaca and Kohler have a substantial number of employees who are UW-Platteville alumni.

President Millner commented that the requests business are making on behalf of the UW System are about the students and campuses, but are also about the importance of economic and development within the state. Chancellor Shields added workforce development to this list.

Commenting on the growth of new businesses and expansion of current businesses in southeastern Wisconsin, Chancellor Ford said that these businesses are seeking partnerships not only with UW-Parkside but also Gateway Technical College and the private Carthage College. Employers are creating more and more internships, are serving on UW-Parkside advisory boards, and are helping ensure that the university's curriculum remains relevant in meeting their needs.

Noting that UW-Parkside had just graduated the largest class in its history, Chancellor Ford stated that the university is preparing ready talent for southeastern Wisconsin. She added that she hears almost every day about how important higher education is to economic development and vitality in the southeastern Wisconsin region.

Chancellor Patterson indicated that UW-Stevens Point is seeing a similar story with business leaders in central Wisconsin. Cliff King, CEO at Skyward, has organized a consortium of area businesses, particularly those interested in IT, to help fund a position in UW-Stevens



Point's computer science department. In another example, Sentry Insurance gave its largest gift ever to endow UW-Stevens Point faculty chairs.

The chancellor emphasized that the university needs to keep in mind that "people don't buy Buicks because General Motors needs the money." Businesses do not give contributions or endow chairs to help UW-Stevens Point turn on the lights. The basics the university must fund itself.

Noting that other chancellors had spoken about the salary situation, Chancellor Patterson agreed that the faculty on his campus are paid below the national average. He said that businesses had stepped up to support workforce development in the current budget in a big way, but that will not solve the compensation problem. That is something the state has to do, he said.

He ended by telling about a time when he discussed compensation with a junior faculty member four years earlier. With four children and a wife who did not work, this faculty member was eligible for food stamps. Chancellor Patterson said that the state needs to pay attention to this "heartbreaking" situation.

Chancellor Schmidt said that the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce, the Menomonie Chamber of Commerce, and the Chippewa Falls Chamber of Commerce came together for the annual Chippewa Valley Rally, and their #1 goal this year was full funding of the UW System and Wisconsin Technical College System budget requests. He observed that this is a marked difference from only a few years ago. These organizations have now seen the impact of UW-Eau Claire's losing 25 tenured and tenure-track faculty members in the past year, to Minnesota, Michigan, Texas, Notre Dame and others.

Chancellor Schmidt said that losing key staff, "the soul of our institutions," keeps him up at night. UW-Eau Claire recently lost its Honors Director, who had transformed the program into one of the top 20 in the country. He would be taking his tenured English-faculty wife with him. The chancellor noted that this person would receive a 75-percent pay increase.

The chancellor recalled that at the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce Eggs and Issues event last summer, the first question asked was about funding the UW System and its pay plan. He indicated that Representative Bernier, Senator Moulton, and many of the new legislators from the Chippewa Valley agreed that the legislature needs to support the request and that these pay increases are long overdue.

Chancellor Schmidt added that, for the first time in his career, he has been receiving phone calls from area business leaders because they have heard that a faculty member is leaving to take another job. They say that UW-Eau Claire has to have certain professors who provide a specific service to their organization, industry or community.

Suggesting that the governor, Joint Finance Committee, elected officials and the public understand that it is time to reinvest in UW faculty and infrastructure, Chancellor Schmidt expressed appreciation for all of the work that the Regents do, publicly and behind the scenes, to advance that message.

Noting that the Board had opportunities on previous occasions to hear from both Chancellor Mone and Chancellor Blank about this issue, President Millner observed that chancellors from all parts of Wisconsin were expressing the same themes: service to the students and their families, the need for UW institutions, and the importance of the compensation request both for UW employees and economic development in every part of the state.

Regent Whitburn said Chancellor Schmidt's comments emphasized that the UW System is Wisconsin's most important institution – past, present and future.

Commenting on compensation, Regent Whitburn indicated that there is not “a money tree” in Madison, but the good news is that revenues are positive. Stating that it is critical that UW staff be treated fairly in this \$75-billion biennial budget, he concluded that equity and fairness are what the UW System deserves for its “wonderful workforce, doing among Wisconsin's most important work.”

Regent Tyler agreed that compensation is a critical issue. He also observed that he had heard anecdotes about industry, businesses and employers funding or offering to fund projects, and yet the projects became tied up in bureaucracy and were delayed, leading donors to become frustrated. He asked if chancellors could share similar anecdotes.

President Cross said he knew of at least two or three cases where funding had been donated but the projects were delayed. He indicated that the UW System is trying to work with the Department of Administration to expedite that process, but acknowledged that it can be difficult to explain to donors who want to know why it is taking so long.

Chancellor Leavitt suggested that the flexibility and responsiveness of the institutions to business is a concern. Businesses run at a certain pace, and when they bring an issue, problem or opportunity to the university, they would like to have it addressed in real time.

He pointed out that an institution might be limited in how quickly it can respond. For instance, assigning faculty to a particular project might involve rigid human resources rules about types of compensation for that work. This slows the response time to external requests for UW institutions' services.

Drawing the discussion to a close, President Millner expressed appreciation for the comments made by the chancellors. President Cross also expressed his appreciation to the chancellors, explaining that he wanted the Regents to hear some of the issues they are dealing with on a daily basis related to compensation, retaining and attracting faculty and staff, and facility issues.

He said the UW System understands the challenges legislators face in the budget process; when the state suffers, the university suffers, and when the state does well, the university should as well. The System's goal is to communicate effectively, as professionally and as carefully as it can, that higher education is an investment in the future, not only an expense on the business ledger. Stating that compensation and capital are important, President Cross concluded that if

the future of Wisconsin is going to be rosy, the UW System is the best investment the state can make.

### ***Update on Federal Budget Process***

President Cross next provided a federal update. In March, Associate Vice President for Federal Relations Kris Andrews had presented an overview of the UW System's key federal priorities. Subsequently, on May 23, the Trump administration released its 2018 budget request.

The budget proposal seeks roughly \$3.6 trillion in federal spending cuts over the next ten years. For fiscal year 2018, defense spending would increase to \$668 billion, or \$22 billion above current levels. Non-defense discretionary spending, which is where a majority of student aid, scientific research, and institutional support is funded, would fall to \$479 billion, a \$57 billion decrease from current levels.

President Cross reported that the general consensus is that there is not broad support in the House or the Senate for this budget as it currently stands. He said that because it is likely to undergo significant changes, he would not delve into the details. However, he indicated that there are several areas of proposed reductions that particularly concern the UW System.

Focusing first on areas that will affect students, President Cross said that no increases in the maximum Pell Grant are proposed. This would be the first time since 2012 that students would not receive an increase.

The federal Perkins loan program is due to expire in September; all UW System chancellors have signed a letter asking members of Congress to approve legislation to extend the program.

Significant cuts to the federal TRIO programs have been proposed. TRIO programs support activities such as advising, mentoring and tutoring, which are known to help with student retention and success. President Cross added that these also happen to be 2020FWD priorities for the UW System. In May, eight UW System institutions – all of which applied – were notified they would receive funding for Upward Bound, a TRIO program geared to low-income families and first-generation college students.

Finally, significant changes to student loan programs are on the table. While a number of these concern the UW System, President Cross indicated that perhaps the most important is the proposed elimination of subsidized loans for needy undergraduates. These students would now be charged interest starting from the time they take out the loan, rather than after they graduate.

President Trump's budget also proposes cuts to the federal departments and agencies that support research and development on UW campuses. President Cross said this is "both significant and concerning." Research and development is critical to the economy, and while this work is primarily done at UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee, all UW institutions play an important part. Companies often turn to higher education for advice, consulting and research. Ongoing investment is necessary for this progress to continue. He noted that those who attended

the previous day's REDI Committee meeting heard Wisconsin Technology Council president Tom Still address this issue.

The proposed federal budget now heads to the U.S. House and Senate for consideration. President Cross reiterated that Congress is expected to make significant changes, and the UW System will work with Wisconsin's delegation to make sure it has the information needed to prioritize federal spending that is in the best interests of the UW System, Wisconsin, and the nation.

In the meantime, President Cross encouraged Regents with more specific questions to contact Associate Vice President Kris Andrews.

President Cross said he had asked UW-Milwaukee Chancellor Mone and UW-Madison Provost Sara Mangelsdorf (on behalf of Chancellor Blank, who was unable to attend) to share their perspectives on the potential impact of the federal research-related issues.

