MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

of the

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

Held at UW-Madison
Union South, Varsity Hall II
1308 W. Dayton Street
Madison, Wisconsin

Friday, February 9, 2018
9:00 a.m.

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Friday, February 9, 2018
9:00 a.m.

-President Behling presiding-

PRESENT: Regents John Behling, José Delgado, Tony Evers, Eve Hall, Tim Higgins, Mike Jones, Tracey Klein, Regina Millner, Janice Mueller, Drew Petersen, Ryan Ring, Bryan Steil, Mark Tyler, and Gerald Whitburn. (Regent Millner joined the meeting after the roll was called.)

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regent Robert Atwell

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2017 MEETING

The minutes of the December 2017 Board of Regents meeting had been provided. Vice President Petersen 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.
Reflections on 2017

As the UW System begins a new year and a new semester, President Behling said he would begin his remarks with a quick look back at 2017.

The University of Wisconsin Badgers Football team completed one of the greatest seasons in team history when they defeated the Miami Hurricanes to win the Orange Bowl. President Behling offered his congratulations to Coach Alvarez, Coach Chryst, and the players on their record-setting 13-1 season. He added that the Board would have the chance to hear from Athletic Director Alvarez later that morning.

Calling attention to another win, President Behling recalled that during state budget discussions last year, the Board of Regents made it clear that investing in faculty and staff was a top priority – and the Governor and the legislature listened. The 2017-19 budget signed into law by Governor Walker included funding to support a 2-percent raise in July 2018, and another 2-percent increase in January 2019. President Behling noted that this is the largest salary increase in a decade, and it will help each of the UW institutions remain competitive.

Research in the Rotunda

Returning to 2018, President Behling reminded Regents that the UW System’s Research in the Rotunda – a celebration of undergraduate research – will be held on April 11, 2018, in the State Capitol. Now in its 15th year, this event is an impressive showcase of the great research projects being done by UW students and their faculty advisors. President Behling and former President Millner attended last year’s event, and President Behling encouraged all of his colleagues to come join them on April 11th.

Visit to Oman

Finally, President Behling said he recently had the opportunity and the privilege of representing the UW System and the Board of Regents on a visit with the System’s educational partners at the University of Nizwa in Oman.

The UW System began its relationship with the University of Nizwa in 2001, led by former UW-Oshkosh Chancellor John Kerrigan. Since that initial MOU was signed between UW-Oshkosh and the University of Nizwa, the collaboration has expanded to also include formal partnerships between the University of Nizwa and UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, and most recently UW-Eau Claire.

President Behling stated that the UW System’s work in Oman embodies the Wisconsin Idea in a global context. He indicated that the Omanis revere the Wisconsin Idea and have added their own Nizwa Imperative: “Self-Built, Self-Made, Self-Actualized, the Transcendent University.” In addition to the institutions’ shared academic interests, the representatives also discussed economic development opportunities. With the Omani government currently planning a trade mission to the United States, UW System delegation encouraged them to include Wisconsin and the UW System on their visit.
The leaders of the University of Nizwa campus are building a new facility that will have the capacity to enroll up to 20,000 students. President Behling noted that the university is currently 80 percent female and that classes are taught in English. Displaying a photo of one of the dormitories under construction, he indicated that the University of Nizwa has used over 140,000 tons of cubic concrete and 10,000 tons of steel in its rebuilding. The university serves as its own general contractor, and the new facility is scheduled to be completed in 2020.

President Behling next shared a photo of himself with Vice Chancellor Abdulaziz Yahya AlKindi. He added that the Board would have the chance to meet Vice Chancellor AlKindi’s nephew, who is currently enrolled at UW-Madison, later that morning.

On January 18, 2018, the UW System signed an historic agreement with the University of Nizwa, one that takes the partnership from the institutional level to a state-wide collaboration. Focusing on workforce and economic development, President Behling said this agreement will create opportunities for partners on both sides. It will also build on the existing partnership, he added, and represents their ongoing shared commitment.

