

8/17/2018

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

- I.4. Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee
- Thursday, August 23, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Symphony Room
Gordon Dining & Event Center, 2nd Floor
770 W. Dayton Street
Madison, Wisconsin
- a) Approval of the Minutes of the June 7, 2018, Meeting of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee
 - b) Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) Update on International Trade Initiatives and Foreign Direct Investment – Connecting University Researchers and Innovators with Global Business Opportunities – Led by Katy Sinnott, WEDC Vice President of International Business Development
 - c) The Wisconsin Idea: New Perspectives on the Science and Art of Entrepreneurship
 - i. Tapping Big Data to Better Understand Attributes of Entrepreneurial Success – Led by Dr. Jon Eckhardt, Robert W. Pricer Chair in Enterprise Development and Executive Director of the Weinert Center for Entrepreneurship at UW-Madison
 - ii. Putting Big Data to Work for Improved Tracking of Entrepreneurship Activity – Led by Mark Lange, Executive Director of the UW System Division of Business and Entrepreneurship
 - iii. The Art of Building Capacity to Support a Thriving Entrepreneurial Ecosystem – Led by Aaron Hagar, WEDC Vice President of Entrepreneurship and Innovation
 - d) Presentation by Dr. Ryan Owens, Director of the UW-Madison Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership regarding the Center’s work

WEDC UPDATE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE INITIATIVES AND FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT: CONNECTING UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS AND INNOVATORS WITH GLOBAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BACKGROUND

The UW System and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) continue to expand partnerships designed to identify and leverage collaborations and initiatives accelerating innovation in regional and international business development. WEDC provides regular updates to the REDI Committee on current and planned projects and provides progress reports on outcomes.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

Katy Sinnott, WEDC's Vice President of International Business Development, will provide an update on a growing list of initiatives and programs, with a focus on WEDC's efforts to collaborate with the university and state businesses to foster exports for Wisconsin business and to increase awareness of foreign direct investment opportunities within the state. Notably, these collaborations reflect an increased focus on attracting and retaining a globally literate workforce.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not Applicable.

**THE WISCONSIN IDEA: NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE
SCIENCE AND ART OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

BACKGROUND

Despite a strong and growing entrepreneurial ecosystem in Wisconsin, the state traditionally has ranked at or near the bottom of national rankings for entrepreneurship. As innovation and entrepreneurship continue to thrive and grow across Wisconsin, these perceptions are changing. REDI will hear today from three presenters whose efforts are leading the change process.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

- i. TAPPING BIG DATA TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE ATTRIBUTES OF ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS – DISCUSSION LED BY DR. JON ECKHARDT

UW-Madison Professor Jon Eckhardt will discuss a research project he leads, and which is funded by the Kauffman Foundation. The project is focused on identifying, analyzing and quantifying the predictive characteristics of successful innovators and business start-ups. Professor Eckhardt's project relies on the collection and analysis of big data, as does a separate initiative for small business market intelligence which Mark Lange will discuss.

- ii. PUTTING BIG DATA TO WORK FOR IMPROVED TRACKING OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACTIVITY – “QUICK TAKE” BY MARK LANGE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UW SYSTEM

Mark Lange and Aaron Hagar jointly collaborate on several entrepreneurial programs, including Ideadvance, which recently received global recognition for its innovative approach to lean start-up from the University Industry Innovation Network based in Europe.

- iii. THE ART OF BUILDING CAPACITY TO SUPPORT A THRIVING ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM – “QUICK TAKE” BY AARON HAGAR, WEDC

Aaron Hagar will provide a high-level update on WEDC's statewide efforts to support entrepreneurship and innovation, including his own dialogue with the Kauffman Foundation and others to help better categorize and chart progress in the entrepreneurial sector across Wisconsin.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not Applicable.

**TOMMY G. THOMPSON CENTER ON PUBLIC LEADERSHIP UPDATE ON
ACTIVITIES, FACULTY AWARDS, AND SPEAKER AWARDS**

BACKGROUND

The Wisconsin legislature created the Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership in 2017. The Center's mission is "the facilitation of research, teaching, outreach, and needed policy reforms regarding effective public leadership that improves the practice of American government." *See* Wis. Stat. § 36.68(b)(2). UW-Madison's Academic Planning Council met on November 16, 2017 and approved an implementation plan for the Thompson Center in the manner recommended by the College of Letters & Science Academic Planning Council. The Center has hosted a number of important events and will continue to make a strong contribution toward effective governance and leadership in Wisconsin.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

Professor Ryan J. Owens, Director of the Thompson Center, will provide an update on the Thompson Center's activities to date, as well as future activities, faculty awards, and speaker awards. Specifically, for the 2018-19 fiscal year, the Center has issued a general call for faculty research award applications that address **prison to work** initiatives, and the **future of transportation in Wisconsin**. The Center also seeks speaker award applications from UW System schools.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not Applicable.