Chancellor Mone noted that UW-Milwaukee has just become a Research-I university, and so does not have the type of "slack" that would allow it to maintain that status with these types of cuts.

More broadly, these cuts would affect UW institutions' partnerships with industry. For example, the Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers program is funded by industry but is also enabled by seed funding from NSF and NIH.

UW-Milwaukee has more than \$35 million in federal funds that support its work with Johnson Controls related to energy storage. That partnership started with industry support but was then reinforced with federal funding. Chancellor Mone said that these are the partnerships that are at risk.

Next he highlighted specific areas that would not only impact UW-Milwaukee, but all UW institutions, the citizens of Wisconsin, and the university's corporate partners.

Excluding Pell Grants, the UW System received about \$30 million in federal research awards in 2016. NIH and NSF are both proposed to have significant double digit cuts; Chancellor Mone suggested that this could manifest itself through the proposed elimination of the seed grant program housed at UW-Madison, which also benefits UW-Milwaukee's water research.

This proposed elimination would also adversely affect the strong potential for an aquaculture industry in Wisconsin and related programs at UW-Milwaukee and UW-Stevens Point. Also, a 31.4-percent funding decrease has been proposed for the American Planning Association, which would affect its work on wildlife conservation, waterways, and natural areas.

One area of particular concern, Chancellor Mone said, is the NSF-funded I-Corps program. In the last year alone, the I-Corps program had five teams with 200 participants from the Milwaukee community and many of its leading businesses. UW-Milwaukee received an

additional \$7 million in private-sector funding because of the activities started by the I-Corps program.

Chancellor Mone concluded that UW-Milwaukee's collaborative corporate partnerships represent an extension of the university's research-and-development function and provide internships and jobs for UWM students. In any strong economy, partnerships with research universities make the state strong. He cautioned that the impact of the federal budget on Wisconsin's higher education institutions will not help the UW System in its efforts to make Wisconsin as strong as it possibly can be.

Provost Mangelsdorf shared Chancellor Blank's regrets for being unable to attend the meeting. She then noted that the largest source of UW-Madison's funding – 30 percent of its operating budget – comes from the federal government, followed by tuition (19 percent), and state funding (15 percent).

Most of the \$890 million that UW-Madison receives from the federal government comes in the form of federal grants competitively awarded to faculty for work on specific research projects. Those funds pay for part of the faculty and staff salaries, as well as funding for graduate and undergraduate students who work on these research projects.

Provost Mangelsdorf said it would be devastating to the university and its ability to make payroll if these proposed funding cuts to the federal granting agencies came to pass. She added that it also would be devastating to the country, considering the important research that occurs at UW-Madison, at the Carbone Cancer Center, the McPherson Eye Center, and elsewhere.

President Cross expressed appreciation for the work that Chancellor Mone and Chancellor Blank have done, at both the federal and state levels, to try to engage businesses and help communities and others understand the value and importance of the UW System's budget to the state, and what it means to invest in the university.

### ***Student Spotlight***

Turning to the Student Spotlight, President Cross explained that the intent of these regular presentations is to help everyone better understand what it means to be a student on a UW campus – how they got here and why, what they are working on and hope to do in the future, and what issues are most important to them.

Each student has their own unique story to tell; at the same time, they often have many shared experiences. The Student Spotlight is a chance to see the UW from their perspective, and to remind all of the staff why the UW System's work is so important.

President Cross said he was pleased to introduce Anne Barlas, a brand new graduate of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at UW-Milwaukee. He then presented a brief video from UW-Milwaukee's commencement, featuring Ms. Barlas.

In the video, Ms. Barlas said that she was born in Chicago and grew up in Door County. She discussed her research as a mechanical engineering undergraduate, related to ways to combat phosphorus pollution in the Great Lakes. She conducted her research through the Water Technology Accelerator (WTA), a joint program between the UWM College of Engineering and the School of Freshwater Sciences. Ms. Barlas expressed appreciation for the support of Dr. Marcia Silva, the lab manager at WTA, during both her successful and less successful efforts.

After completing an internship at Rexnord, Ms. Barlas accepted a position with the company. The video ended with Ms. Barlas saying that she looks forward to putting her education “towards something bigger.”

After the video, Ms. Barlas took the podium and thanked Chancellor Mone and the Board of Regents, saying it was an honor to speak with them. In her junior year she transferred to UW-Milwaukee from UW-Green Bay to complete a bachelor’s degree in engineering. She started working at the UWM Industrial Assessment Center, where she completed energy audits alongside engineering professors. This led to an internship with We Energies, a local energy utility.

As her interest in energy continued, Ms. Barlas later led a project to fund clean energy for a food cooperative in Milwaukee alongside other UWM students. Together they raised \$16,700 for the co-op to convert to solar energy. This school year, her team again fully funded a solar power system for the River Revitalization Foundation in Milwaukee.

Ms. Barlas explained that she chose to study engineering because the Great Lakes region fascinates her both ecologically and economically. Having learned about the impact people have on the Great Lakes, which comprise 21 percent of the world’s surface freshwater, she warned that the vitality of the Great Lakes ecosystem and the quality of the region’s drinking water are threatened due to human behavior via storm water runoff. This occurs after rains that bring pollutants from statewide river systems that converge near the lakes.

For the past two years, Ms. Barlas has worked on a research project under the supervision of Dr. Marcia Sylva at the UWM Water Technology Accelerator. The project is focused on combatting excess phosphorous in water using chemically-engineered porous material. Through the project, she has been involved with the strategic implementation of the material across the state’s river systems.

Ms. Barlas indicated that she has made many professional presentations about the project across the state, which propelled her development as a researcher and a citizen of the Great Lakes region. She said that the research she has conducted is part of the driving force behind UW-Milwaukee’s world recognition as a freshwater hub.

She credited the support of the Office of Undergraduate Research at UW-Milwaukee for allowing her to join many of the undergraduates at UWM who are involved in research projects. The skills developed during projects like these are valuable to students entering the Wisconsin workforce. She said that project management, the ability to work on a team, and tenacity are among the skills that she will carry with her to Rexnord, where she will work as an engineer.

Ms. Barlas said she was grateful to have been involved in these opportunities, and encouraged the Board to increase access to these kinds of defining experiences.

President Cross stated that the UW System would be following Ms. Barlas's career for a long time. President Millner commented that the Student Spotlight is always a highlight of the Board's meetings because, after all, the students are "why we are here."

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## **REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CAPITAL PLANNING AND BUDGET COMMITTEE**

President Millner called upon Vice Chair Delgado to present the report of actions taken by the Capital Planning and Budget Committee.

Regent Delgado reported that the Capital Planning and Budget Committee unanimously approved ten resolutions. He separately presented each resolution:

Resolution 10873, brought by UW Colleges, requested authority to permanently release 2.65 acres from the UW-Fond du Lac lease back to Fond du Lac County.

Resolution 10874, brought by UW-Eau Claire, requested authority to construct the \$35-million new residence hall project to provide housing for 432 students.

Resolution 10875, brought by UW-La Crosse, requested authority to construct a comprehensive \$24.6-million renovation project in historic Wittich Hall.

Resolution 10876, brought by UW-Madison, requested approval to pay a City of Madison Municipal Assessment of \$631,325 for street and utility improvements on County Highway M and County Road PD.

Resolution 10877, also brought by UW-Madison, requested authority to execute a temporary land use agreement with the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association for construction of a one-story storage building at the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education facility.

Resolution 10878, brought by UW-Milwaukee, requested authority to increase the budget and construct the \$8.2-million Lubar Center for Entrepreneurship and Welcome Center project.

Resolution 10879, brought by UW-Stout, requested authority to increase the budget and construct the \$21.7-million North Hall renovation and addition project.

Resolution 10880, also brought by UW-Stout, requested authority to increase the budget and construct the \$7.6-million Price Commons first-floor renovation project.

Resolution 10881, brought by the UW System, requested approval to increase the budget, execute the remainder of the design contract, and construct the \$21-million UW-Madison Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research (WIMR) West Wedge Addition Project.

Resolution 10882, also brought by the UW System, requested authority to construct three maintenance and repair projects at three institutions for approximately \$1.4 million.

Each one of Resolutions 10873 through 10882 was separately moved by Regent Delgado, seconded by Regent Farrow, and adopted on a voice vote.

