

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

of the

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

Held at Gordon Dining and Event Center  
Symphony Room  
770 W. Dayton Street  
Madison, Wisconsin

Friday, April 6, 2018  
9:00 a.m.

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-President Behling presiding-

PRESENT: Regents John Behling, Tony Evers, Michael Grebe, Eve Hall, Tim Higgins, Mike Jones, Tracey Klein, Regina Millner, Janice Mueller, Drew Petersen, Jason Plante, Ryan Ring, Bryan Steil, Mark Tyler, and Gerald Whitburn.

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regents Robert Atwell and José Delgado

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Per Regent Policy Document 2-4, "Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy for the UW System Board of Regents," no conflicts of interests were declared with any items included on the open session agenda.

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**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2018 MEETING**

The minutes of the February 8-9, 2018 Board of Regents meeting had been provided. Regent Whitburn moved approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Regent Steil and adopted on a voice vote.

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

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

The report of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board had been provided. There were no comments or questions.

### ***New Appointment to Higher Educational Aids Board***

President Behling began his report by sharing the news that Regent José Delgado was recently appointed by Governor Walker to the State's Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB), replacing former Regent Margaret Farrow. HEAB is the state agency responsible for the management and oversight of the state's student financial aid system. Regent Delgado will serve as the Board of Regents representative.

### ***Research in the Rotunda***

President Behling reminded his fellow Board members that the UW System's 15th annual Research in the Rotunda event will be held on Wednesday, April 11th, in the State Capitol. Nearly 400 visitors – including about 130 students and 100 faculty advisors from across the System – are expected to participate and showcase their research. President Behling attended last year's event with former-President Millner, and he reported that they thoroughly enjoyed the event as a wonderful showcase of the wide range of research work being done on the campuses.

President Behling added that the UW System was pleased to have a special guest speaker join this year's Research in the Rotunda event: Beth Ambos, Executive Officer at the Council on Undergraduate Research in Washington, D.C.

### ***Legislative and Community Outreach***

President Behling reported that he had an opportunity to meet with a number of legislators earlier that week at UW-Eau Claire, which hosted the annual regional legislative luncheon sponsored by UW-Eau Claire, UW-River Falls, and UW-Stout. He thanked the campuses for inviting him, and for their work reaching out to legislators. Saying that the event had a great turnout, he also thanked the legislators who attended.

On the subject of outreach, President Behling noted that System President Ray Cross has been very busy working with businesses and communities across the state. In the last month, President Cross addressed the Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Counties Association; he attended Superior Days and met with the Wisconsin School Counselors Association, as well as the Outagamie and Winnebago County boards; and he also had multiple meetings with federal policy-makers in Washington, D.C.

## ***Spring Commencement***

Observing that spring commencement is rapidly approaching, President Behling stated that more than 20,000 students are expected to earn University of Wisconsin degrees at ceremonies around the System. He noted that Regents often get invitations to participate in these events – for example, Regents Drew Petersen and Regina Millner would be speaking at UW-Madison’s graduations in May. He encouraged Regents to participate in commencement ceremonies, which he described as “tremendous” opportunities.

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

President Behling turned the floor over to President Cross for his report.

### ***State Legislative Updates***

Beginning his report with some legislative updates, President Cross stated that the legislature’s ordinary session recently ended, and the UW System was very pleased to see a number of its bills move forward. This included legislation that will create a new system-wide merit scholarship, provide new incentives for employers to contribute to their employees’ college savings accounts, and waive the fee for UW System students who create an LLC while in college.

President Cross then specifically addressed three bills of note:

First, legislation authored by Representative Born that updates the thresholds for when certain building or maintenance projects go before the State Building Commission passed both houses. The UW System worked very closely with the Department of Administration on this bill, and President Cross indicated that it will help save time and money on a number of critical projects throughout the System.

Second, legislation authored by Senator Olsen and Representative Rohrkaste that creates a pilot program to provide funding to help high school teachers secure additional college credits to meet new HLC standards for teaching dual enrollment courses also passed in the last days of session. President Cross said he was honored to join the authors when Governor Walker signed both of these bills into law earlier that week.

Another bill, authored by Representative Kooyenga, that will allow UW System institutions to continue to expand dual enrollment programs also passed both houses, and is expected to be signed into law soon.

President Cross noted that all of these bills had broad bipartisan support and that the authors worked closely with the UW System throughout the process. He expressed appreciation

for these efforts and said the System looks forward to more positive collaboration with its legislative partners during the next session.

### ***Federal Legislative Updates***

On the federal level, Congress passed an omnibus spending package to fund the federal government through September 30, 2018. Among other things, the bill prioritizes student aid, scientific research, and higher education overall, “for which the higher education community is grateful,” President Cross stated.

Along with increases to several student financial aid programs, the National Institutes of Health – the largest source of research funds, providing hundreds of millions of dollars in federal research funding to UW-Madison and other UW System institutions – increased, as did funding for the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy’s Office of Science, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. President Cross promised that System Administration would continue to keep the Board updated on other federal developments.

### ***Spring Conference on Teaching & Learning***

President Cross shared an invitation from Vice President Jim Henderson for all Regents and others to attend the annual Spring Conference on Teaching & Learning, hosted by the UW System’s Office of Professional and Instructional Development. The conference, to be held in Madison on April 12 and 13, is focused on “The Joy of Teaching in an Age of Digital Learning.” He encouraged those interested to contact Associate Vice President Carleen Vande Zande for more information.

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

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

#### **UW-Green Bay Students Mimic Volcano Magma**

UW-Green Bay environmental science undergraduates mimicked the mechanics of volcano magma using gelatin and wax in a student capstone experience that models how magmas are transported through the Earth’s crust, including ore deposits.

#### **UW-Eau Claire Researchers Conducted “History Harvest”**

UW-Eau Claire’s student and faculty researchers conducted a history harvest to gather stories and artifacts from area residents for “Sounds of Eau Claire.” The team will digitize its findings to create detailed online exhibits for this public history project.

#### **UW-Extension Earned Award for Innovation Online Master’s Degree Program**

Data scientists are in high demand across Wisconsin, and six UW campuses partnered with UW-Extension to offer a collaborative online master’s degree program. This innovative

approach earned the 2018 Outstanding Program Award from the University Professional and Continuing Education Association, the organization's highest honor.

### **UW Colleges Student Won International Award for Best Undergraduate Research Poster**

UW Colleges student Becky Berry won a \$500 award for best undergraduate poster at an international conference. The UW-Marinette junior is performing research into cyanobacterial cells and their potential to remove harmful metals from water bodies.

### **UW-Whitewater Fiscal and Economic Research Center Offers Practical Economic Services**

Professor Russ Kashian and UW-Whitewater students in the Fiscal and Economic Research Center helped businesses, nonprofits, and municipalities with practical economic services in real-world cases. The group's projects include analyzing the economic impact of cranberries in the state, all the way to the value of clean lakes in Wisconsin.

### **UW-Superior Research Team Seeks Insights into Pediatric Cancer**

UW-Superior assistant professor Dr. Jenean O'Brien is hopeful her research team can better understand muscle and immune development to provide insight into rhabdomyosarcoma, a devastating pediatric muscle cancer that has a five-year survival rate of less than 30 percent.

### **Research Key to UW-Stout STEM College Curriculum**

Research is a key part of UW-Stout's STEMM College curriculum, according to Dean Chuck Bomar. The recent STEMM Student Expo featured about 115 research projects involving more than 370 students who tackled real-time problems in engineering, science, computer science, and mathematics.

### **UW-Stevens Point Students Run Non-Profit Organization**

UW-Stevens Point's Groundwater Model Project is a non-profit organization run completely by students. They create and sell models that demonstrate how underground contaminants and groundwater flow affect the water used for drinking, agriculture, and recreation.