Separately, Johnson Controls – a Wisconsin company – joined UW System representatives for their meeting in Oman. Johnson Controls has 800 employees working in the Middle East, and is currently in discussions with the University of Nizwa to build a "district cooling plant" that will provide heating and ventilation at its new campus. Once completed, President Behling said it is set to become the first "green campus" in the Middle East.

University of Nizwa Vice Chancellor Abdulaziz AlKindi visited UW-Milwaukee last year to learn about its campus partnership with Johnson Controls. While the Nizwa partnership will be with a separate division of Johnson Controls, President Behling explained that it will use the same model of campus-based, industry-university collaboration, research, and internships. Johnson Controls is a long-time partner of the University of Wisconsin, and President Behling said the System is very happy to have them engaged in this venture.

In addition to their work at the University of Nizwa, UW System leaders visited two other universities in Oman’s capital city of Muscat to discuss academic and economic development partnerships. President Behling expressed hope that the years ahead would offer opportunities for other members of the Board to engage in similar activities.

President Behling added that after University of Nizwa leaders learned he is a guest lecturer in a geology course at UW-Eau Claire, they invited him to return next year to teach at their university as well.

President Behling then announced that the Board was pleased to be joined by Suleiman AlKindi, a current UW-Madison student and the nephew of University of Nizwa Vice Chancellor Abdulaziz AlKindi. In English and Arabic, President Behling thanked Mr. AlKindi for coming to the Board’s meeting and for attending the University of Wisconsin. He expressed hope that more exchange students will be able to take advantage of this opportunity in the future – going in both directions.
REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SYSTEM

President Behling turned to President Cross for his report. President Cross followed up with some additional words about the UW System’s collaborative work with Oman.

President Cross reiterated that this joint project was initiated by then-Chancellor Kerrigan at UW-Oshkosh nearly two decades ago. That groundbreaking mutual commitment has continued and grown, with UW-Eau Claire Chancellor Schmidt taking part in the most recent trip to Oman. Indicating that additional partnerships across the System are anticipated to follow, President Cross said the UW System looked forward to growing these partnerships.

After inviting Mr. AlKindi to join them, President Cross presented President Behling with a framed copy of the historic Statement of Shared Commitment which was recently signed in Oman. He noted that this statement “affirms…our joint academic and economic development initiatives. Together, we look forward to a long-term, productive, sustainable and mutually beneficial relationship.”

State Legislative Updates

President Cross next provided a state legislative update, saying that he and Regent Vice President Petersen were honored to be guests at Governor Walker’s State of the State Address in January. Governor Walker outlined his vision for the remaining months of the legislative session, and also articulated his commitment to a $20 million investment in workforce development in the next biennial budget.

In other business, President Cross said he was pleased about a number of bills coming forward that are of keen interest to the UW System.

Assembly Bill 758, authored by Rep. Murphy, creates additional research opportunities for UW System faculty and students by making the regulations impacting research on campus more consistent with those in other states. President Cross reported that the UW System has worked closely with the PROFS organization on this issue, and strongly supports this bill.

Assembly Bill 805, authored by Rep. Kooyenga, will improve access to dual enrollment programs by allowing school districts and UW System institutions to negotiate the terms and conditions for the college credit bearing programs being offered to high school students. The UW System also strongly supports this bill.

Assembly Bill 777, authored by Rep. Novak, would provide funding to support the creation of a full tuition remission program for students from the state’s foster care system at both UW System and Wisconsin Technical College System schools. President Cross testified in favor of this bill during its public hearing, and the UW System strongly supports it.
Assembly Bill 804, authored by Rep. August, would create and provide funding for a new Wisconsin Merit Scholarship Program. Explaining that this merit-based program will enhance the UW System’s ability to retain Wisconsin’s best and brightest students, President Cross said the university strongly supports this bill.

Assembly Bill 675, authored by Rep. Born, puts into place the operational reforms, including revised thresholds, for the State Building Commission approval processes that were supported by the Board of Regents and included in the Governor’s 2017-19 budget process. The UW System strongly supports this bill.