#### **Authority to Transfer a Parcel of Land to Fond du Lac County, UW Colleges**

Resolution 10873 That, upon the recommendation of the UW Colleges Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to permanently release approximately 2.65 acres from the UW-Fond du Lac lease back to Fond du Lac County.

#### **Authority to Construct the New Residence Hall Project, UW-Eau Claire**

Resolution 10874 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Eau Claire Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to construct the New Residence Hall project for total cost of \$35,000,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing.

#### **Authority to Construct the Wittich Hall Renovation Project, UW-La Crosse**

Resolution 10875 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-La Crosse Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to construct the Wittich Hall Renovation project for an estimated total cost of \$24,618,000 Cash.

#### **Approval to Pay a City of Madison Municipal Assessment, UW-Madison**

Resolution 10876 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Madison Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, approval be granted to pay a City of Madison municipal assessment of \$631,325 (\$338,500 from proceeds of land and \$292,825 in Program Revenue Cash) for street and utility improvements on County Highway M and County Road PD.

#### **Authority to Execute a Temporary Land Use Agreement for Construction of a Storage Building and Accept the Completed Facility as a Gift-in-Kind, UW-Madison**

Resolution 10877 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Madison Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to:  
(a) execute a temporary land use agreement between the Board of Regents and Wisconsin Turfgrass Association to allow the construction of a



storage building at the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education facility at an estimated total cost of \$29,000 Gift Funds, and (b) accept the completed facility as a gift-in-kind.

**Authority to Increase the Budget and Construct the Lubar Center for Entrepreneurship and Welcome Center Project, UW-Milwaukee**

Resolution 10878 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Milwaukee Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to increase the budget of the New Welcome Center and Center for Entrepreneurship project by \$500,000 Cash and construct the project for an estimated total cost of \$8,268,000 Cash.

**Authority to Increase the Budget and Construct the North Hall Renovation and Addition Project, UW-Stout**

Resolution 10879 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Stout Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to: (a) increase the budget of the North Hall Renovation and Addition project by \$4,000,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing and (b) construct the project for an estimated total cost of \$21,744,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing.

**Authority to Increase the Budget and Construct the Price Commons First Floor Renovation Project, UW-Stout**

Resolution 10880 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Stout Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to increase the budget of the Price Commons First Floor Renovation project by \$829,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing and (b) construct the project for an estimated total cost of \$7,573,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing.

**Approval to Increase the Budget, Execute the Remainder of the Design Contract, and Construct the UW-Madison Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research West Wedge Addition Project, UW System**

Resolution 10881 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to: (a) increase the budget by \$3.5 million, (b) execute the remainder of the design contract, and (c) construct the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research West Wedge Addition for total cost of \$21,169,401 Gift Funding.

## **Authority to Construct Various Maintenance and Repair Projects, UW System**

Resolution 10882 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to construct various maintenance and repair projects at an estimated total cost of \$1,382,100 (\$117,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing and \$1,265,100 Agency Cash).

Regent Delgado stated that the Capital Planning and Budget Committee also looked at the semi-annual status report on leasing and the semi-annual status report for the UW solely-managed capital projects.

The committee also discussed the UW Colleges report on city and county financial support. Regent Delgado said the amount of support was impressive.

Finally, the committee heard a presentation from UW-Milwaukee on its capital outlook for the next two years, as well as a report from Associate Vice President Alex Roe.

At the conclusion of Regent Delgado's report, President Millner noted that she had the opportunity to sit in on the committee meeting as an ex officio member. She indicated that there were lengthy discussions about the various resolutions in the committee meeting.

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## **REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

President Millner called upon Regent Grebe to present the report of actions taken by the Audit Committee.

Regent Grebe reported that the Audit Committee had an effective meeting. He said that Chief Audit Executive Lori Stortz briefly reviewed progress to date on the Fiscal 2017 Audit Plan. She confirmed that the Office of Internal Audit is on target to complete all of the audits that are part of that plan by the end of the fiscal year, with additional reports due to come before the Audit Committee in July and October.

Ms. Stortz also reviewed a draft of the Fiscal 2018 Audit Plan. She discussed the approach the Office of Internal Audit took in receiving input for the plan. In the past, the plan was created through surveys sent to stakeholders. This year, the office took a different approach by interviewing different management groups, requesting feedback and asking them for their suggestions for audit topics. Regent Grebe indicated that this appears to have resulted in a better process.

After Ms. Stortz briefly discussed each audit and its objectives, the Audit Committee unanimously approved Resolution 10883, adopting the Fiscal Year 2018 Audit Plan. Regent

Grebe then moved adoption of the resolution; the motion was seconded by Regent Petersen and adopted on a voice vote.

**UW System Administration Office of Internal Audit Fiscal Year 2018 Audit Plan**

Resolution 10883      That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the Fiscal Year 2018 Audit Plan.

Regent Grebe said that the committee next heard reports from audit staff regarding those audits that had been completed since its last meeting.

Audit Director Steve Mentel reviewed the purchasing card continuous auditing for UW System Administration. The report contained six comments related to purchasing transactions. Mr. Mentel also discussed the purchasing card best practices letter. Regent Grebe said that the Audit Committee expressed its continuing interest in addressing potential opportunities for fraud and abuse related to the use of purchasing cards.

Audit Director Paul Rediske reviewed the Emergency Preparedness Report for UW-Oshkosh, which included a rating of satisfactory. He also discussed the facilities audits for UW System, which had a rating of unsatisfactory, and for UW-Madison, which had a rating of satisfactory.

Audit Director Amanda Nehmer reviewed the UW-Platteville residence life audit, which included a rating of satisfactory. She also reviewed the Code of Ethics audit for UW System Administration, which included a rating of satisfactory.

Responding to a question from Regent Whitburn, Ms. Stortz noted that cooperation from the campuses in responding to audit inquiries and audit recommendations has been excellent.

Regent Grebe also reported that Ms. Stortz provided the Audit Committee with her report on the Office of Internal Audit. Regent Grebe indicated that the office will send surveys to audit clients once projects are completed next year, in order to solicit feedback on the audit process and ensure continuous improvements can be made going forward.

Ms. Stortz also discussed the Waste, Fraud and Abuse Hotline and the planned marketing of the hotline for the fall semester; Regent Grebe noted that this was not intended to address any deficiencies in the hotline, but rather to that it continues to be well utilized.

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## REPORT OF THE RESEARCH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE

President Millner called on Vice Chair Klein to present the report of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee.

Regent Klein said that the committee started with a presentation from Chancellor Mone, highlighting significant initiatives for integrating entrepreneurship and innovation into curricula and programming across the UW-Milwaukee campus.

The chancellor then introduced Brian Thompson, president of the UWM Research Foundation and director of the Lubar Entrepreneurship Center. Dr. Thompson provided updates on UWM's significant increase in patents and licenses, and noted an acceleration of pathways from research to product commercialization.

Regent Klein said that Dr. Thompson also made special note of the launch of the new Lubar Entrepreneurship Center, which many of the Regents attended, and how the Center's relationship with the National Science Foundation's I-Corps program will help to foster entrepreneurship.

Dr. Thompson's co-presenters included Dr. Ilya Avdeev, associate professor of mechanical engineering; Dr. Adel Nasiri, associate dean for research and professor of electrical engineering; and entrepreneurs and co-inventors Dr. Carol Hirschmugl, professor of physics, and Dr. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska, dean of the graduate school.

Secretary Mark Hogan from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation also presented, providing an overview of WEDC's business sector and community development initiatives and highlighting key programming that will be extended to minority chamber partners in Wisconsin.

Finally, Wisconsin Technology Council (WTC) president Tom Still provided the committee with an update on WTC activities in the areas of entrepreneurship, technology transfer, venture capital, and university-industry research initiatives. Regent Klein noted that WTC is the science and technology advisor to the governor and the legislature.

Significantly, Mr. Still highlighted the strength of entrepreneurship in Wisconsin, despite the fact that the state received a low ranking in the Kaufman Foundation reports. Regent Klein said that many of the Regents on the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee hope that, through collaboration and efforts of various campuses, additional focus can be put on successful entrepreneurship throughout the state, in accordance with the Wisconsin Idea.

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## REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

President Millner called upon Regent Mueller to present the report of actions taken by the Business and Finance Committee, and of the committee's joint session with the Audit Committee.

Regent Mueller said that the Business and Finance Committee first heard from Robin Van Harpen, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administrative Affairs at UW-Milwaukee, who spoke about how the campus is dealing with the difficult fiscal environment, including the budget reductions and lower enrollment. Her review included several examples of operational efficiencies, including a realignment of the workforce, integrating some student support services, and technological improvements in transportation.