**Tommy G. Thompson Center
on Public Leadership**
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

To: Members of the Board of Regents
From: Ryan Owens, Director, Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership
Re: Summary on the Thompson Center
Cc: Charles Hoslet, David Brukardt, Gary Bennett, Jess Lathrop

I. Background

The Wisconsin legislature created the Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership in 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, which the Governor signed into law on September 21, 2017. The Center's mission is "the facilitation of research, teaching, outreach, and needed policy reforms regarding effective public leadership that improves the practice of American government." *See* Wis. Stat. § 36.68(b)(2). UW-Madison's Academic Planning Council met on November 16, 2017 and approved an implementation plan for the Thompson Center in the manner recommended by the College of Letters & Science Academic Planning Council. The Center operates with a Public Leadership Board pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 36.68 as well as a Faculty Advisory Committee, consistent with UW-Madison policy.

II. 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Activities

The Thompson Center hosted two major events. It hosted a conference called **Leadership Across the Branches** on November 17, 2017. The conference showcased esteemed individuals from across the political spectrum. Panels focused on leadership in Congress; leadership in the state legislature; public leadership from the media's perspective; leadership in the executive branch; and leadership in the courts. Roughly 120 people attended this conference.

The Center hosted a conference on **Criminal Justice Reform** on April 26-27, 2018. The conference brought together academics, policymakers, and think tanks from across the ideological spectrum to address needed reforms to the criminal justice system in Wisconsin. The conference focused on three main topics: (1) prosecutorial discretion, (2) prisoner re-entry, and (3) forfeiture, fines, and fees. Roughly 330 people attended this conference.

III. 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Activities

A. Conferences and Events

The Thompson Center will host a number of events in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

The **Prison to Work** conference will be a one-day event in early March at the Monona Terrace in Madison that examines prison to work issues in Wisconsin. The event will focus, in part, on Governor Thompson's recent "Second Chance Initiative" to turn an existing prison into a training facility for low-level offenders in an effort to enhance Wisconsin's workforce and create an economic path for successful prisoner re-entry.

The **Future of Transportation in Wisconsin** conference will be a one-day event in Milwaukee in April that examines a host of issues relating to transportation changes. The conference will examine: financing for roads, the movement of freight, infrastructure development, public transit, and the economic impacts of new transportation methods. The conference will identify transportation changes and prepare Wisconsin for the future.

To encourage bipartisanship and attention to the upcoming midterm elections, the Thompson Center will provide funding for UW System Campuses to bring students together to watch and discuss the **political debates**. Relatedly, the Center seeks to host an **Attorney General Debate** at a location to be determined by the two candidates.

On September 25, The Thompson Center will host a talk by **Judge Jeffrey Sutton**, a prominent federal circuit court judge. The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals judge will deliver two talks at UW-Madison to discuss his recent book on state constitutions and state constitutional interpretation.

On September 13, the Center will co-host (along with Wispolitics) the **Thompson Book Event**, in which Governor Thompson and Doug Moe discuss their new book, *Tommy: My Journey of a Lifetime*. The book tells the life story of Governor Thompson and his legacy of pragmatic policymaking.

B. UW System Faculty Research Awards

The Center funds faculty research across the UW System that will advance public leadership and help leaders to address pressing policy challenges. Each year, the Center identifies two topics on which we seek faculty research assistance. The Center determines the topics based on a consultative process by the Public Leadership Board in conjunction with the Faculty Advisory Committee. These research grants go through a two-step process involving: (1) initial review by the Faculty Advisory Committee, and (2) subsequent review by the Public Leadership Board. For the 2018-19 fiscal year, the Public Leadership Board has issued a general call for research proposals that address **prison to work** initiatives, and the **future of transportation in Wisconsin**. Our goal is to have faculty grant recipients discuss their research at our conferences.

C. UW System Speaker Grants: Thompson Talks

According to Wis. Stat. § 36.68(5), each fiscal year, the Center must allocate no less than \$500,000 for speaking engagements at campuses other than UW-Madison (which has its own activities and grants). The Center funds speaker presentations that will advance public leadership and help leaders to address pressing policy challenges. The Center has issued a system wide call for speaker grant applications. Grant(s) may be applied for by student groups, faculty, departments, or administration, and are intended to promote discussions of leadership and policymaking solutions in Wisconsin and beyond.

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Tommy left a positive legacy of collegial problem solving in Wisconsin. Our goal at the Thompson Center is to emulate that legacy. Our speakers will address issues from the right and the left. Our researchers will be objective and respected. We will tackle big problems, as Tommy did. We aim to enhance the connection between the university and the state government, as well as the tie between the university and people across the state. In short, we aim to help move Wisconsin Forward.