Finally, Senate Bill 790, authored by Sen. Marklein, will eliminate or update 19 different reports currently required of the UW System. President Cross said that this is long overdue and will provide some much-needed regulatory relief without reducing or negatively affecting the information and data the UW System shares with the legislature, and so the System strongly supports this bill.

Collectively, President Cross said these bills – which have broad bipartisan support – reflect the ongoing, productive dialogues the UW System is having with all legislators. He indicated that these dialogues would continue.

In other news on the state legislative front, Senate Majority Leader Fitzgerald announced that Sen. Alberta Darling will succeed Sen. Harsdorf as chair of the Senate Committee on Colleges and Universities. President Cross noted that Sen. Darling is a strong UW System advocate, and said university leaders look forward to working with her in this effort. Sen. Darling will also continue to chair the Joint Finance Committee.

Sen. Patty Schachtner of Somerset will succeed Sen. Harsdorf, and has been appointed to the Committee on Colleges and Universities. Two other legislators also won recent special elections to fill open seats: Greta Neubauer in the 66th Assembly District in Racine, and Rick Gundrum in the 58th District in Washington County. President Cross said the UW System looks forward to working with all three.

**Federal Legislative Updates**

On the federal front, President Cross reported that he, along with Regent Michael M. Grebe, Regent Emeritus Michael W. Grebe, and Chancellor Mark Mone had the pleasure of meeting with U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan on the UW-Milwaukee campus in January. He indicated that they discussed reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (referred to as the PROSPER Act), and that Speaker Ryan had expressed hope of bringing a bill to the House floor for consideration before Memorial Day.

President Cross added that the UW System representatives also took the opportunity to ask Speaker Ryan to bring a bill forward that would extend the Federal Perkins Loan Program until the Higher Education Act is reauthorized.
Meanwhile, a Higher Education Bill is expected in the Senate soon. President Cross noted that Senator Lamar Alexander referenced the UW Flexible Option during a committee hearing last week, when he talked about a working mother who is earning her bachelor’s degree in nursing through the Flexible Option.

**Think-Make-Happen**

President Cross said the UW System’s joint talent development initiative with WEDC is building momentum with the rollout of the new Think-Make-Happen initiative to attract and retain millennials to support the Wisconsin workforce. Targeted outreach to alumni will be a key component of this initiative led by Rebecca Deschane, who holds a joint appointment with the UW System and WEDC.

**News from Around the UW System**

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

**UW-Madison Researchers Helped Confirm Earliest Evidence of Life on Earth**

UW-Madison researchers partnered with UCLA to confirm that a 3.5 billion-year-old piece of rock contained the oldest fossils ever found. Geoscience professor John Valley led the study of the Western Australian fossil, and the evidence confirmed that this is the earliest direct evidence of life on Earth.

**UW-Green Bay Commencement Speaker Inspired $20,000 in Scholarships**

Riley Garbe first visited UW-Green Bay as a fifth grader on a Phuture Phoenix field trip. Years later he joined UW-Green Bay on a scholarship, and the story of his challenging childhood during Riley’s commencement speech inspired a local organization to offer $20,000 in total scholarships in Riley’s honor at the Freedom High School he attended.

**UW-Eau Claire Researchers Seek Pain Relief for Police Officers**

Eau Claire Police Department officers frequently experienced lower-back pain on the job. A kinesiology research team at UW-Eau Claire is helping determine whether load-bearing vests will provide a new, safe way for officers to carry their heavy equipment.

**UW-Extension Partnership Supports Business Growth in Waukesha**

A UW-Extension partnership to support business growth in Waukesha is off to a healthy start. The Wisconsin Small Business Development Network and the Waukesha County Center for Growth served 93 clients, generating five new ventures and $471,000 in capital investment in the first year.
UW Colleges Students Attended Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells

One hundred UW Colleges students recently attended a leadership conference in Wisconsin Dells. The workshops and training at the Glacier Canyon Conference Center featured topics such as leadership skills and improving group dynamics – all necessary skills in today’s workforce.