Vice Chancellor Van Harpen also provided some information on the challenges, costs and concerns associated with UW-Milwaukee's student union, where some renovation is needed.

Regent Mueller reported that the committee heard and received information on the Quarterly Gifts, Grants and Contracts Report from Senior Associate Vice President for Finance Julie Gordon. Regent Mueller reminded her colleagues that this report is a leading indicator of funding. Federal awards decreased during the period reported; however, non-federal awards increased. She expressed "cautionary optimism" that the fourth quarter would show an uptick in receipts.

Ms. Gordon also presented a financial management report on the UW System's operating budget. The dashboard that the System uses to monitor its financial activity shows that actual expenditures are generally running below budget and revenues are slightly above budget. More information would be available in the next quarter.

The Business and Finance Committee also heard from Regent Brian Steil, Chair of the Subcommittee on Investments, who provided a report on the subcommittee's most recent meeting. This included an overview of a relevant federal law that governs the investments of institutional funds.

Regent Steil reviewed the quarterly investment report for the second quarter. A professor of business from the UW-Madison School of Business will be joining the committee as an advisor.

Vice President for Administration Rob Cramer provided a brief update on information technology efforts within the System. Regent Mueller reported that three topics in particular are of great concern to the committee: information security assessments, the new requirements of a federal act, and continuation of cyber security insurance that the UW System owns and maintains.

Next, Regent Mueller outlined the resolutions considered and approved by the Business and Finance Committee. These included approval of the application of the federal Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2016 to the UW System's existing tuition credit program, as well as a number of contractual agreements, as follows:

- between UW-Milwaukee and Johnson Controls, for work on battery improvements;
- between UW-Madison and the Dow Chemical Company, dealing with certain polymers;
- between UW-Madison and CLS Behring LLC, dealing with certain protein-based therapies;
- between UW-Madison and Karyopharm Therapeutics, related to cancer drugs;
- between UW-Madison and Astellas Pharma Global Development, for certain therapeutic medicines across an array of diseases;
- between UW-Madison and GlaxoSmithKline on asthma research, particularly for those afflicted with asthma in the inner city; and
- between UW-Madison and Fast Track Drugs and Biologics, for work on a malarial vaccine.

Regent Mueller voiced her own concerns about reduced funding for research. During her tenure as Chair of the Business and Finance Committee, the committee had actually increased the threshold for contracts to receive Board review from \$500,000 to \$1 million; she pointed out that even with this change, the committee still approves a long list of research contracts from the UW System's two research institutions in an array of important areas. Stating that this research is very important, Regent Mueller said she hoped it would not be diminished in any way in the future.

Regent Mueller then moved adoption of Resolutions 10884, 10885, 10886, 10887, 10888, 10889, 10890, and 10891. The motion was seconded by Regent Higgins and adopted on a voice vote. Regent Steil abstained from voting, due to a potential conflict of interest related to the Johnson Controls contract.

### **Endorsement of the Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2016**

Resolution 10884      That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the application of the Jeff Miller and Richard Blumenthal Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2016 (Pub. L No 114-315) within the University of Wisconsin System. This Act requires that certain eligible non-resident students using federal Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits transferred from active duty members of the uniformed services be charged the same tuition as Wisconsin residents pursuing the same course or program, effective July 1, 2017. In addition, the Act aligns federal law with current UW system practice by eliminating a requirement on an individual using the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship to enroll within three years of a service member's death, and it eliminates an eligibility provision that

required a deceased service member to have served at least 90 days on active duty.

**UW-Milwaukee Contractual Agreement with Johnson Controls Battery Group, Inc.**

Resolution 10885 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Milwaukee, and Johnson Controls Battery Group, Inc.

**UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with Dow Chemical Company**

Resolution 10886 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the Master contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and the Dow Chemical Company.

**UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with CSL Behring LLC**

Resolution 10887 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and CSL Behring LLC.

**UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with Karyopharm Therapeutics, Inc.**

Resolution 10888 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and Karyopharm Therapeutics Inc.

**UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc.**

Resolution 10889 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc.

**UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with GlaxoSmithKline LLC**

Resolution 10890 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin

System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and GlaxoSmithKline LLC.

**UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with Fast-Track Drugs & Biologics, LLC**

Resolution 10891 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and Fast-Track Drugs & Biologics, LLC.

***Joint Meeting of the Audit Committee and the Business and Finance Committee***

Finally, Regent Mueller reported on an action that was taken in closed session when the Audit Committee and the Business and Finance Committee jointly met to discuss information security matters of a sensitive nature and some related findings.

Regent Mueller moved adoption of Resolution 10892. The motion was seconded by Regent Petersen and adopted on a voice vote.

**Bimonthly Updates on Information Security Audit Findings**

Resolution 10892 That UW System Administration staff provide bi-monthly updates to the chair of the Board of Regents Audit Committee and the chair of the Board of Regents Business and Finance Committee regarding progress on information security audit findings. The first report shall occur before the July 2017 Board of Regents meeting.

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**REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

President Millner called upon Regent Whitburn to present the report of actions taken by the Education Committee.

Regent Whitburn said the Education Committee approved a new program for UW-Madison, a doctorate in biomedical data sciences. Observing that there is a lot of focus these days on biomedical data, he indicated that with this program in place, UW-Madison will join Stanford as a national leader in this area.

Once each year the Board approves the proposed distribution of Vilas Trust dollars to UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee to support scholarships, fellowships, and professorships in the arts and humanities, social sciences, biological sciences, physical sciences, and in music. Regent



Whitburn reported that the Education Committee had approved this year's proposal of \$6.9 million.

He also noted that the Vilas Trust is setting aside an additional \$1.1 million for a special building fund at the School of Music at UW-Madison. This is part of a five-year pledge from the Trust, with the funds flowing to the university at the end of the fifth year.

Regent Whitburn reported that each year the Board also approves tenure and tenure-track appointments, designations and promotions across the System. This year, the UW institutions have 53 newly-appointed faculty members with that status, 212 promotions, and a total of 259 first-time tenure attainments, for a total of 524.

Vice President Henderson briefed the committee on plans to begin a new review process related to evaluating low-performing academic programs across the various institutions. Regent Whitburn noted that programs offered at 50 percent or more of the UW institutions are already required to be reviewed every five years.

Regent Whitburn said that Vice President Henderson also updated the Education Committee on work being done to bring greater consistency to math remediation initiatives across the various institutions.

During the committee meeting, Regent Tyler asked Chancellor Van Galen from UW-River Falls to report on a very interesting outreach and recruiting trip to northeast China in the spring. Regent Whitburn reported that several MOUs with several entities in China resulted; these will tighten the relationship between UW-River Falls and its international partners going forward.

In addition, the Education Committee received an interesting briefing on UW-Madison's outreach initiative in partnership with Nestlé's Dairy Farming Institute in China. Regent Whitburn noted that the dairy industry needs in China are massive, and UW-Madison is helping to meet them with modern science-based farming practices.

Finally, UW-Milwaukee Chancellor Mone and Provost Britz invited Milwaukee Area Technical College President Vicki Martin and Milwaukee Public Schools Superintendent Darienne Driver to brief the Education Committee on a broad and energetic array of efforts underway to close the achievement gap in retention and graduation rates between under-represented and majority students.

Regent Whitburn then moved adoption of Resolutions 10893, 10894, and 10895. The motion was seconded by Regent Petersen and adopted on a voice vote.

**Program Authorization (Implementation) Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Data Science, UW-Madison**

Resolution 10893      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is

authorized to implement the Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Data Science.

**Request to Trustees of the William F. Vilas Trust Estate**

Resolution 10894 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellors of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the request to the Trustees of the William F. Vilas Trust Estate for \$6,876,878.00 for fiscal year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, subject to availability, as provided by the terms of the William F. Vilas Trust, for Support of Scholarships, Fellowships, Professorships, and Special Programs in Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Music.

**2017 Report on Faculty Promotions, Tenure Designations, and Other Changes of Status**

Resolution 10895 That, upon the recommendation of the respective Chancellors and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the 2017 Report on Faculty Promotions, Tenure Designations, and Other Changes of Status be approved.

Responding to a request from Regent Higgins, President Millner indicated that copies of the Education Committee's materials on math remediation would be provided to him.

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President Millner called for a brief recess at 10:40 a.m. The Board reconvened at 10:52 a.m.

