

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM  
UW-La Crosse Student Union, 521 East Avenue N., La Crosse, Wisconsin  
Friday, December 7, 2018

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Ongoing Tours of Prairie Springs Science Center  
431 East Ave. N., La Crosse, Wisconsin

**II. 9:00 a.m. All Regents – Room 2120, Student Union**

1. Calling of the roll
2. Approval of the minutes of the October 2018 meeting
3. Report of the President of the Board
  - a. Reports of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board and the Higher Educational Aids Board
  - b. Additional items that the President may report to the Board
4. Report of the President of the System
  - a. Student spotlight
  - b. News from around the System
  - c. Restructuring update
  - d. Title IX and other federal updates
  - e. Update on recent events
5. Report and approval of actions taken by the Business and Finance Committee
6. Report and approval of actions taken by the Education Committee
7. Report and approval of actions taken by the Capital Planning and Budget Committee
8. Report and approval of actions taken by the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee
9. Report of the joint meeting of the Audit Committee and the Business and Finance Committee
10. Report of the Audit Committee
11. 2019-21 Biennial Budget Update: Capacity-building projects
12. Resolution of appreciation to UW-La Crosse for hosting the December 2018 meeting
13. Regent communications, petitions, and memorials
14. **Optional Closed Session**

*The closed session agenda for Thursday, December 6, 2018, may also be considered on Friday, December 7, 2018, as the Board's needs may dictate. In addition, the Board may reconvene in open session regarding matters taken up in the closed session, including voting, where applicable.*

Adjourn

## **2019-21 CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **BACKGROUND**

In August 2018, the UW System Board of Regents approved a biennial budget request of \$25 million for Capacity Building Initiatives within System institutions. The request has been submitted to the Department of Administration for inclusion in the Governor's 2019-21 budget proposal.

The Capacity Building Initiatives seek to expand Wisconsin's talent pipeline, ensure affordable educational attainment, prepare students for success, and collaborate to spur innovation. Each UW System institution has prepared initiatives designed to help meet the priorities set by both the Legislature and UW System Administration.

At the December Board of Regents meeting, four institutions (UW-Eau Claire, UW-La Crosse, UW-River Falls and UW-Superior) will be sharing examples of their proposals to align with these goals.

UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Parkside, and UW-Stout previously presented their capacity-building proposals to the Board in October. The remaining institutions (UW-Green Bay, UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, UW-Stevens Point and UW-Whitewater) will present in February.

#### **REQUESTED ACTION**

For information.

#### **DISCUSSION**

In response to a call for proposals, each institution submitted high-priority initiatives that addressed the state's key priorities. The submissions, while diverse, contained common themes. Workforce demands can be met by bolstering programming in the areas of STEM, healthcare, and business. In addition, institutions can increase student success in areas such as time to degree, advising, and participation in high-impact practices which have been shown to increase retention and graduation rates.

Proposed capacity-building initiatives address several state priorities:

- **EXPAND WISCONSIN'S TALENT PIPELINE:** Campuses propose to aggressively add hundreds of students to existing high-demand degree programs of healthcare, science, engineering, and technology. These include creating innovative

new programs in such areas as bioinformatics, cybersecurity, robotics, supply chain management, data analysis and mental health counseling. An investment in these programs now will help address the workforce needs of tomorrow.

- **ENSURE AFFORDABLE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT:** Helping students stay enrolled, make progress toward a degree, and graduate on time keeps higher education affordable. Many campuses are proposing to centralize and strengthen student advising to meet these needs.
- **PREPARE STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS:** In order to meet the state’s workforce development goals, UW System institutions have been proactively developing services and programming to ensure student success. Examples of these programs include internships, undergraduate research, community partnerships, transition to college courses, enhancements to traditional advising and creating diversity in learning environments. The proposals put forward by UW System institutions aim to improve on existing programs and develop new initiatives.
- **COLLABORATE TO SPUR INNOVATION:** Several UW System campuses propose cultivating entrepreneurship, collaborating on new or existing programs, and engaging in community outreach on such topics as mental health, employing people with disabilities, and English-language acquisition. Partnerships between campuses and communities may help to address high-demand needs more efficiently at less cost.

## **RELATED BOARD OF REGENTS ACTIONS**

Resolution 11078, “2019-21 UW System Biennial Operating Budget Request” (August 23, 2018)