

**Minutes of the Research, Economic Development and Innovation Committee
University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents
UW-La Crosse
December 6, 2018**

The REDI Committee convened at 9:06 a.m. On a motion by Regent Tracey Klein, seconded by Regent Mark Tyler, the committee approved the minutes of the October 4, 2018 meeting held at UW-Parkside.

UW-La Crosse Highlighted the “On-Ramp” Program. Dr. Samantha Foley, Assistant Professor of Computer Science at UW-La Crosse, discussed how this innovative project, funded in part by WiSys, bridges the gap between traditional computing environments and high-performance computing systems that are notoriously difficult to use. “On-Ramp” is a platform that allows all computer science students a basic understanding of complex parallel and distributive computer systems. One day, “On-Ramp” might be used for K-12 students, as an early introduction to computer science.

The Wisconsin Partnership Program of The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health presented its 2018 Annual Report, its 2019-2024 Five-Year Plan and recommendations for the appointments of four members to its Oversight and Advisory Committee.

By way of background: In 2000, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Wisconsin converted from a nonprofit service corporation to a for-profit. The Wisconsin Insurance Commissioner approved that conversion, which distributed the proceeds from the sale, to the Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and to the Medical College of Wisconsin. Thirty-five (35) percent of the funds were allocated for public health initiatives, and sixty-five (65) percent for the education and research initiatives to advance population health.

Dr. Robert Golden, Dean of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, outlined the Partnership Program’s Annual Report and the Five-Year Plan, highlighting particular programs that are advancing research in the areas of Alzheimer’s, Opioid addiction, rural health initiatives, as well as inner-city health programs. He shared a video about one such program, aimed at combating the health crises of African-American men in Wisconsin. Dr. Golden then introduced the nominees to serve on the Oversight and Advisory Committee.

The Board of Regents is now the main oversight body for the Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP). Tracy Klein is the Regent Liaison to the WPP. Klein described how she has diligently reviewed the original order of the Commissioner, the various plans and reports from the WPP, past audits from the Legislative Audit Bureau and met with Dean Robert Golden and other members of the UW-Madison school of Medicine and Public Health who run the program and administer the funds. She told the committee that the WPP has met all expectations and requirements set out by the original order of the Commissioner of Insurance.

Regent Tracey Klein moved **Resolution I.4.e** – Approval of the Wisconsin Partnership Program’s Five-year Plan. The motion was seconded by Regent Drew Petersen and unanimously approved by the committee.

Regent Tracey Klein then moved **Resolution I.4.c** – Appointments of four members to the Oversight and Advisory Committee of the WPP. Motion was seconded by Regent Mark Tyler and unanimously approved by the committee.

The committee meeting concluded at 10:27 a.m.