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**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR REGENT EMERITUS JAMES LANGNES III'S SERVICE ON THE UW SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS**

President Millner announced that the Regents would now officially recognize the service, commitment, and contributions of one of their colleagues whose term on the Board had ended, Regent Emeritus James Langnes III. She welcomed him and his parents, saying that Regent Emeritus Langnes had been a wonderful contributor to the Board.

President Millner then called upon Regent Steil to offer the Board's resolution of appreciation.

Regent Steil said it was an honor to read the resolution in recognition of Regent Emeritus James Langnes. Observing that there are not many people who graduate from college and obtain

the title of “emeritus,” Regent Steil said there is no one more fitting for the title than James, who as a student Regent admirably represented all citizens of the state.

Having learned a little bit from each and every person on the Board of Regents, Regent Steil indicated that there are two lessons in particular that he has learned from Regent Langnes.

The first is to “show up.” Regent Steil said that James Langnes shows up to everything. If you call him or “use any of the other 45 social media accounts that he uses” to find out where he is, Regent Langnes would respond that he is at Van Hise Hall meeting with President Ray Cross, or attending a Board of Regents committee meeting, or doing charitable work for the V Foundation as the philanthropy chair of his fraternity at UW-Whitewater. At times, Regent Steil joked, you would even find out that James was actually at the library studying.

The second lesson is “work hard, but do it with a smile.” Regent Steil said he did not think anybody would question the work ethic of Regent Emeritus Langnes. He always does his work with a smile, “that twinkle in his eye,” and a great demeanor. Noting that Regent Emeritus Langnes experienced a significant illness while in high school, Regent Steil suggested that people react to those points in life in one of two ways: either they become somewhat bitter that it happened to them, or they come out of it with a joy about living. Regent Steil said that James has always had that joy about living as he dives into his work with a smile.

Regent Steil reported that Regent Emeritus Langnes is now working in the governor’s office. One of his first tasks, just the day before, was to run a 5K race as the kickoff to the Wisconsin Special Olympics and to snag certain photos. Regent Steil recalled asking him when he had last run that distance, and the response was, “... I’ve never run a 5K.” Regent Steil said that Regent Emeritus Langnes probably threw himself into the race and still had a great smile on his face as he crossed the finish line.

Saying that it was a great honor to be able to present the Board’s recognition, Regent Steil offered his congratulations to Regent Emeritus Langnes on his graduation, and to his parents for “raising such a great person.” He then read the resolution of appreciation, which was adopted by acclamation.

### **Resolution of Appreciation for Regent Emeritus James Langnes III**

Resolution 10896      WHEREAS, James A. Langnes III served as a dedicated student representative on the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, from May 2015 to May 2017; and

WHEREAS, James offered a valuable perspective as a member of the Committee on Student Discipline and Other Student Appeals; and

WHEREAS, James thoughtfully served as a member of both the Education Committee and the Capital Planning and Budget Committee, through which he demonstrated a commitment to improving the educational experience for students; and

WHEREAS, James worked to publicly honor and reward the commitment of outstanding UW educators by serving on the Teaching Excellence Awards Committee; and

WHEREAS, James served in student government as a senator on the UW-Whitewater student government body, and also served as an alder on the City of Whitewater Common Council, examples of his dual interest in education and politics; and

WHEREAS, James recently graduated from UW-Whitewater with a major in finance and looks forward to continuing his passion for public service;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System commends James A. Langnes III for his excellent service on behalf of the UW System and the citizens of Wisconsin, and wishes him every success in the future.

Regent Emeritus Langnes was greeted with a standing ovation as he took the podium. He thanked Regent Steil for his introduction, sharing that they actually had the pleasure of knowing each other before either of them served on the Board.

During his tenure on the Board of Regents, Regent Emeritus Langnes indicated that he had met many great people from all over the state: from his colleagues on the Board, to System staff, to the chancellors, provosts, faculty, staff, students and other stakeholders. He said it was very enjoyable to interact with these different groups of people, who are accomplishing tremendous things that positively impact the state, nation and the world.

Regent Emeritus Langnes stated that the last two years had been the best years of his life. From the bluffs of La Crosse on the Mississippi, north to Superior, east to Green Bay, and down to Milwaukee on Lake Michigan, and to all of the cities, lakes, rivers, farmers' fields and cranberry bogs in between, serving as a Regent had deepened his affection for the great state of Wisconsin.

He first thanked Governor Scott Walker for giving him the opportunity to serve the state of Wisconsin in this capacity. He said that it was an honor to serve on the Board, and expressed his deep appreciation for all of the opportunities and fond memories that came from his appointment.

Noting that Governor Walker is a Walworth County native, like himself, Regent Emeritus Langnes said he would also like to thank two other Walworth County natives – the two people who had been with him from the beginning, literally – his parents, Jim and Tina.

He said that without their love, compassion, guidance and encouragement, he would not be where he was today. He said he hoped to have made them as proud of him as he is of them, adding that he liked to say that he has won two lotteries in life: first, being born an American, and second, being born the son of the best parents in the world.

Regent Emeritus Langnes said that when asked why he wanted to be a Regent, the simple answer was because he wanted to serve. The follow-up question was usually, “Why do you want to serve?” He said this is a more in-depth question that requires a deeper answer.

First, he wanted to serve because of how he was raised; public service is a huge part of his family history. Regent Emeritus Langnes said that his family has fought and served in every major American conflict since before America was a country. Both of his parents are lifelong public servants who served in the United States Army. His mother went on to become a nurse, where she helps people every day. His father has served as a special agent for the federal government for 27 years.

Regent Emeritus Langnes recalled that while growing up he wanted to be like his role models by joining the Army and serving others. However, service in the Army eventually became an impossibility for him due to the medical challenges previously mentioned by Regent Steil.

He shared that, after being sick for a while and bouncing from doctor to doctor trying to figure out what was wrong, he spent his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday visiting a children’s nephrologist. This doctor told him that they had narrowed down his illness to seven possibilities – and six would either kill him quickly or become lifelong debilitating. If he was lucky, it could be a very rare kidney condition that had the potential of being fixed, but he was warned not to get his hopes up.

Regent Emeritus Langnes said that he and his parents were scared. A couple of weeks later they got the call that it was, in fact, (un)lucky possibility #7. However, the surgery could not take place until they were able to track down a surgeon that knew how to do it and was willing to do it.

This medical challenge took him out of school from October to March. He described waking up during one of those nights in tremendous and terrible pain, praying to God to please give him strength. At that moment, he said, a thought popped into his head: that he could not die yet because there was so much good that he wanted to do.

That thought gave him the strength to push through the pain in that moment and throughout the entire experience. Regent Emeritus Langnes said it was then and there that he made a commitment to his Maker and himself that, if he lived, he would do whatever he could to serve and make the world a better place until the day he crossed over the Great Divide.

During that time in his life, Regent Emeritus Langnes said he did not think that he would make it to the next grade, much less graduate from high school early, go on to serve on a city council, and graduate from college in three years, having spent two of those years serving on the UW System’s governing Board. That experience was his second reason for wanting to serve.

Regent Emeritus Langnes said he likes a quote from Winston Churchill, “You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give.” (He suggested this might be a good quote to use with prospective UW donors.)

Adding that he really enjoys poetry, Regent Emeritus Langnes also quoted a poem by Shawnee Chief Tecumseh: “Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life. Seek to make your life long and in the service of your people.” Saying that none of us knows how long we will be on this earth, Regent Emeritus Langnes said that he does intend to make his time be in service of the people.

Regent Emeritus Langnes said that, as Regent Steil had mentioned, he had spent the last two weeks working in the governor’s office. He joked that he “really hit the ground running” by participating in a 5K race with the governor, law enforcement officials, and Special Olympics athletes through the City of Waukesha for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Wisconsin. He indicated that this was something he would truly never forget, especially with it being so early in his career.

Observing that a passion for service in Wisconsin is a bond shared among Regents, Regent Emeritus Langnes indicated that his successor, Regent Ryan Ring, shares that passion. Having had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Ring a couple of years earlier through his travels on the Board, Regent Emeritus Langnes said that the governor had made an excellent decision in selecting Regent Ring to serve the state of Wisconsin.

Describing Regent Ring as smart and dedicated, Regent Emeritus Langnes said he would do a tremendous job. Saying he looked forward to seeing the new student Regent do great things, Regent Emeritus Langnes also encouraged his successor to leverage this opportunity to learn from his colleagues on the Board, who are among some of the brightest minds in Wisconsin. He also offered to provide advice if Regent Ring ever needed it.