### **UW-River Falls Joins Small World Initiative Research Program**

UW-River Falls will join 170 partners from 12 nations this fall as part of the Small World Initiative research program. This collaboration harnesses the power of student researchers to discover new antibiotics from soil microorganisms, which will help tackle the worldwide health crisis of antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections.

### **UW-Platteville Students and Graduates Present Research in Washington, D.C.**

Several UW-Platteville students and recent graduates will present research they conducted last spring on the vital contributions of African-American lead minors in Wisconsin.

They will join the Council on Undergraduate Research's Posters on the Hill event in Washington, D.C., later this month.

### **UW-Parkside Students Perform Chemical Transformations with State-of-the-Art Tools**

Under the guidance of chemistry professor Dr. Daryl Sauer, UW-Parkside students Chloe Calderon and Durward Bevis use the Electra-Syn, a state-of-the-art electric research tool that performs chemical transformations, to mimic human liver functions and improve the safety of future medications.

### **Interactive Artwork Created by UW-Oshkosh Student**

UW-Oshkosh student Nick Pierson created a piece of work that shows his prowess as both an artist and a coder. His interactive artwork allows viewers to interact and control the way LED lights move through the canvas, creating a collaboration between the art and the person viewing it.

### **UW-Milwaukee Undergraduates Perform World-Class Research**

Students at UW-Milwaukee perform world-class research even as undergrads. This includes students such as Eugene Cherry, who is investigating the link between diabetes and vision trouble, and Sara Seidita, who studies how treehopper bugs use plants to communicate with potential mates, leading to a better understanding of how new and distinct species are created.

### **UW-La Crosse Graduate Helps Protect Great Lakes**

U.S. Geological Survey biologist Nick Schloesser is a recent UW-La Crosse graduate who helps protect the Great Lakes from invasive sea lamprey. Last December, as part of his master's thesis project, he described how to better protect the world's largest collective body of freshwater against these fish-killing parasites.

### **UW-Madison Graduate Student Led Study of Invasive Jumping Worms**

UW-Madison graduate student Carly Ziter led a study of jumping worms, an invasive species from Asia that recently appeared throughout southeastern Wisconsin. These jumping worms can release nutrients too rapidly in the soil, which are then washed away or may impact how plants grow, ultimately disrupting local ecosystems.

### **Women in Leadership Make History at UW-Oshkosh**

A recent Oshkosh Northwestern story highlighted that, for the first time in UW-Oshkosh's history, all of its deans are women. President Cross thanked all of the outstanding women in leadership positions across the UW System who serve as role models for students, staff, and faculty – including the university's deans, provosts, chancellors and Regents.



## **UW-Baraboo/Sauk County Professor Approved as Fulbright Specialist**

Following the video, President Cross said he had one other piece of “late-breaking” news to share: Kirthi Premadasa, an associate professor of mathematics at UW-Baraboo/Sauk County, had just been approved by the U.S. State Department as a Fulbright Specialist at a top Sri Lankan university. For one month starting in June, Dr. Premadasa will draw on his research in instructional technology techniques to help enhance the collaborative problem-solving and presentation skills of Sri Lankan students, as well as helping to create stronger contacts between the employment sector and the university. Calling this “another example of how UW research impacts lives both near and far away,” President Cross offered his congratulations to Dr. Premadasa.

### ***Student Spotlight***

Turning next to his “Student Spotlight,” a series of regular presentations intended to help everyone better understand what it means to be a student on one of the UW campuses, President Cross introduced Yongha “Eric” Hwang, a student at UW-Barron County. Mr. Hwang is from Seoul in the Republic of Korea, and his future plans include studying industrial engineering at UW-Madison.

Mr. Hwang thanked President Cross for the opportunity to present. He introduced himself as a sophomore student majoring in industrial engineering and political science at UW-Barron County. In January 2017, he came to the United States to learn about the democracy and technology innovations necessary for creating a sustainable world. He explained that these two broad ideas were goals that he had thought about for a long time. After two years of studying at a liberal arts college, he planned to transfer in order to take advanced coursework in industrial engineering and political science.

Mr. Hwang said that he chose to study at UW-Barron County because he shares a belief in the Wisconsin Idea, which promotes the public university’s role of providing service to the state. Mr. Hwang said he also wanted to start his college life with the care and attention of faculty, instructors, and college communities.

For three semesters, he explored a wide range of academic subjects through the core program, including mathematics, natural science, humanities, and social science. In particular, he sought to complete his academic foundation by cultivating critical thinking and creativity through a great deal of reading, writing, and discussion opportunities.

As an example of disciplinary convergence, Mr. Hwang recalled discussing North Korea’s nuclear threat and international security with political science and physics professors. Based on that discussion about nuclear engineering and international relations, he researched and presented the results to the campus community at “Thursdays at the U,” a university-sponsored public lecture program, as a guest speaker. Mr. Hwang credited this student experience as the basis for preparing him to enter a four-year university.

In addition to his academic experience, Mr. Hwang said the cooperation and interaction between his college and the local community helped him prepare to work on a larger stage. As a student on campus and a member of the local community, he engaged in diverse events and organizations. He volunteered as an assistant scout master with the Boy Scouts, taught chemistry to children in grades 5-8, and participated in fascinating activities and hands-on experiences showcasing science, technology, engineering and mathematics during the “STEM Saturdays” event hosted by UW-Barron County faculty. Mr. Hwang also organized the March for Science in Rice Lake, a multicultural New Year celebration, and an arts & crafts fair at the university.

Through the engagement, participation, and preparation of many other events and programs, Mr. Hwang said he learned how to communicate with people who have diverse backgrounds and developed his own leadership skills.

Stating his belief that knowledge learned from a university should be utilized for society, Mr. Hwang shared that he took a summer public policy course, the Washington Seminar provided by the Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service. During the seminar, Mr. Hwang spoke with the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, the Wisconsin Governor, and State Supreme Court Justices about the current issues that the country faces, including the fourth industrial revolution, minimum wage policy, and student-allocated fee issues.

During the previous summer Mr. Hwang worked as an intern of the South Korea delegation to the United Nations, where he attended international meetings with diplomats from 200 countries, and learned how international governance works and affects each global issue. Remarking on the “irrationalities of international society and injustice in the Third World,” Mr. Hwang recalled learning about child mortality in Africa and public executions in North Korea.

Mr. Hwang indicated that these experiences made him aware of democratic politics and participation in the real world. As the Student Governance Council President for the UW Colleges, he worked to develop the shared governance structure with students, faculty, and administration. As the student governance representative on the Steering Committee for the UW System restructuring project, he has worked to help solve academic and student affairs issues. Mr. Hwang explained that he chose to make political science one of his majors because he wants to learn more about how to create a more democratic decision-making process and solve conflicts in a peaceful manner.

After his internship at the U.N., he attended the National Climate Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C., where many professionals, student leaders, government officials, and civic activists met to discuss climate change. Mr. Hwang said that the efforts of each industry and corporation to use renewable energy and innovate technology are very important for sustainable development. He decided to look for a university that helps students gain a foundation in various techniques and complex systems, because he also wants to learn more about industrial systems and information technologies.

Last September, Mr. Hwang was nominated as the youngest presidential advisor on unification policy by South Korea President Moon Jae-in. He was also recently admitted to his first paid internship as a congressional policy secretary in the South Korean Congress.

Mr. Hwang said that if he is able to transfer to UW-Madison he will focus on digging deeply into his majors and accumulating diverse academic experiences. He plans to study solutions to sustainable technological innovation in developing countries and building a just society through democracy, stating that he would love to rescue the world from “poverty, climate change and economic inequality” based on the research about technological development and industrial innovation. He also said he would like to introduce people in autocratic countries to democratic governance in which liberty and justice are maintained.