UW-Whitewater Economics Students Competed in College Fed Challenge

Economics students at UW-Whitewater competed against some of the world’s most prestigious universities, including Harvard and Princeton, at the College Fed Challenge in Washington, D.C. UW-Whitewater is the first Wisconsin university to advance to this national event, which tests students’ knowledge of economic and monetary policy.

Lake Superior Research Institute Examines Effectiveness of Water Protection Tools

Aquatic invasive species are expensive to control and devastating to the Great Lakes and Wisconsin’s environment. The Lake Superior Research Institute at UW-Superior wants the Great Waters Research Collaborative to examine the effectiveness of various tools used to protect our waters.

Department of Education Renewed UW-Stout’s McNair Scholars Program

UW-Stout’s McNair Scholars Program has been renewed for five years by the Department of Education. The program helps first-generation, limited-income, and underrepresented students earn their bachelor’s degrees and pursue graduate school.

UW-Stevens Point Students Gain IT Experience at Sentry Insurance

Students majoring in computing and media technologies at UW-Stevens Point develop IT skills, work on needed projects, and become valuable student employees for Sentry Insurance. This often leads to full-time employment at Sentry’s IT Co-op, the area’s largest employer.

UW-River Falls Students Help Train Assistance Dogs

UW-River Falls is celebrating the first year of its assistance dog training and education program. Students who participate receive credit for internship work with local nonprofit organizations to help train assistance dogs for persons with physical disabilities, diabetes, and autism.

UW-Parkside Graduates Record Numbers of Students

In 2017, UW-Parkside graduated 8 percent more students than in 2016. In the past seven years, more students have graduated from UW-Parkside than during any other seven-year period in the university’s history. This run of record graduating classes helps fill the talent pipeline.
UW-Platteville Professor of Agribusiness Received Outstanding Advisor Award

The director of UW-Platteville’s Pioneer Farm received an “Outstanding Advisor Award” from Alpha Gamma Rho. This national professional fraternity helps develop agricultural leaders, and Professor of Agribusiness Charles Steiner was nominated for the award by the local chapter he advises.

UW-Oshkosh Awarded First Doctorate in Educational Leadership Policy

UW-Oshkosh made history at its mid-year commencement as it awarded its first doctorate in educational leadership policy. This includes a superintendent licensure. Family and friends joined the campus community to celebrate the 1,200 students who earned undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Antarctic Discovery by UW-Milwaukee Scientists Drew Worldwide Attention

UW-Milwaukee research scientists in Antarctica drew worldwide attention when they discovered 260 million-year-old fossil forests near the South Pole. Erik Gulbranson and John Isbell generated more than 75 stories from news outlets including National Geographic, CNN, and the BBC. The research is shedding light on modern-day climate change.

UW-La Crosse Students Active in Community Outreach

UW-La Crosse students are active in community outreach. An economics class partnered with city leaders to research ideas on investing $1 million in economic activity. In another example, radiation therapy students made blankets for cancer patients at Gunderson Health System.

Student Spotlight

President Cross said he was delighted to introduce Isabel Markowski, who grew up in Eau Claire and will graduate from UW-Madison in May with a degree in Nutritional Science and a certificate in Environmental Studies.

Ms. Markowski’s interests grew out of childhood summers spent on her grandfather’s farm in Elk Mound, a little bit northwest of Eau Claire, where she learned to turn bumper crops of tomatoes into salsa, and helped sell sweet corn and pumpkins at the farmers’ market. Along the way, she discovered a deep connection between environmental health and human health, and found her way to the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at UW-Madison. As a student, she has dedicated herself to working in the community to help families learn to prepare more nutritious, locally grown foods.

President Cross noted that Ms. Markowski is a first-generation college student who has excelled at her studies while also working. She is now applying for internships that will enable her to earn a credential as a registered dietician.

President Cross then invited Ms. Markowski to the podium.
Ms. Markowski said the first thing the Regents should know about her is that she really loves food. She described her own story as being like a buffet because “I like a little bit of everything and I’m not afraid to go up for seconds or thirds.” She added that this was reflected in her education at UW-Madison, where she is studying dietetics and environmental studies.