He wished luck to Regent Ring, the other two new Regents, and his former colleagues on the Board as they “continue to move the UW System forward.” As Regent Whitburn had told him many times, Regent Emeritus Langnes advised them all to “be bold and forward-leaning.”

In the style of former governor Tommy Thompson, Regent Emeritus Langnes closed his remarks with the Irish Blessing phrase, “Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.” He ended with, “God bless you, and God bless the great state of Wisconsin.”

Thanking Regent Emeritus Langnes, President Millner commented that in her five years on the Board she has had an opportunity to get to know all of the student Regents quite well; without exception, they have been quality Regents and quality individuals who have gone on to do very interesting things.

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## **PRESENTATION OF BOARD OF REGENTS 2017 ACADEMIC STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

President Millner announced the next agenda item, recognition of the outstanding work being done by academic staff across the UW System. There are more than 14,000 academic staff throughout the System – the university’s largest sector of employees.

She stated that the Board was honored to have some special guests: the recipients of the 2017 Regents Academic Staff Excellence Awards. To lead the Board in its awards presentation, President Millner turned to Regent Jan Mueller, chair of the awards selection committee.

Regent Mueller said it was with great pleasure that the Board welcomed the winners of the 2017 Board of Regents Academic Staff Excellence Awards. With these awards, the Board of Regents salutes the hard work, dedication, and innovation of the UW System’s talented academic staff members.

Regent Mueller stated that the Board is honored to help recognize the individuals and programs that have made the UW institutions exceptional. Their outstanding work, along with the work of academic staff systemwide, helps to strengthen and invigorate not only the UW institutions, but the communities in which they serve.

Regent Mueller indicated that chairing this selection committee was both gratifying and challenging. Expressing her appreciation for the time and efforts of her fellow members on the selection committee, she thanked Regent Drew Petersen, Regent Tracy Klein, and Regent Bryan Steil for their dedication, input and insights. She also thanked all of the academic staff in the UW System.

Regent Mueller then turned to Regent Drew Petersen to present the first award.

### ***Dr. Jean Creighton, UW-Milwaukee – Individual Award***

For the benefit of the newly-seated Regents, Regent Petersen stated that the Regent awards are one of the most profoundly impactful jobs of the Board of Regents. The number of submissions for the Academic Staff Excellence Awards continues to be high, year after year, demonstrating the true focus and dedication of UW staff in supporting student success for all of the UW System’s 180,000 students.

Regent Petersen then said it was his pleasure to introduce the first award winner, Dr. Jean Creighton, Director of the Manfred Olson Planetarium at UW-Milwaukee.

Dr. Creighton loves sharing the stars with people of all ages, and Regent Petersen observed that her enthusiasm seems to be contagious. In her ten years as planetarium director, program attendance has doubled. Each year, 300 planetarium shows attract more than 10,000 community members. Through university radio programs on a variety of topics, she is able to amplify the planetarium’s reach to an even wider audience.

In the last decade, Dr. Creighton has shared planetarium shows with 45,000 K-12 students. Her outreach to teachers at all levels has helped improve STEM instruction in area schools. She developed a summer astronomy course for UWM's College for Kids and Teens and teaches astronomy to UWM students in pre-education majors. A collaborative program with the university's theater department, called "A Tale of Scale," invites UWM students to use theatrical techniques to explain the scale of the universe to a general audience.

In 2014, NASA selected Dr. Creighton as one of 24 ambassadors on the largest moving astronomical observatory. She shared her experiences of spending 20 hours at 45,000 feet as part of a TEDx talk, "Musings from the Stratosphere." Each year, she presents at Great Lakes Planetarium Association conferences and, in 2012, she received the association's honorary Fellow award in recognition of her commitment to science education and research in innovative fields.

A nominator commended Dr. Creighton for changing the UWM planetarium into "a hub of activity that touches people across the campus, the city, and the region."

With that, Regent Petersen said he was honored to present the first Academic Staff Excellence Award to Dr. Jean Creighton of UW-Milwaukee.

Dr. Creighton was greeted with a standing ovation. She thanked the Board for its support and recognition, stating that she was thrilled to receive this award.

Describing how the beauty of a night sky and the elegance of the cosmos have always inspired her, Dr. Creighton said that she delighted in sharing this excitement with every adult and child who walks through the planetarium doors. In the last 50 years, over 600,000 people have visited the UW-Milwaukee planetarium. Approximately 300,000 visitors are from local schools. Having brought science to underserved communities around the area, Dr. Creighton indicated that it is important to engage the public with science through outreach, innovation and research.

Dr. Creighton said that she could not direct the planetarium, which hosts more than 13,000 visitors a year, without the work and commitment of her talented and invested staff. In the last ten years, she had worked with more than 70 students and interns from a broad range of disciplines, ranging from physics to journalism to theater. She noted that a handful of those students were in attendance in the gallery. She said that she encourages her students to use their skills and talents, and has watched them soar.

Dr. Creighton explained that she sees opportunities everywhere, and not just in the new ideas that her staff brings to her; she has also reached out across campus to dozens of departments, student organizations and centers, and beyond to see how the planetarium can work with others to do something interesting together. She expressed her gratitude to the many colleagues who have helped her in small and big ways.

Dr. Creighton concluded that helping others succeed feels good, builds community, and makes everyone a star.



## ***UW HELP, UW-Extension – Program Award***

Regent Klein said that when she heard about some of the UW System’s wonderful academic staff, she realized the great importance of highlighting programming that works across the System, as well as the collaboration that creates and pilots new initiatives. She indicated that this is precisely the kind of thing all of the Regents want to see and are excited to learn about.

Regent Klein then announced that the second award would go to a program whose success is exemplary – UW HELP, which stands for University of Wisconsin Higher Education Location Program. UW HELP is housed in UW-Extension and serves the entire UW System.

The unit was created in 1971 as the “front door” to the UW System and currently serves more than 300,000 individuals each year. Under the leadership of Director Mary Vilmo, the unit provides personalized assistance and admission information to prospective students, parents, and school counselors. Examples of UW HELP’s impressive, far-reaching services include:

- developing the electronic admission application for the UW System, used by more than one million students to date;
- creating a popular database of academic programs, called MajorMania, to help students find the best possible program fits for them;
- launching a text messaging effort that engaged 20,000 high school students this past year in conversations about financial aid and preparing for college;
- building a mobile app called UW Journey, which high school students can soon use to learn about and compare UW institutions; and
- leading the Wisconsin E-Transcript initiative, which will launch statewide and make the transcript process more efficient and secure.

Regent Klein added that UW HELP co-sponsored College Goal Wisconsin, a free event to help students and families with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. Program staff regularly give high school presentations, including annual workshops for school counselors in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Illinois.

UW HELP produces the award-winning publication, *Introduction to the UW System*. The program has also received national awards from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education and the University Professional and Continuing Education Association.

In the nomination materials, a UW director of admissions said: “In many ways, UW HELP is the heart of the UW System, where families and school counselors meet our campuses and get their first impression of the University of Wisconsin System. I couldn’t be more proud of the quality of work and caliber of colleagues found at the UW HELP office.”

Indicating that this is exactly the type of innovative programming that the Board loves to see, Regent Klein said it was with great pride that she presented the 2017 Academic Staff Excellence Award to UW HELP of UW-Extension.

Director Mary Vilmo accepted the award on behalf of the program and was greeted with a standing ovation. She expressed thanks, stating that it was truly an honor for both the current members of the UW HELP team and all of those who served with the program in the last 43 years.

Indicating that her team was trying to increase awareness of what UW HELP does, Director Vilmo spoke briefly about the program's history. In 1974, around the time of the merger of the University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Universities, two young men – one a graduate student, the other working in System Administration – conceived of an idea to create an office to serve, advise and inform the people of Wisconsin, leading to access and opportunity in the new UW System. One of those men, Mark Bradley, went on to serve as a Regent, which Director Vilmo said had been a point of pride for the UW HELP team for many years. The graduate student was Don Steele.

Forty-three years ago, the greatest challenge for UW HELP was to try and figure out how to get around the high cost of toll-free phone lines. Director Vilmo said that the work has changed, but the program's commitment to serving students, families, school counselors, UW System colleagues and UW System Administration has not.