After transferring to UW-Madison, Mr. Hwang said he intends to keep studying these fields as interdisciplinary research in graduate school and to serve as an official of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for global sustainable development. He stated that he is also planning to run for the presidency of the Republic of Korea to help with the democratization of North Korea and to unify the two nations peacefully. Concluding that he strongly believes that these two tasks would be solved by his passion and interests, Mr. Hwang thanked President Cross and the Board of Regents for listening to his presentation.

President Cross wished Mr. Hwang luck in his future endeavors.

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## **ANNUAL NCAA DIVISION I ATHLETICS REPORT – UW-GREEN BAY**

In 2012, the Board of Regents approved new reporting guidelines, calling for UW institutions that participate in NCAA Division I athletics to annually provide information to the Board regarding academic compliance matters. This accountability framework allows the Board to provide proper oversight and also safeguard the well-being and success of UW System student athletes. It also provides an opportunity for the Board to review the financial viability of UW athletics programs, and how they contribute to the institutions’ academic missions. Through these regular reports, the hope is to maintain good lines of communication between the institutions and the Board.

President Behling said the Board would hear a report from UW-Green Bay Athletic Director Charles Guthrie. He then asked Chancellor Miller to give an introduction.

Chancellor Miller introduced a new member of the Phoenix Community, Charles Guthrie, who had been Athletic Director for eight months. He said UW-Green Bay is very excited to have Director Guthrie leading this Division I program, which includes some of the institution’s best students.

Chancellor Miller explained that UW-Green Bay’s athletics program is one of its principle connections to a very sports-minded community. The school has long traditions in basketball, and the Division I program gives the campus national exposure through its ESPN

contracts. He joked that his institution has also developed some regional rivalries, particularly with UW-Milwaukee.

As an example of UW-Green Bay's partnership approach, its sports medicine is provided by Provea Health. The athletics program also has a great formal partnership with the Packers, has a unique contract with Adidas Sports, and works very closely with PMI to develop athletic facilities – which he noted also requires a very strong partnership with the students.

Chancellor Miller then introduced Director Guthrie to present the report.

### ***2017-18 Big Picture Items***

Director Guthrie first thanked his colleagues Kassie Batchelor and Lisa Jackovich for helping to put this presentation together.

Director Guthrie outlined a few of the athletic department's 2017-18 "big picture" items, including a logo rebrand for jerseys through UW-Green Bay's contract with Adidas. The athletic department formed a partnership with the Aspire Group to increase ticket sales, particularly group sales for small community groups or children's groups like the Boys & Girls Club. (He noted that bringing more people on campus also helps to increase enrollments at the university.) The department has also signed a contract with Jump Forward, which also works with UW-Madison and UW-Parkside, for an internal operations software program to improve workflow, align paperwork, and ensure compliance.

Director Guthrie said that the athletics department recently met with PMI to discuss UW-Green Bay's Resch Center contract. Beyond just paying rent to use the facility, he explained that the department wants a partnership that utilizes the Resch Center's powerful identity and location near Lambeau Field and starts incorporating UW-Green Bay's brand. For example, one idea was to put up banners inside the arena that say, "Admissions: Enroll today at UW-Green Bay."

Discussing the new athletic department website, Director Guthrie indicated that when trying to recruit 16- to 18-year-old students it is necessary to have a strong digital presence. The UW-Green Bay athletics program uses Snapchat and Twitter to reach out to those demographics and drive ticket sales and revenues.

Director Guthrie briefly touched base on recent Title IX issues in college athletics at Michigan State. UW-Green Bay has been at the forefront of this issue by conducting training and seminars with staff and student athletes on the importance of creating a culture of Title IX compliance. Recently the NCAA issued a mandate to its member institutions to conduct mandatory reporting and training for its athletes and staff, so he noted that UW-Green Bay has "actually been ahead of the curve." He said the athletics department will continue to create a culture of compliance and be preventive versus reactive.

Focusing on mental health, Director Guthrie said that this is currently a big issue with student athletes who feel pressure to perform at a high level. He reported that at a recent

consortium at the Final Four tournament people talked about how the vast majority of students feel lonely; this is a big challenge for educators to make sure they are doing the best they can to provide students with a great environment.

Director Guthrie said he previously worked for 17 years in California, where most of the institutions use student fees to fund athletic programs; for example, UC-San Diego charges students almost \$4,000 per year to participate in Division I athletics. At UW-Green Bay the focus is on giving students a return on investment for the fees they pay, providing them with season tickets “down on the floor” rather than “up in the rafters” and doing creative things to engage them at the games. He also indicated that UW-Green Bay is unique among Division I institutions because it share its facilities with the greater student body, which offers exciting opportunities to integrate students into the athletic department.

### ***2016-17 By the Numbers***

The women’s basketball team won 20 straight Horizon League Championships. Director Guthrie said UW-Green Bay has a fantastic women’s basketball program and is very excited about its coach.

The men’s basketball team earned its fifth straight post-season appearance playing in the College Basketball Invitational tournament. The volleyball team finished runner-up in both the regular season and conference tournament. The team went on to compete in the Elite Eight National Invitation tournament. The men’s soccer team captured the 2017 Horizon League Championship and finished runner-up in the tournament. (Director Guthrie joked that before the women’s basketball team won its gold trophy, people around the office were calling him the “Silver Dollar A.D.” because the volleyball, men’s soccer and men’s basketball teams all finished in second place.)

Director Guthrie provided an update on the outdoor recreation complex, a \$4.9 million shared facility used to play intermural, recreation, and club sports. The stadium will continue to be named after Aldo Santaga, whose family has been very generous to UW-Green Bay. Weather permitting, the stadium is expected to open in early August. Director Guthrie highlighted community support for this project, which is jointly funded by students and donors. He observed that many donors who begin by supporting the athletic program also go on to support academic areas.

Turning to academics, Director Guthrie reported that student athletes posted 35 consecutive semesters with an above 3.0 GPA, and 179 student athletes (79 percent) had GPAs of 3.0 or higher. The women’s basketball team finished first in team GPA in Division I, and the women’s cross country team finished third in combined GPA nationally.

The athletics department hired a new assistant athletic director and Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Director Guthrie indicated that cost containment is on every A.D.’s mind; his department has aligned the CFO’s budget office to report to the comptroller’s office to ensure that if challenges ever come up, the athletics program can work together with the university to figure things out.

Director Guthrie reported that the athletics department is on track to have another record-breaking year in fundraising. Golf tournaments raised \$100,000 each, and the annual steak fry event raised \$200,000. The next steak fry would be held in a couple of weeks; the event has outsold tables from the previous year and is anticipating that 600 to 700 people will attend.

In addition to its run of 35 semesters with a 3.0 GPA, the athletic department's competitive history includes 34 conference championships, 39 tournament meet championships, 67 post-season appearances, 32 All-Americans, 35 conference Players of the Year, and 48 conference Coaches of the Year. The Kress Event Center is considered a top-20 facility and is one of the most popular places on campus.

Director Guthrie concluded that his department's philosophy or goal is to grow the university, help with enrollment, drive the UW-Green Bay brand, and partner with the community. He said they want to win the right way, and so coaches and staff are continuously educated on compliance. He then thanked Regents for their time and offered to take any questions.

### ***Discussion***

Regent Higgins thanked Director Guthrie for his wonderful presentation and wished him luck as athletic director.