Ms. Markowski explained her first inspiration is her mother, who taught her how to eat healthy and create a positive relationship with food. Her second inspiration is her grandfather; she described a childhood “furnished with the rustling trees that surrounded his fields, the dirt that would stain my hands after hours, and the sweat from moving piles of pumpkins to a hundred different locations.”

After arriving at UW-Madison, Ms. Markowski said she realized she did not want to just learn about nutrition, but also about the social, economic, psychological and environmental aspects of food, and how they all intricately connect. She has been able to delve into that holistic philosophy in her classes, which include courses on business, statistics, and psychology in addition to nutrition and environmental studies.

However, Ms. Markowski said her extracurricular activities at UW-Madison have been some of her greatest learning opportunities and proudest achievements; this includes the organization of Slow Food UW. She explained that Slow Food is a global movement rooted in fighting against the disconnectedness of fast food and food illiteracy; the movement first began in Italy and now has chapters in over 160 countries, including the chapter at UW-Madison.

Slow Food UW focuses specifically on “good, clean, and fair food for all in Madison,” with 10 projects and over 42 interns who work with food in the community. Ms. Markowski indicated that she has worked on multiple projects with the organization. These include working in South Madison, an area that contains four out of five of Madison’s food deserts, and directing a student-run weekly café that serves food originating from within a 100-mile radius of Madison. Currently she is one of the organization’s co-executive directors.

Ms. Markowski has also been active in the Dietetics and Nutrition Club, and in a sustainable business organization where she has learned how to communicate with professionals, design and present environmentally-focused business proposals, and apply her knowledge in the real world.

Ms. Markowski said that she comes from a hard-working blue-collar family who “always had just enough,” meaning that she has covered the cost of her education completely independently. She has been working since age 16, including her current job at the Savory Accents chili pepper farm in Verona; she explained that she loves being in the field and in the kitchen.

Ms. Markowski added that she has also been extremely fortunate to have received a few UW scholarships. She thanked the university for the scholarships and opportunities she has received at UW-Madison.
Reiterating that she “likes to try everything and anything,” Ms. Markowski indicated that it has sometimes been quite challenging to face the many opportunities and activities offered by UW-Madison. Explaining that she had to learn how to say “no,” Ms. Markowski said she has worked hard to hone in on what she is most passionate about and how she can make a difference.

Ms. Markowski said she is very excited to continue to build upon these experiences with the skills and knowledge she has learned at UW-Madison. This fall she hopes to participate in an accredited one-year dietetic internship that is required to become a dietician, after which she intends to continue with graduate studies in public health or gastronomy, or perhaps attend culinary school.

Ms. Markowski said she envisions herself working with a company that takes abandoned or unused urban spaces, such as parking lots or abandoned buildings, and recovers them into urban gardens or a holistic health campus, which would serve food from its own farm and offer a teaching kitchen. Saying that she wants to keep her options open, Ms. Markowski concluded that she will always find a way to connect people to their food, and through food connect them to others.

**Update on Sexual Assault and Harassment**

President Cross spoke next on an issue that impacts everyone: sexual harassment and sexual assault. He noted that every day there seem to be more disturbing national stories about sexual assault or sexual harassment involving prominent individuals – members of Congress, members of the media, Hollywood moguls, and corporate icons – and regrettably, universities are not immune to this problem.

President Cross stated that everyone at the UW System is committed to making campus communities safe and welcoming places to live, learn, and work. The System has policies and procedures for dealing with these disturbing actions; just over one year ago, the Board of Regents put forth a new, comprehensive sexual assault and harassment policy. President Cross said this “excellent” policy codifies the UW System’s commitment, mandates training for all employees and students, and creates a clear reporting path and requirement.

While the UW System can and should do its part to establish policies, provide training, dedicate resources, and support its employees and students, President Cross said the problem is bigger in society and that we all need to do more. Each person needs to step up and do their part in creating a culture that helps to prevent sexual assaults and harassment from happening in the first place, he said, while also encouraging and empowering survivors of such acts to come forward.