As the front door to the UW System, UW HELP's work is to promote and support the entire System while honoring the unique identity and mission of each institution. It does this through:

- administration of the UW System application outreach on behalf of all institutions;
- advising via phone, email, webinars, chat, and text messaging (a campaign undertaken in fall 2016 to inform students about early FASFA completion);
- annually updating and redesigning systemwide publications;
- collaborating with WTCS and other state agencies; and
- developing technologies such as the new UW Journey App, which will allow students to find their fit in the UW System on their mobile devices.

Director Vilmo shared that one of the people who recommended the program for this award said that, in many ways, UW HELP is the heart of the UW System. Noting that many UW HELP staff members were present in the gallery, including one former staff member, she indicated that they were a dedicated group of academic staff professionals who are innovative, creative, and deserving of this recognition.

She said another writer described UW HELP staff as willing to spend the time it takes to answer questions that students have about choosing, applying to, paying for, and accessing college. This person went on to say that for low-income and first-generation students for whom the college application and financial aid process is overwhelming, UW HELP helps them overcome their fears and apprehensions.

Director Vilmo thanked the Board again for selecting UW HELP, a program whose work is unique in the nation and often the envy of neighboring states. She finished with the words of

another who recommended the program for the award, who said, “We need an office like UW HELP, an unbiased and unabashed cheerleader in place for UW institutions in the application and college search process.”

### ***Ms. Ellen Latorraca, UW-Whitewater – Individual Award***

Calling it an honor to recognize some of the UW System’s academic staff, Regent Steil announced that the third award recipient was Ellen Latorraca, the education librarian at UW-Whitewater. Ms. Latorraca had sent her regrets that she could not attend the awards ceremony; however, Regent Steil indicated that one of her colleagues had graciously agreed to accept the award on her behalf.

As the education librarian at UW-Whitewater, Ms. Latorraca maintains the Andersen Library Curriculum Collection and supports the seven departments within the College of Education and Professional Studies. During her tenure, she has initiated and strengthened partnerships on and off campus to help train teachers and researchers, while making the library’s resources more broadly available.

Through her efforts, the number of classroom and one-on-one instruction sessions on the use of library resources has increased significantly. Regent Steil said that Ms. Latorraca draws from her experience in the K-12 system and in adult education to support a wide variety of programs within the college. Her responsibilities include coordinating library research sessions for regional schools, collaborating with UW-Whitewater’s Undergraduate Research Program and Research Apprenticeship Program, and supervising staff, interns, and student workers.

Ms. Latorraca has developed more than 50 online tutorials for programs and services, the most popular of which has been viewed more than 850 times. She has helped develop creative events to bring more children, families, students, and teachers to the campus every year, including working with UW-Whitewater’s Children’s Center on the “Stuffed Animal Sleepover.”

Regent Steil said he was honored to present the third Academic Staff Excellence Award. He called on Patty Fragola to accept the award on behalf of Ellen Latorraca of UW-Whitewater.

Reading from Ms. Latorraca’s notes, Ms. Fragola conveyed Ms. Latorraca’s feeling of immense honor at being recognized by colleagues from the Andersen Library; instructors from the College of Education and Professional Studies; and, most of all, the Board of Regents.

Ms. Latorraca had indicated what a privilege it had been to partner with the faculty of the College of Education and Undergraduate Research to develop creative and meaningful information literacy instructions for their students.

Ms. Fragola said that, for Ms. Latorraca, there could be no better way to spend a weekday than with other reference and instruction librarians, creating more effective and engaging strategies to help students ferret out well-founded from questionable information, or reliable from weak sources.

Without collaboration and support, the library's pre-K curriculum collection spaces would not reflect the needs of UW-Whitewater's teaching licensure students nearly as well.

Without participation from the College of Education faculty, selection practices alone most likely would not be sufficient to catch pertinent authors and works, or to identify key digital resources on everything from early childhood education to higher education.

Without library staff, student employees and other campus departments, Ms. Fragola said that any outreach efforts, from welcoming middle school research classes to recording the Warhawk Book Talk Series, would not be possible.

Noting what a privilege it is to work in this environment of collaboration between colleges, departments and colleagues, Ms. Fragola expressed appreciation to the Board and UW-Whitewater's campus administration for assuring that the policies and structures for supporting this work remain stable and vibrant, in order to support all students.

She once again thanked the Board of Regents on behalf of UW-Whitewater academic staff; the Andersen Library; and, most of all, award recipient Ellen Latorraca.

President Millner offered congratulations to the Academic Staff Excellence Award winners, saying that their work and the work of all academic staff throughout the System is impressive. She also expressed appreciation to the awards selection committee members for their important work.

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## **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BOARD OF REGENTS REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE**

President Millner said it was time for the Board of Regents to adopt its future calendar for Board meetings. Due to an abundance of campuses stepping forward to host, for which President Millner expressed her appreciation, Resolution 10897 would adopt meeting schedules for both calendar years 2018 and 2019.

Regent Petersen moved adoption of Resolution 10897. Vice President Behling seconded the motion, and it was adopted on a voice vote.

### **Approval of UW System Board of Regents Meeting Schedules for 2018 and 2019**

Resolution 10897	That, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and Corporate Secretary, the Board of Regents adopts the attached regular-meeting schedules for calendar years 2018 and 2019.
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## REMARKS BY OUTGOING PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

President Millner stated that this would be her final meeting as President of the Board of Regents. She asked her colleagues' indulgence as she reflected on the last few years, which had been busy because those involved in higher education truly live in interesting times. There are interesting changes, challenges and innovations happening in every state across the nation.

Since she came onto the Board, the UW System has seen a continuous stream of new technologies, new delivery systems, and innovative learning practices, from MOOCs and flipped classrooms to expanded undergraduate research. President Millner predicted that many more changes are yet to come.

Institutions across the country are also seeing changes in financial models, accountability metrics, criteria for funding, and the need to leverage and standardize administrative operations, new revenue streams and cross-sector collaborations to support the mission of higher education. Costs and debt for students and their families, which directly impact an institution's ability to both attract and retain students, are top priorities everywhere.

Observing that these challenges are happening just when young people need knowledge, skills and competencies for both their first and future jobs, President Millner stated that higher education has never been more important to individuals, to economic development and to society.

Also in this mix are changes in cultural norms related to the roles of tenure and shared governance; the importance of free expression and the civil debate of diverse ideas; concerns about campus climate and student diversity; and the importance of safety, which President Millner indicated must include preventing sexual assault.

Collaborations are vitally important, she said, including partnerships with other educational institutions, the K-12 system, technical colleges, and private colleges, as well as with legislators, businesses and community leaders.

On the national stage, significant questions about the role of universities are debated. How do public universities continue educating for individual growth and an informed society while increasing their focus on workforce development and economic growth? President Millner suggested that while higher education has always faced this critical debate, it is now particularly important.

She indicated that there are no right or definitive answers; what might have been correct today will certainly change tomorrow. As a personal example, President Millner recalled being required to wear a skirt in order to study in the library when she went to college. She explained that while that may seem trivial, it reflects an enormous change that has happened for women in higher education.

The challenge facing higher education is how to balance competing priorities and finite resources while maintaining the core mission of education, research and service. Wisconsin is not immune to these shifting national forces. In the last several years, under the leadership of President Cross, working with the Board of Regents, the UW System has become even more engaged with these national trends, developing strategies that are Wisconsin-focused but nationally relevant.

In 2015, the UW System launched its first strategic planning session in more than a decade, a process that resulted in “2020FWD: Moving Wisconsin and the World Forward.” President Millner noted that she was involved in 2020FWD right from the start, and said she continued to be impressed with how people from across the state are eager to help the university define and achieve its goals.

To thrive in a global economy where knowledge and innovation are the cornerstones of success, the UW System knows that our state needs more college graduates in high demand fields and more jobs in growing industries. All faculty and staff are ready, willing and able to help on both counts.

President Millner remarked that higher education is sometimes characterized as an ivory tower, isolated and out of touch; but in the University of Wisconsin System and in the state of Wisconsin, nothing could be further from the truth, a truth which has spanned more than a hundred years.

Having been closely connected with the university for most of her adult life, as a nontraditional student and holder of two UW-Madison degrees, as an active alumna, and more recently from her vantage point on the Board of Regents, President Millner said she has had the honor to see a university system that is engaged, involved and committed. The UW institutions are bringing to bear the intellect, the wisdom and the innovative thinking of their people, and the UW System is leveraging its resources, its relationships, and its resolve to identify the key issues facing both the state and the nation.