In response to a question from Regent Higgins, Director Guthrie indicated that the department has not added another compliance staff person as was suggested by a 2010 Horizon League Compliance Review. However, the department is investing in a software program that "will almost serve as a full-time position" and is expected to reduce some of the backlog and day-to-day work for Assistant A.D. for Compliance and Student Welfare Kassie Batchelor.

Regent Steil thanked Director Guthrie for his comments and particularly his sensitivity to the student fees issue.

Regent Steil then asked Director Guthrie to comment a little further on the athletic department's compliance program as it relates to Title IX, and whether he was confident that an issue at UW-Green Bay could be properly identified and remedied.

Director Guthrie answered, "Definitively." In his four months on the job he has worked with Assistant A.D. Batchelor, who oversees student development programs and compliance. He stated that he is confident in the athletic department's efforts to provide online training and speakers to the student athletes that create a culture of compliance.

With respect to Title IX compliance, he indicated that everyone in the UW-Green Bay athletics department knows they are a reporter. The athletic department does not get involved in investigations, but does move information on to the appropriate people and makes sure the information is being followed up on. Director Guthrie concluded that this environment was already in place, but will also be taken to the next level.

Regent Whitburn said the Board of Regents looks to Director Guthrie to “see to it.” Director Guthrie indicated he definitely would.

With no further questions, President Behling thanked Director Guthrie again for his wonderful presentation.

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

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

Regent Millner said the Education Committee received a special report from Vice President Jim Henderson providing an update on the UW System Math Pathways Initiative, which has been awarded a \$2.3 million grant from the Great Lakes Foundation.

The committee unanimously approved six academic degree programs, which Regent Millner briefly reviewed:

First, a collaborative online Master of Science degree in Health Care Administration responds to the rapid growth in the health care industry. The program benefits from the combined resources of five UW institutions, with support from UW-Extension.

Second, a Master of Arts degree program in Translation and Interpreting Studies at UW-Milwaukee builds upon an existing concentration in language, literature and translation. Graduates of the program will work in the language services industry. This is also an opportunity to collaborate with other institutions within and outside of the UW System.

Third, UW-Oshkosh’s new degree completion program would allow students with associate degrees from Wisconsin’s technical colleges to complete a Bachelor of Science degree in Software Technology.

Fourth, UW-Whitewater’s degree completion program for a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childcare and Education is designed for nontraditional students. The innovative structure of the program will meet the growing demand for early childhood professionals to enhance their knowledge and skills in the field. In addition, there is an opening for additional teaching certification if the recipient of the degree wants to continue with the program.

Fifth, the committee approved a Bachelor of Arts program in Film Studies at UW-Whitewater which expands upon an already successful interdisciplinary minor. Graduates will have the skills necessary to create visual media for television, radio, and websites in these rapidly expanding professions.

Sixth, the committee approved an online Master of Science degree in Finance at UW-Whitewater. This program was developed specifically for working professionals who can maintain full-time employment while pursuing a master's degree to enhance their career opportunities.

Regent Millner said the committee approved UW-Parkside's faculty policies and procedures related to faculty layoff or termination policies. This policy was approved by the faculty senate, campus administration, and the UW System Office of General Counsel.

The Education Committee also approved the annual request from UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee to the Vilas Trust Fund.

In order to advance the Education Committee's ongoing discussion regarding the future of teacher education programs in Wisconsin, Dr. Mary Ann Rankin and Dr. Michael Marder delivered a presentation entitled, "An Overview of 20+ Years of UTeach and Its Impact." Regent Millner indicated that the UTeach program is an innovative teacher training program at the University of Texas in Austin which over the past two years has generated a remarkable increase in STEM teachers in Texas. The UTeach Institute also provides guidance and resources to ensure successful implementation of similar teacher education programs at universities all across the United States.

Regent Millner moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11016, 11017, 11018, 11019, 11020, 11021, 11022, and 11023. The motion was seconded by Regent Whitburn, and the resolutions were adopted on a voice vote.

**Program Authorization (Implementation) Collaborative Online Master of Science in Healthcare Administration, UW-La Crosse, UW-Parkside, UW-Platteville, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Stout with UW-Extension**

Resolution 11016      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellors of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and University of Wisconsin-Stout, with support from the University of Wisconsin-Extension, and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellors are authorized to implement the collaborative online Master of Science in Healthcare Administration.

**Program Authorization (Implementation) Master of Arts in Translation and Interpretation Studies, UW-Milwaukee**

Resolution 11017      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Master of Arts in Translation and Interpretation Studies at UW-Milwaukee.



**Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Science in Software Technology, UW-Oshkosh**

Resolution 11018 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science in Software Technology at UW-Oshkosh.

**Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Early Child Care and Education, UW-Whitewater**

Resolution 11019 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science and the Bachelor of Arts in Early Child Care and Education at UW-Whitewater.

**Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Arts in Film Studies, UW-Whitewater**

Resolution 11020 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Arts in Film Studies at UW-Whitewater.

**Program Authorization (Implementation) Online Master of Science in Finance, UW-Whitewater**

Resolution 11021 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the online Master of Science in Finance at UW-Whitewater.

**Approval of the UW-Parkside Faculty Policies and Procedures relating to Faculty Layoff and Termination**

Resolution 11022 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Faculty Policies and Procedures relating to Faculty Layoff and Termination.

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

Resolution 11023 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellors of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, as well as 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 approximately \$11,000,000 to \$13,500,000 for fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019, 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. In addition, the Vilas Trustees have added \$2,000,000 to the Special Building Fund this year, as part of the \$5,000,000 Vilas pledge in support of the UW-Madison School of Music.

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## **REPORT OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**

President Behling called upon Regent Whitburn to present a report of the joint meeting of the Business and Finance Committee and Audit Committee.

Regent Whitburn stated that, in furtherance of their work at the Board's last meeting in February, the Business and Finance Committee and the Audit Committee met together in closed session to receive an update on immediate steps being taken on the various campuses to reduce potential risks associated with IT security matters. Interim Associate Vice President for IT Security Katherine Mayer gave the committee her early impressions on the challenges that she faces leading the UW System's efforts to set key priorities and move all of the campuses into compliance with Regent policies and Legislative Audit Bureau recommendations.

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## **REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS OF THE BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Regarding the Business and Finance Committee meeting, Regent Whitburn reported that the committee members received a report on the UW System's trust fund holdings. Over the fourth quarter of calendar year 2017, assets grew from \$559 million to \$573 million. Of the System's two major accounts, a long-term endowment fund was up 3.5 percent in the quarter and 16.1 percent over the last year; Regent Whitburn noted that this was a good return, but slightly underperforming against the benchmark. The intermediate term fund, dominated by fixed-income holdings, was up 0.8 percent in the last quarter and 5.3 percent in 2017, outperforming the benchmarks. Regent Whitburn concluded that the committee was comfortable with the report.

Regent Whitburn reminded his colleagues that, effective April 1st, the UW System has entered into a contractual agreement with the State of Wisconsin Investment Board (SWIB) for the ongoing management of the System's trust fund assets. He indicated that Vice President Sean Nelson and his staff have worked very advantageously with SWIB Executive Director Rick Smirl in arranging the transfer of these assets, which is now underway. The Business and

Finance Committee accordingly approved an updated UW System Trust Fund Investment Policy Statement.

Regent Whitburn stated that Chancellor Blank had asked the Board to approve the expenditure of approximately \$2.3 million in the next several years from a bequest from the estate of Barbara A. Tooman to the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. This bequest will go towards a \$40 million gift goal to partially fund a new \$115 million building addition to the veterinary school. Regent Whitburn noted that the Board must approve proposals to expend the principal from a bequest, and said in this case the committee was comfortable with the Chancellor's request.