While policies, training, and reporting structures reflect the UW System’s commitment, President Cross said these are not enough – unless the university embraces a zero-tolerance culture, “our policy will merely be ink on paper and our actions nothing more than checking the boxes.”
In the months ahead, President Cross said he will be working closely with chancellors and shared governance groups to identify ways in which the UW System might build on the good work it has already done and continue to promote significant and lasting cultural change. He indicated that he plans to come back to the Board in the near future with specific updates on these efforts. President Cross concluded that this is about doing what is right for everyone on the UW campuses.

ANNUAL NCAA DIVISION I ATHLETICS REPORT – UW-MADISON

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, fiscal, and compliance matters related to NCAA Division I intercollegiate athletics. 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 of Regents.

The UW System has three institutions with Division I NCAA athletics programs. President Behling welcomed Athletic Director Barry Alvarez, who would present the report from UW-Madison.

Chancellor Blank came forward to introduce Athletic Director Alvarez. Before doing so, she also briefly commented on President Cross’s previous remarks regarding sexual assault and sexual harassment: “We have to have a culture that actively encourages good behavior, discourages abuse, and prevents it. But beyond that, one can never stop bad things from happening. And when they do occasionally happen, we also have to have a culture that responds quickly and appropriately.”

Director Alvarez then led UW-Madison’s presentation of its NCAA Division I Athletics 2016-17 Annual Report. He told Regents that the program’s athletes are excelling both on the field of play and in the classroom.

Director Alvarez reported that the UW football and men’s basketball teams extended their streak of consecutive years with a bowl appearance and NCAA men’s basketball tournament appearance to 15 years – the longest such streak in NCAA history.

He added that UW student-athletes are also succeeding; the cumulative GPA for all Wisconsin student-athletes at the end of the fall of 2017 was 3.089.

Director Alvarez also reported that UW Athletics’ internal controls and compliance were audited by the UW System and received an overall audit rating of “excellent.”
department reported no major violations of NCAA rules and 20 secondary violations, which is consistent with reporting from previous years.

Addressing campus climate and safety issues, Director Alvarez said UW Athletics will be undertaking a review of health and safety-related policies, procedures, and practices. “The well-being of our student-athletes and staff is at the top of my priority list and I have every confidence that we are handling those areas with care and professionalism, but we can always do better,” he said.

President Behling thanked Director Alvarez for his report.

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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 actions taken by the Capital Planning and Budget Committee.

Regent Steil indicated that the Capital Planning and Budget Committee unanimously approved two resolutions.

Resolution 10993, brought by the UW System on behalf of UW-Madison, requests authority to execute the remainder of the design contract and construct the $1,422,000 renovation of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) Office Building 2nd and 4th Floor Improvements Project. Regent Steil stated that this project is entirely gift-funded and has been refocused to renovate space on only the second floor of the WARF Office Building for the School of Medicine and Public Health’s Department of Biostatistics and Medical Informatics to provide improved workspace for collaboration and projected department growth. The fourth floor of the building is anticipated to be similarly renovated as a separate project in the future.

Resolution 10994, also brought by the UW System on behalf of UW-Madison, requests authority to execute the remainder of the design contract and construct the $2 million UW-Madison Nielsen Tennis Stadium–Additional Tennis Court Project. This project is entirely gift-funded and will construct two additional courts adjacent to the six existing outdoor courts. Regent Steil said the design is expected to provide enhancements to the outdoor portion of the tennis facility, such as a new pedestrian entrance, fencing, spectator bleachers, a new sound system and score boards, outdoor court lighting, and necessary site utilities.

Chancellor Cathy Sandeen and Vice Chancellor Steve Wildeck provided the annual report on City and County Financial Support for the UW Colleges. Regent Steil indicated that the committee had a robust conversation regarding the positive funding that comes from the cities and counties currently, and encouraged a continued focus on those relationships throughout the restructuring process.
UW System Real Estate Specialist Ellen Rosner and UW-Green Bay Vice Chancellor Sheryl Van Gruensven updated the committee on the proposed construction of the 63,000-square-foot Brown County Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Innovation Center. Regent Steil said this exciting project ties into the work that is going on at UW-Green Bay.