Stating that the UW System is powerfully engaged in implementing solutions, President Millner credited the UW institutions with doing the hard work of educating, in the broadest sense of the term, the citizens and the workforce of tomorrow. University of Wisconsin graduates must critically analyze information, communicate effectively, and creatively solve problems.

Through ingenuity, resourcefulness, tenacity, courage, and old-fashioned hard work, the UW System is moving ever closer to discoveries and innovations that will change people’s lives. This is the essence of the Wisconsin Idea, President Millner said – an idea, a truth, that is as relevant today as it was a century ago.

President Millner concluded by saying it had been her privilege to serve as President of the Board of Regents for the last two years. She offered her sincere thanks to the chancellors, provosts and deans of the UW System, the faculty, the academic staff, students, alumni, legislators, business and community leaders, and the many advocates and believers in the UW

System who continue to work for the betterment of its students, their families, and the people of Wisconsin.

President Millner also expressed her gratitude to Governor Walker, for giving her the opportunity to serve; to President Cross, for his steady hand at the helm; and to the UW System staff, for the incredible work they do every day. She gave special thanks to Jane Radue and her team at the Board Office, stating that their support of every one of the Regents is truly remarkable.

Finally, President Millner conveyed her deepest respect and gratitude to her Regent friends and colleagues, current and past, who have been “unstinting in their commitment to our mission to serve.”

Following her remarks, President Millner received an extended standing ovation.

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## **ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

President Millner then announced the annual election of the officers of the Board.

The Bylaws of the Board specify that officers of the Board are elected at the annual meeting, held in June, and hold their offices for one year, until their successors are elected. If there is only one nominee for an office, the election is by voice vote. If there is more than one nominee, the election is by ballot. Terms of office begin immediately after the June meeting.

### ***Election of President***

President Millner began by opening nominations for the office of President of the Board.

Regent Grebe announced that it was his sincere privilege to nominate his friend and fellow Board member, John Behling, for the role of President. Regent Grebe said that, over the last two years, Regent Behling had served admirably as the Vice President of the Board, taking key leadership in a number of initiatives. Most prominently, as the Chair of the Tenure Policy Task Force, Regent Behling engaged faculty, staff, and chancellors in developing a set of policy reforms that all of the Regents can be proud of. Regent Grebe suggested that Vice President Behling would also bring that kind of collaborative and reform-minded approach to the role of President.

Regent Farrow seconded the nomination, saying that she had known Vice President Behling for longer than their service on the Board, but had come to know him better during their service together as Regents. She indicated that Regent Behling knows Wisconsin well, particularly the northwestern part of the state, and he would continue to grow and learn all the rest of the issues across the state. She added that he would be a good leader, of the same type as those who came before him, bringing with him ethics, effort, and a love of the state and the UW System.

With no further nominations, President Millner called for a vote on the nomination of Regent John Behling as President of the Board of Regents. Regent Behling was elected President on a voice vote. President Millner offered her congratulations to President-elect Behling.

### ***Election of Vice President***

President Millner then opened nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board.

Regent Grebe nominated Regent Drew Petersen for the position of Vice President. He indicated that Regent Petersen has been a valuable member of the Board, bringing significant professional and public service experience to the table.

In addition to his many years as a successful corporate communications and public affairs professional, Regent Petersen has previously served as president of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board. Regent Grebe stated that these unique leadership experiences made him an ideal choice to serve as Vice President of the Board of Regents.

On a personal note, Regent Grebe shared that he had known both President-elect John Behling and Regent Petersen for some time and valued their friendship. As a new Board member, he appreciated their advice and support over the last two very interesting years on the Board.

Regent Grebe said he was certain that the Board, faculty, staff, and students of the University of Wisconsin System, and the citizens of the state of Wisconsin, would be very well served with Regent Behling and Regent Petersen serving as the Board's President and Vice President.

Regent Farrow seconded the nomination of Regent Drew Petersen as Vice President of the Board, stating that Regent Petersen brings a unique blend of professional expertise and a real concern about education to the Board.

She observed that both President-elect John Behling and Regent Petersen are parents who have begun or are looking forward to their children's own college experiences, which brings in a bit of personal interest. Together they bring varied backgrounds and varied skills to the Board, as well as a love of the state. Geographically they come from different parts of Wisconsin, which Regent Farrow suggested would represent the System very well.

With no further nominations, President Millner called for a vote on the nomination of Regent Drew Petersen as Vice President of the Board of Regents. Regent Petersen was elected Vice President on a voice vote.

### ***Election of Other Officers of the Board***

Moving on to the election of other Board officers, President Millner first explained that, although Executive Director Radue had announced her retirement, she had asked Ms. Radue to



stay until at least mid-summer. Therefore, Executive Director Radue was up for election one last time.

President Millner indicated that the Board also would vote on several other officer positions, and these could be voted on at the same time. The incumbents and proposed office holders were:

- Jane Radue, Corporate Secretary of the Board;
- Jessica Lathrop, Assistant Secretary;
- Sandra Cleveland, Assistant Secretary;
- Sean Nelson, Trust Officer;
- Tom Stafford, Assistant Trust Officer; and
- Doug Hoerr, Assistant Trust Officer.

President Millner requested a motion to elect these officers. The motion was offered by Regent Petersen. It was seconded by Vice President Behling and, with no further nominations, was adopted on a voice vote.

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## **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO UW-MILWAUKEE FOR HOSTING THE JUNE MEETING**

Thanking Chancellor Mone for a “wonderful” meeting, President Millner called upon Regent Klein to read the resolution of appreciation to UW-Milwaukee as host of the June meeting. The resolution was adopted by acclamation:

### **Resolution of Appreciation: UW-Milwaukee**

Resolution 10898      WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Regents are pleased to recognize the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee as the official host campus for the board’s June 2017 meeting, and the board is grateful for the generous hospitality extended by Chancellor Mark Mone and the entire Panther community; and

WHEREAS, the board appreciated hearing Chancellor Mone’s presentation, “At the Intersection of Innovation and Impact: What’s at Stake,” which addressed the regional, state, and societal needs for higher education and UWM’s unique role in meeting those needs; and

WHEREAS, Business and Finance Committee members heard from Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administrative Affairs Robin Van Harpen about how UW-Milwaukee is responding to fiscal challenge and employing operational efficiencies to help address those challenges; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee heard highlights of UWM's heightened focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, and business collaboration in a presentation titled, "Building an Urban Research Enterprise and Developing a Vibrant Entrepreneurial Ecosystem," given by Chancellor Mone; and

WHEREAS, Board members were pleased to visit the site of the new Lubar Center for Entrepreneurship and Welcome Center to be located at the heart of the UWM campus; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Planning and Budget Committee heard about UWM's Capital Outlook: 2017-19 and Beyond, which provided a closer look at the university's capital building program; and

WHEREAS, the Education Committee thanks Chancellor Mone, Milwaukee Public Schools Superintendent Darienne Driver, Milwaukee Area Technical College President Vicki Martin, and Provost Johannes Britz for their thoughtful and encouraging presentations; and

WHEREAS, the Board was delighted to hear from Anne Barlas, a new graduate of UWM's College of Engineering and Applied Science, featured in this month's Student Spotlight;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents hereby thanks UW-Milwaukee for this month's informative presentations, its forward-thinking spirit, and its many continued contributions to the UW System and to the state of Wisconsin.

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## **REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND MEMORIALS**

Regent Millner called upon Regent Evers for a memorial. Regent Evers extended condolences, on behalf of the UW System and the Board of Regents, to the family and friends of Dr. Thomas Pleger, who passed away unexpectedly in early May, two days after emergency brain surgery. Regent Evers said that Dr. Pleger was a friend, as well as a fierce advocate for the liberal arts and their role in framing our democracy.

Dr. Pleger, who was just 48 years old, spent 21 years of his career in the UW System, including his time serving as campus executive officer and dean of UW-Baraboo/Sauk County from 2006 to 2014. Dr. Pleger then went to Lake Superior State University, where he served from 2014 until the time of his death.

In recognition of his service and commitment, UW-Baraboo/Sauk County leaders announced plans to rename the campus science building after Dr. Pleger. The plans will be

considered by the Sauk County Board Supervisors and the Baraboo City Council in the coming months.

President Millner said that Dr. Pleger was a fine educator and would be missed.

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The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

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Submitted by:

/s/ Jane S. Radue

Jane S. Radue, Executive Director and Corporate Secretary  
Office of the Board of Regents  
University of Wisconsin System