Finally, Vice President Nelson reported to the Business and Finance Committee that Plante Moran has been selected to perform the outside audit of UW System financials in fiscal years 2018 and 2019. Regent Whitburn reminded his colleagues that this outside audit was required by the legislature in the current state budget. Based in Michigan, Plante Moran is the 15<sup>th</sup>-largest audit firm in America and has a significant public higher education sector practice.

Regent Whitburn then moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11024 and 11025. The motion was seconded by Regent Hall.

Regent Steil stated that moving the oversight of trust funds from the UW System to SWIB will improve and strengthen the Board of Regents' fiduciary oversight. He expressed appreciation to Vice President Nelson and his team for doing that work within a short timeline, and President Behling concurred.

With no additional discussion, Resolutions 11024 and 11025 were adopted on a voice vote.

#### **University of Wisconsin System Trust Funds Investment Policy Statement Review**

Resolution 11024      That, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves adoption of the newly revised Investment Policy Statement for the University of Wisconsin System Trust Funds.

#### **UW-Madison Request for an Exception to Board Policy on Large Unendowed Bequests/Gifts for Bequest from the Barbara A. Tooman Estate**

Resolution 11025      That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, an exception to RPD 31-15 be granted to allow for the expenditure of the principal of the bequest from the Barbara A. Tooman Estate.

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## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

President Behling called upon vice chair Regent Mueller to present the report of the Audit Committee.

Regent Mueller stated that Chief Audit Executive Lori Stortz briefly reviewed progress-to-date on the Fiscal Year 2018 Audit Plan. Ms. Stortz indicated that additional reports will be ready for the committee at the June meeting and confirmed that the Office of Internal Audit is on target to complete all audits that are part of the revised 2018 plan.

Regent Mueller said the Audit Committee also heard a number of reports from internal audit staff on audits that have been completed since the Audit Committee's last meeting in February.

Audit Director Steve Mentel reviewed three bank account creation, management and oversight audits. Mr. Mentel also reviewed Cleary Act audit follow-up for 13 institutions; Regent Mueller noted that the Cleary Act is an important federal law requiring colleges and universities to maintain and disclose campus crime statistics and security information.

Audit Director Paul Rediske reviewed the final federal TRIO program audit for UW-River Falls. Regent Mueller reminded her colleagues that the federally-funded TRIO programs are outreach and student service programs for those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Mr. Mentel then reviewed the UW System purchasing card continuous audit for the period from July 1, 2017 to December 29, 2017. Regent Mueller indicated that the Audit Committee had a robust discussion about p-card purchases for technology-related items. The committee asked audit staff to work closely with Katherine Mayer, the new Interim Associate Vice President for Information Security, on these purchases.

Mr. Mentel reviewed the final report of the UW System trust funds, and also provided the Audit Committee with an update on management's corrective actions related to past audit comments. Regent Mueller said she was pleased to report that there is good cooperation on the part of the UW institutions, with 43 comments having been closed since the last Audit Committee meeting in February.

Regent Mueller said that Ms. Stortz reported on her meetings with chancellors or their designees to plan for the upcoming fiscal year, which included very serious discussions about various areas of risk: strategic, operational, and compliance. Ms. Stortz is in the process of summarizing the results of these meetings to present to President Cross, to be followed by a discussion with the Audit Committee at its June meeting.

Finally, the Audit Committee asked the Office of Internal Audit to continue to focus on IT security; Regent Mueller said that audit staff have pledged to continue to collaborate with their colleagues and with management on this high-priority issue.

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

President Behling called upon Regent Steil to present the report of the Capital Planning and Budget Committee.

Regent Steil announced that he had added pictures to his report to show the current state of some of the UW institution's core research and teaching facilities. He suggested that viewing these photos would help everyone understand why the Capital Planning and Budget Committee believes it is important to reinvest in these facilities. The committee approved the following resolutions:

Resolution 11026, brought by UW-Madison, requests authority to increase the budget of the Chemistry Building Addition and Renovation project by \$29.3 million, including \$5.3 million from program revenue cash and \$24 million from gift funds, for a total revised cost of \$123 million. Regent Steil explained that the project currently consists of the design and construction of a 10-level undergraduate chemistry tower. The previous approval did not provide funds to finish the tower's 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> floors, or to complete the renovation of the teaching lab floors in the Daniels wing; the proposed resolution would provide those funds. Regent Steil noted that 50 percent of UW-Madison's incoming freshmen take a chemistry class, and that this project will remove the class bottleneck and strengthen the institution's teaching and research mission.

Resolution 11027, brought by UW-Madison, requests authority to increase the budget of the Babcock Hall Dairy Plant and Center for Dairy Research Addition project by \$12.5 million, including \$6.25 million from existing general fund-supported borrowing and \$6.25 million in cash, for a revised total cost of \$46.9 million. This project will construct a three-story addition and remodel portions of Babcock Hall to provide a state-of-the-art production, teaching, and research facility for the Department of Food Sciences Plant and the Center for Dairy Research. Regent Steil indicated that as this project proceeded in the final designing and bidding phases, the complexity of the project's scope became more defined and required additional review and redesign. The high standard for specialized construction in the dairy research laboratory space and the bidding climate led to the cost increase reflected in the bids.

Resolution 11028, brought by UW-Madison, requests authority to increase the budget for the Meat Science and Muscle Biology Laboratory project by \$3.7 million, including \$1.5 million from existing general fund-supported borrowing and \$2.2 million in cash, for a revised total of \$49.5 million. This project constructs a new building for the meat science program to house a meat laboratory, lecture demonstration suite, biosafety laboratory suite, and teaching research laboratories, and will demolish the seed facility. Regent Steil reported that project construction began in 2017, and excavation of the site revealed an unexpected volume of cinders from a century-old coal fire plant that had been used extensively as fill; this unsuitable soil was removed and the new structure was installed in a process that resulted in higher transportation costs and tipping fees than anticipated. He added that the proposed increase is also necessary to replenish the project's equipment budget.

Resolution 11029, brought by UW-Superior, requests authority to pay a municipal assessment of \$165,000 to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the City of Superior for street and utility improvements on U.S. Highway 2. The project reconstructs the intersection at UW-Superior's main entrance and remediates petroleum-contaminated soils from an old gas station that was located on Board of Regents-owned property within the easement.

Resolution 11030, brought by the UW System on behalf of UW-River Falls, requests authority to increase the project budget for the UW-River Falls Dairy Plant Remodel by \$1 million from existing general fund-supported borrowing to accept bids for a revised estimated total cost of \$1.9 million. The project expands the dairy plant by annexing the adjacent under-utilized fruit and vegetable pilot plant and renovates the space to accommodate donated modern dairy processing equipment. Regent Steil stated that this is another UW investment directly tied to research important to Wisconsin.

Resolution 11031, brought by the UW System, requests authority to construct ten all-agency maintenance and repair projects at an estimated cost of \$31 million. The project includes utility repairs and renovations at UW-La Crosse, UW-Madison, and UW-Platteville; programmatic remodeling and renovation at UW-River Falls; as well as heating plant fuel reliability upgrades at UW-Oshkosh, UW-Platteville, UW-Stout, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Superior. Regent Steil indicated that the fuel reliability upgrade projects will provide improved on-site fuel oil storage, burner redundant capacity, and associated equipment for those institutions' heating plants.

Regent Steil then moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11026, 11027, 11028, 11029, 11030, and 11031. The motion was seconded by Regent Grebe.

Regent Grebe asked whether there was any discussion as to why many of these resolutions are for requested increases to previously-approved project budgets: Are there ways to avoid this in the future, or were these unexpected changes that could not be addressed at the time the original requests came forward?