UW-Madison Associate Vice Chancellor David Darling presented the committee with information about the challenges of deferred maintenance and how it relates to the facilities on campus. Regent Steil said the committee discussed some of the safety risks that could be tied to the deferred maintenance that is occurring, and suggested that this would be an important aspect for the full Board to dive into further.

Finally, Associate Vice President Alex Roe reported on the recent State Building Commission approvals and provided an update on recent meetings held with professional design and general contractor associations to gain feedback on the UW Managed Capital Program.

Regent Steil then moved for the adoption of Resolutions 10993 and 10994. The motion was seconded by Regent Whitburn, and the resolutions were adopted on a voice vote.

**Authority to Execute the Remainder of the Design Contract and Construct the UW-Madison Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) Office Building 2nd and 4th Floor Improvements Project, UW System**

Resolution 10993  That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to (a) execute the remainder of the design contract, and (b) construct the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) Office Building 2nd and 4th Floor Improvements project for an estimated total cost of $1,422,000 Gift Funds.

**Authority to Execute the Remainder of the Design Contract and Construct the UW-Madison Nielsen Tennis Stadium–Additional Tennis Court Project, UW System**

Resolution 10994  That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, authority be granted to execute the remainder of the design contract and construct the Nielsen Tennis Stadium–Additional Tennis Court project for an estimated total cost of $2,000,000 Gift Funds.

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**REPORT OF 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 said the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee heard three presentations.

Dr. Karl Scholz, Dean of the Colleges of Letters and Science at UW-Madison, led a discussion regarding preparing students for success in the 21\textsuperscript{st} century economy. Dr. Scholz talked about the new “SuccessWorks,” which offers a unique approach to career readiness. Through the program, students will explore career possibilities and internships, connect with UW alumni, and build vital networks of professors, teaching assistants, alumni and peers. Regent Hall indicated that SuccessWorks provides both specialized career advice and hands-on workshops.

Chancellor Beverly Kopper delivered the exciting news that UW-Whitewater students finished strong in the National Federal Reserve Competition event in Washington, D.C. The College Fed Challenge is an academic competition designed to bring real-world economics into the classroom. For the competition, students analyze economic and financial conditions and determine how these factors impact monetary policy. Regent Hall noted that the UW-Whitewater Warhawks were the first-ever Wisconsin students to advance to the national level event, held at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors offices in Washington, D.C., where they competed against some of the world’s most prestigious universities, including Harvard and Princeton.

Finally, Regent Hall reported that the committee engaged in a panel discussion entitled “Energizing the Future: Perspectives on Building Strong Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Diverse Cultural Settings.” The panel was comprised of chamber of commerce representatives from the Latino, Hmong, African-American, and American Indian communities. Regent Hall said the panelists highlighted successes and focused on opportunities related to future progress in this important and growing economic development arena. The panel also highlighted some members of the President’s Diversity Counsel, which was established last year by President Ray Cross.

President Behling thank Regent Hall for her report.

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REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

Regent Grebe reported that the Audit Committee had a very full agenda for its meeting, and so his report would be focused on the more significant items the committee addressed.

Chief Audit Executive Lori Stortz briefly reviewed progress-to-date on the FY 2018 audit plan, and confirmed that the Office of Internal Audit is on target to complete all audits included in that plan which have not otherwise been deferred for previously discussed reasons.
One audit currently in the planning process is the review of transactions between university institutions and related foundations, including adherence to newly-instituted memoranda of understanding governing those transactions. Regent Grebe indicated that, in response to a question from Regent Whitburn and the interest of the committee as a whole, the Audit Committee specifically requested that a discussion regarding that matter be included on its next agenda.

The Audit Committee also heard reports from Internal Audit staff regarding a lengthy series of audits completed since the committee’s last meeting.