Indicating that the Capital Planning and Budget Committee did have a significant discussion on that point, Regent Steil asked Associate Vice President Alex Roe to comment on the specifics of where some of those increases came from.

Associate Vice President Roe stated that the early pre-designs and cost estimates provided for both of the dairy plant projects underestimated their complexity because they did not initially consult experts in this specialized area. Additionally, existing conditions at the Babcock Hall Dairy Plant prohibited some of the solutions that were developed early on, requiring the university to develop alternatives.

In another example, though UW-Madison was aware of and prepared for contaminated soils related to the Meat Science and Muscle Biology Laboratory project, Associate Vice President Roe said they did not anticipate the quantity. The certified landfill that had agreed to take the contaminated soil became full, and the university had to find a new opportunity.

Associate Vice President Roe said her office is cognizant of this issue and has been having conversations about how to do a better job going forward; for example, by requesting that firms unfamiliar with specialized projects not be used by the DOA for pre-designs. She noted the difficulty of creating accurate estimates for highly complex projects, particularly when working with industry partners who are contributing funds or equipment.

With no additional discussion, Resolutions 11026, 11027, 11028, 11029, 11030, and 11031 were adopted on a voice vote.

**Authority to Increase the Budget of the Chemistry Building Addition and Renovation Project, UW-Madison**

Resolution 11026 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Madison Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to increase the budget of the Chemistry Addition and Renovation project by \$29,300,000 (\$5,300,000 Program Revenue-Cash and \$24,000,000 Gifts) for a revised estimated total cost of \$123,100,000 (\$86,200,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing, \$11,072,000 Program Revenue-Cash, and \$25,828,000 Gifts).

**Authority to Increase the Budget of the Babcock Hall Dairy Plant and Center for Dairy Research Addition Project, UW-Madison**

Resolution 11027 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Madison Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to increase the project budget for the Babcock Hall Dairy Plant and Center for Dairy Research Addition project by \$12,500,000 (\$6,250,000 Ex-General Fund Supported Borrowing and \$6,250,000 Cash) for a revised estimated total cost of \$46,920,000 (\$15,959,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing, \$6,250,000 Ex-General Fund Supported Borrowing, \$18,461,000 Gifts and \$6,250,000 Cash).

**Authority to Increase the Budget of the Meat Science and Muscle Biology Laboratory Project, UW-Madison**

Resolution 11028 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Madison Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to increase the project budget for the Meat Science and Muscle Biology Laboratory project by \$3,700,000 (\$1,500,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing and \$2,200,000 Cash) for a revised total cost of \$49,477,000 (\$24,377,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing, \$22,900,000 Gifts and \$2,200,000 Cash).

**Authority to Reimburse the City of Superior, Wisconsin, for Assessable Improvements, UW-Superior**

Resolution 11029 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Superior Chancellor and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to: (a) pay an estimated \$165,000 (\$115,500 General Fund Supported Borrowing-Utility Repair and Renovation and \$49,500 Program Revenue-Cash) municipal assessment to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the City of Superior, Wisconsin, for street and utility improvements on U.S. Highway 2/Belknap Street per Wis. Stat. § 66.0705(2); and (b) transfer the approved General Fund Supported Borrowing All Agency allocation to the UW Infrastructure Maintenance appropriation.

**Authority to Increase the Budget of the UW-River Falls Dairy Plant Remodel Project, UW System**

Resolution 11030 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to increase the project budget of the UW-River Falls Dairy Plant Remodel project by \$1,000,000 Existing General Fund Supported Borrowing to accept bids for a revised estimated total cost of \$1,940,000 (\$915,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing; \$1,000,000 Existing General Fund Supported Borrowing; and \$25,000 Cash).

**Authority to Construct All Agency Maintenance and Repair Projects, UW System**

Resolution 11031 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 \$31,145,800 (\$16,195,500 General Fund Supported Borrowing; \$12,394,400 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing; and \$2,555,900 Agency Cash).

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**REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE RESEARCH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE**

President Behling called upon Regent Hall to present the report of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee.

Regent Hall stated that the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee approved one resolution regarding an appointment to the Wisconsin Partnership Program's oversight and advisory committee. Aligned with the Wisconsin Idea, the Wisconsin Partnership Program reaches beyond campus to improve health in Wisconsin through community academic partnerships, innovative research, educational programs, and community engagement.



Regent Hall moved for the adoption of Resolution 11032. The motion was seconded by Regent Klein, and the resolution was adopted on a voice vote.

**UW School of Medicine and Public Health Wisconsin Public Partnership Oversight and Advisory Committee Appointment**

Resolution 11032      That, upon recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System and the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Board of Regents approves the appointment of Dr. Amy Kind to fill an unexpired term on the UW School of Medicine and Public Health Oversight and Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Partnership Program effective immediately through October 31, 2018.

Regent Hall said the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee also heard a presentation introducing UW-Madison’s innovative Posse Program, a multi-cultural initiative to recognize extraordinary high school scholars and support their academic journeys at the university. UW-Madison’s program is the largest Posse unit in the United States, has achieved a graduation rate of over 90 percent, has awarded more than 500 merit leadership scholarships, and currently has 277 alumni since the program’s inception in 2002.

The committee heard an update regarding the UW System’s economic impact to the state of Wisconsin. Regent Hall observed that it has been nearly 20 years since an overall System-wide impact study was conducted. Jack McGovern, UW-Madison alumnus and former UW System intern, and Dr. David J. Ward, President of North Star Analytics, explained the formal process to update the UW System’s economic impact survey. The final report, to be issued later this spring, will be provided to legislators, regional leaders, the media, and other key stakeholders.

The Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee heard the annual update from WiSys, which provides significant support to advanced faculty and undergraduate student research and commercialized efforts at the UW System’s comprehensive campuses. Board chair David Ward and president Arjun Sanga highlighted several of the increasingly popular campus programs led by WiSys regional associates and student ambassadors, who provide support across the UW System network. Regent Hall noted that for the past three years WiSys has averaged 60 disclosures annually, up from 20 disclosures in 2014.

Finally, Regent Hall indicated that the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee acknowledged the occasion of the last meeting of one of its founding members, Regent Tim Higgins.

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**BOARD OF REGENTS 2018 ACADEMIC STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

President Behling announced that it was time for the Board to honor the outstanding work done by academic staff from across the UW System with the presentation of the 2018 Regents

Academic Staff Excellence Awards. He then turned to Regent Janice Mueller, chair of the Academic Staff Excellence Awards selection committee, to lead the presentation.

Regent Mueller welcomed the recipients of the 2018 Board of Regents Academic Staff Excellence Awards. With these awards, the Board of Regents salutes the hard work, dedication, and skill of the UW System's talented academic staff members. Their outstanding work, along with the work of academic staff System-wide, helps to strengthen and invigorate not only the UW institutions but also the communities that they serve.

Regent Mueller said that chairing the selection committee is always a gratifying honor, but also challenging given the quality of the applicant pool. Expressing her appreciation for the time and effort of her fellow selection committee members, she thanked Regents Atwell, Petersen, and Steil for their dedication, their input and their insights.

***Individual Award: Karen Mittelstadt, UW-Madison***

Regent Mueller announced that the first award would go to Karen Mittelstadt, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs at the UW-Madison School of Nursing.

Regent Mueller stated that Ms. Mittelstadt's leadership and expertise have been critical to recent landmark events for the school, which include: a Doctor of Nursing Practice reaccreditation process, which resulted in a very favorable review; the faculty redesign of the undergraduate curriculum, which required Ms. Mittelstadt's guidance in establishing 25 new courses; and the creation of an accelerated Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing, which will launch in May 2018 and allow students who have already completed an undergraduate degree to earn a nursing degree in 12 months.

Regent Mueller said that Ms. Mittelstadt's reputation for supporting students, faculty and staff were highlighted along with her approachable and collaborative style. Ms. Mittelstadt is highly sought after for committees and advice; for example, she helps administer the Nurses for Wisconsin Initiative, a UW System grant that encourages nurses to become educators in Wisconsin. Ms. Mittelstadt is one of five deans who present at UW-Madison's freshmen orientation in the summer, and she actively participates on a committee to improve the student experience and academic achievement on campus. Ms. Mittelstadt also serves on scholarship and student award committees, participates in new advisor training, and was recently selected for UW-Madison's Kaufman Administrative Development Program, which develops campus leaders.

Regent Mueller stated that Ms. Mittelstadt "combines a commitment to getting things done with an equal commitment to building relationships." She quoted one of Ms. Mittelstadt's colleagues as saying, "We recognize her expertise, solicit her opinion, value her insight and welcome opportunities to work with her. Karen's wit and creativity are much admired traits within the School of Nursing, and she uses these gifts strategically to inspire imaginative problem-solving and collaboration."

Regent Mueller said she was honored to present the first 2018 Regents Academic Staff Excellence Award to Karen Mittelstadt of UW-Madison.

Ms. Mittelstadt said it was a tremendous honor to receive this award. She thanked the Board of Regents, President Cross, Chancellor Blank, Provost Mangelsdorf, and School of Nursing Dean Linda Scott for recognizing not only her own work but also the work of academic staff members throughout the university. Saying that it was a privilege to be honored alongside her fellow award recipients, she added that “the university really hums with the work of academic staff members and university staff members and our faculty.”

Ms. Mittelstadt credited Dean Scott with thinking up ideas and ways to grow more programs, increase enrollment, and enhance research funding, and creating an environment where one’s staff classification does not matter. She also acknowledged Dr. Dan Willis, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, as having been “a tremendous addition” to both the School of Nursing and her own work.

Ms. Mittelstadt also thanked her partner Amber and their three sisters for putting up with her “work shenanigans,” noting that all they get in exchange are stories of drama and intrigue from faculty meetings or about the exploits of students. She added that those stories, though becoming increasingly interesting, are still not a fair exchange for the love and support that her family gives to her.

Ms. Mittelstadt indicated that her team at the School of Nursing are also very excited for this award and stated that some part of this award is also due to all of their hard work. She joked that at the previous week’s staff meeting, “they were very eager to try and put a percentage on the part that they could claim.” She also thanked Dr. Catherine Andrews, Dr. Karen Solheim, and Dr. Pam McGranahan, who along with Dean Scott and Dr. Willis nominated her for this award.

Ms. Mittelstadt again thanked the Board of Regents, Chancellor Blank and Dean Scott for this recognition on behalf of academic staff and the work that they do throughout the UW System.

### ***Individual Award: Jaclyn Esqueda, UW-Platteville***

Regent Petersen announced that the second Academic Staff Excellence Award in the individual category would go to Jaclyn Esqueda, Special Programs Manager for Student Success Programs at UW-Platteville’s College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science (EMS).

Regent Petersen noted that Ms. Esqueda was initially hired to implement a \$900,000 National Science Foundation Grant to expand STEM initiatives at the campus, and also supports EMS students through academic advising.

Ms. Esqueda helped establish a study and resource space to support students’ academic success. Regent Petersen said the Center for Projects, Opportunities, Instruction, Networking and Teamwork (CenterPOINT) is a very popular destination; with the help of student staff who

are trained and mentored by Ms. Esqueda, it has logged nearly 16,000 visits from more than 1,000 unique visitors in 2016-17 alone. Her training programs are so successful they have been replicated elsewhere across the college.

In addition to these retention efforts, Ms. Esqueda is active in STEM youth outreach. She coordinates the ESM Expo, the college's largest outreach event with more than 1,600 participants; organizes the Explore Engineering high school summer camp; and leads the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science Ambassadors.

Outside of the College of EMS, Ms. Esqueda was instrumental in opening Pioneer Provisions, a food pantry on campus dedicated to combatting food insecurity among college students. She is also the primary advisor for the Pioneer Pantry Student Organization.

Regent Petersen said that Ms. Esqueda is described as a true team player who is often the first person to offer assistance when needed. He quoted UW-Platteville's Interim Provost Dr. D. Joanne Wilson: "Anyone who knows Jaclyn would describe her as professional, organized, committed and excellent. She's never afraid to try something new and she has absolute nonstop energy."

On that note, Regent Petersen said he was truly honored to present the second Academic Staff Excellence Award to Jaclyn Esqueda of UW-Platteville.

Ms. Esqueda stated that it was truly an honor to accept this award from the University of Wisconsin System, which has been such an integral part of her life. In fact, she said it could be argued that she has been a part of the UW System since before she was born, considering both of her parents were students at UW-Stevens Point at the time of her birth.

Reflecting on the people and the experiences that have shaped and influenced her life the most, Ms. Esqueda said that they are all beginnings, "or rather commencements," within the UW System. She indicated that one of her favorite family photos is of herself as a toddler in her father's arms, playing with the tassel on her mother's mortarboard as she graduated with an English degree from UW-Stevens Point. Her mother had continued to pursue her degree even while caring for an infant; her father had completed his business degree from UW-Stevens Point just a few semesters prior. Ms. Esqueda observed that "even from infancy" she had the positive influence of education around her and the amazing example of her parents, "for whom I am forever grateful."

Ms. Esqueda recalled that when she was 7 or 8 years old her uncle graduated from UW-La Crosse. At his graduation party, her uncle gave her the decorative plastic mortarboard hat from his cake, but only if she promised to get a real one of her own someday. Ms. Esqueda confessed that she kept that plastic cake decoration until her own college graduation: "Some people would probably call that hoarding, but I'm going to call it motivation!"

When it was time for her to choose her own college, Ms. Esqueda said she considered several both inside and outside the UW System before ending up at UW-Stevens Point. Stating that the time she spent there was "truly life-changing in all the positive ways that a college

experience should be,” Ms. Esqueda indicated that UW-Stevens Point accomplishes the UW System’s mission of “developing in students heightened intellectual, cultural, and humane sensitivities; scientific, professional, and technological expertise; and a sense of purpose.” She encountered and understood different perspectives, found her voice as a leader, and began to understand what it really meant to be “a learner for life.”

Ms. Esqueda said she found an influential mentor in her supervisor for an on-campus job in the Career Services Office, who first led her to consider a career in higher education. She recalled that at her own commencement she was “prouder and more confident” than ever before, because her English degree from UW-Stevens Point provided her with the skills she needed to be professionally adaptable and successful in today’s world.

After graduating with a master’s degree in higher education services from Georgia Southern University, Ms. Esqueda applied to her current position at UW-Platteville specifically because of its mission and influence in the region as an access institution, and because of her department’s unique position within that institution.

The EMS Student Success Programs, which were created and are led by Director Tammy Salmon-Stephens, encourage broad participation in engineering, mathematics and science by operating as a student services unit built into the infrastructure of the academic college. Ms. Esqueda thanked Ms. Salmon-Stephens, a two-time graduate of the UW System and a former recipient of the Regents Academic Staff Excellence Award, for being a mentor and for nominating her for this award.

Ms. Esqueda also said she was lucky to be able to work with “amazing student-centered people,” including her colleague Kim Sargent, Women in EMS Programs Manager, who was present in the gallery. Saying that “this award is every bit as much theirs as it is mine,” Ms. Esqueda said she would not be able to, nor would she want to do her work without her colleagues at EMS Student Success Programs.

After beginning her position at UW-Platteville, Ms. Esqueda said the next commencement in her life was her younger brother’s graduation from UW-Stevens Point in 2013, followed by her 80-year-old grandmother receiving her associate’s degree from UW-Stevens Point in 2016. Noting that Charles R. Van Hise, former president of the University of Wisconsin in Madison, once declared, “I shall never be content until the beneficent influence of the university reaches every family of the state,” Ms. Esqueda said she did not know if he meant it quite so literally, but that her family has certainly been well-influenced by the University of Wisconsin System.

Because of these commencements, which have shaped her life and who she has become, Ms. Esqueda said she felt “extremely privileged and honored” to give her career in service to the mission of educational access to the UW System. She thanked the Board of Regents for their recognition.

### ***Program Award: Lake Superior Research Institute, UW-Superior***

Regent Steil announced that the third award would go to a program “whose success is exemplary,” the Lake Superior Research Institute (LSRI) at UW-Superior, which is currently directed by Dr. Matthew Ten Eyck.

Regent Steil recalled that when he and Regent Ring had visited the institute in October 2017, they learned how LSRI conducts environmental research and provides services that benefit the Great Lakes region and beyond. LSRI’s highly-regarded researchers have diverse expertise, from studying and providing guidance on water resources, to air and soil quality. They monitor coastal wetlands, restore waterways and shorelines, and help prevent the spread of invasive species. In collaboration with its partners, including the Environmental Protection Agency, LSRI has achieved an international reputation for environmental research.

Regent Steil indicated that LSRI has developed strong partnerships with more than 150 local, state, federal and tribal governments. It is one of only five labs in the state certified to conduct certain tests related to water quality; this certification has allowed LSRI to provide a much-needed service to the people of northwestern Wisconsin, who can now have samples of well water tested without expensive shipping costs.

LSRI celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017. Over the decades, it has involved over 550 undergraduates in freshwater research and generated more than \$60 million in grants and contracts. The institute benefits students by sponsoring self-directed undergraduate research projects and providing annual scholarships in partnership with the UW-Superior Foundation and Advancement Office.

Regent Steil reported that many of its students have gone on to pursue post-graduate education and/or careers in science. He quoted one UW Superior graduate’s observation: “Without a doubt, choosing to work for LSRI has been one of the smartest decisions I have made. Working in the LSRI laboratories gives crucial real-world experience that simply cannot be replicated in the classroom.”

Regent Steil said that it was with great pride that he presented the Regents Academic Staff Excellence Award to the Lake Superior Research Institute of UW-Superior, represented by its director Dr. Matthew Ten Eyck.

Dr. Ten Eyck thanked his colleagues at the Lake Superior Research Institute, then thanked the Board of Regents on behalf of his team. He also expressed appreciation for the support of Chancellor Renée Wachter and Interim Provost Jackie Weissenburger, saying that they had been instrumental in helping LSRI overcome some of the challenges it faces as a research center.

Dr. Ten Eyck stated that for LSRI to succeed, it takes staff who have a passion for natural resources while trying to improve the lives and the livelihood of the people of Northwestern Wisconsin and beyond. The institute’s staff have to be creative and innovative and must be committed to outstanding achievement. Dr. Ten Eyck observed that LSRI’s staff are and always

have been “very nimble” in the sense that they must respond and adapt to frequent change in the area of applied research, as they often do not know what the next environmental issue will be.

He added that LSRI staff are also highly dedicated to training future generations of skilled scientists and leaders; in fact, 70 percent of the current staff right now are alumni from UW-Superior who have returned to continue that legacy of training future researchers. LSRI has trained over 550 students, many of whom have gone on to careers in research, graduate school, or national resource management positions as a result of working in the institute’s labs.

Besides simply providing a solid training program, Dr. Ten Eyck said that LSRI staff are very skilled at inspiring young minds and often see transformations in young people who discover that they have untapped gifts. LSRI helps students build a strong sense of purpose, which in turn leads students to use their lives for making a difference in the world.

Dr. Ten Eyck repeated this quote from one of LSRI’s former students: “Without a doubt, choosing to work for LSRI has been one of the smartest decisions I have made. Working in the LSRI laboratory gives crucial real-world experience that simply cannot be replicated in a classroom. Employers are looking to hire people who can work independently, problem-solve, and follow exacting protocols. The opportunity to hone these skills while completing an undergraduate degree provides an unparalleled advantage after graduation. The years I spent in the labs were formative and priceless.” Dr. Ten Eyck said that LSRI receives testimonials like this one all the time.

Through a half century of operation, Dr. Ten Eyck stated that the goals and mission of the Lake Superior Research Institute have been met through the dedicated work of staff and students, as well as hard work and support from the university’s administration. Noting that an extended library of research has already been completed, Dr. Ten Eyck concluded that the innate curiosity and drive of the LSRI staff will continue to propel the institute forward down its path of creativity and innovation, excellence of performance, and outstanding achievement of applied research.

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## **ELECTION OF BOARD OF REGENTS ASSISTANT TRUST OFFICER**

President Behling announced that the Board of Regents approved Jess Lathrop as its new Executive Director and Corporate Secretary during the previous day’s closed session. He explained that as an officer of the Board, the person who holds this position must be elected by ballot if there is more than one nominee, or by voice vote if there is only one nominee.

Regent Millner moved and Vice President Petersen seconded the nomination to elect Jess Lathrop as Secretary of the Board of Regents. There were no other nominations, and Ms. Lathrop was elected as Executive Director and Corporate Secretary on a voice vote.

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## REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND MEMORIALS

On February 26<sup>th</sup>, the UW System received the sad news of the passing of UW-Stout Chancellor Emeritus Chuck Sorenson. On behalf of the Board of Regents, President Behling extended condolences to the Chancellor's family, colleagues, and many friends: "Chuck served the UW System proudly for more than two decades, and his passing will be deeply felt in the community."

President Behling also extend the Board's sympathy to the family, colleagues, and friends of John "Jack" W. Miller, the former Chancellor of UW-Whitewater, who died on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the age of 70. President Behling observed that it was during Chancellor Miller's leadership from 1999 to 2005 that UW-Whitewater's physical campus underwent a major transformation and the Warhawk brand gained national prominence, and said he would be deeply missed.

Finally, President Behling extended condolences to the family, colleagues, and friends of Bryan Peters, a long-time member of the UW System Administration family. Mr. Peters, who worked in the comptroller's office, passed away unexpectedly earlier in the week. He had nearly 34 years of service to the state of Wisconsin, including 26 years with the UW System Administration. Mr. Peters took the lead in reconciling the UW System's financial records with the Department of Administration and played a critical role in changing the System's business process to provide a greater level of transparency. President Behling stated that Mr. Peters was a wonderful colleague and will be deeply missed.

On behalf of all three of these late colleagues, President Behling asked everyone to join him in a moment of silence.

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## CLOSED SESSION – SONATA ROOM

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

### Closed Session Resolution

Resolution 11033      That the Board of Regents move into closed session to: (a) consider personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons relating to the UW-Oshkosh Foundation matter which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial effect upon the reputation of such persons, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats.; and (b) confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation (Bank First National v. UW-Oshkosh Foundation; Board of Regents v. Sonnleitner and Wells; University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Foundation, Inc.



v. Board of Regents; UW-Oshkosh Foundation, Inc. Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Filing) and potential litigation, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(g), Wis. Stats.

During the closed session, Regents Higgins, Jones, Klein, and Tyler each recused themselves from discussion of pending litigation.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

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Submitted by:

/s/ Jess Lathrop

Jess Lathrop, Executive Director and Corporate Secretary  
Office of the Board of Regents  
University of Wisconsin System