Audit Director Steve Mentel reviewed five positive bank account audits for UW-Extension, UW-Green Bay, UW-La Crosse, UW-Parkside, and UW-Platteville.

Audit Director Amanda Nehmer reviewed the Division of University Housing audit for UW-Madison. Regent Grebe noted that this audit identified several problematic matters and included a significant number of audit comments that were rated as high risk. The committee engaged in extended discussion regarding this audit, including discussion about suspicious activity and controlled deficiencies that were identified in the audit. Vice Chancellor Laurent Heller responded to a series of inquiries and assured committee members of his commitment to implementing the necessary new policies and strengthening control.

Audit Director Paul Rediske reviewed the final five Federal TRIO audits for UW Colleges, UW-Eau Claire, UW-Parkside, UW-Stout, and UW-Superior, and additionally reviewed a Best Practices Letter regarding Federal TRIO Programs. Regent Grebe said the committee reiterated its support for the process of sharing best practices, which not only encourages useful communication among the campuses but leads to improved results.

IT Audit Director Mary Luebke reviewed the Human Resources System Separation of Duties audit for the UW System, which was intended to test controls and policies rather than adherence to those controls and policies. Regent Grebe reported that the audit identified a number of potential risks related to inadequate controls and policies. He added that the committee’s discussion of this matter recognized that specific instances of fraud or loss, to the extent they may exist, should also be identified in other ongoing audits, including the Payroll Continuous audits.

Mr. Mentel also reviewed the Internal Control and Compliance Structure and Governance audit for UW System Administration. Regent Grebe said the Audit Committee reiterated its endorsement of the three lines of defense model and again requested that this model be implemented as broadly as possible across the System. He indicated that Regent Whitburn spoke for the committee in stressing the need for all levels of leadership to establish the appropriate “tone from the top” in connection with expectations of integrity, and the consequences for failing to satisfy those expectations.

Regent Gerbe said that audit staff also reviewed two positive NCAA Division I Agreed Upon Procedures audits for UW-Green Bay and UW-Milwaukee; the Payroll Continuous audit for the UW System; and a very positive Research – Capital Equipment audit at UW-Madison.
Committee members expressed appreciation to the Office of Internal Audit for completing and delivering a large number of audits.

Mr. Mentel updated the Audit Committee on management’s progress in taking identified corrective actions to audit comments, and confirmed that management at each institution was responding effectively. Noting that this has become a consistent refrain at the Audit Committee’s meetings, Regent Grebe said it is welcomed and appreciated: “While it is always disconcerting to identify deficiencies in any audit, the positive nature of management’s responses suggests diligence and professionalism on the part of both our audit team and management across the System.”

Regent Grebe indicated that Chief Audit Executive Lori Stortz then provided her report, which included preliminary planning for the 2019 Audit Plan, to be presented in June 2018.

Perhaps most significantly, Regent Grebe concluded, the UW System’s new General Counsel Quinn Williams presented the proposed new Regent Policy Document on Ethics and Conflict of Interest for the UW System Board of Regents. As noted by Mr. Williams, Regent Grebe stated that the Regents hold their positions as members of the Board as a public trust: “Serving as a Regent is an honor, and with that honor comes a responsibility to conduct our business with the highest level of integrity.”

Regent Grebe spoke about the Regents’ obligation to serve the best interests of the University of Wisconsin System with due regard for the reputation of the university, as well as their obligation to comply with a series of laws and regulations prohibiting the Regents from using their public positions for personal gain. Just as important, he said, the Regents “are obligated morally and ethically to do the right thing” for the university; its students, faculty, and staff; the taxpayers; and the state of Wisconsin.

Regent Grebe said it was in that spirit that Mr. Williams worked with a broader group to prepare and present the proposed policy, which was approved unanimously by the Audit Committee. He then moved for the adoption of Resolution 10995 approving the new ethics and conflict of interest policy for the UW System Board of Regents. The motion was seconded by Regent Millner, and the resolution was adopted on a voice vote.

Approval of a New Regent Policy on Ethics and Conflict of Interest for the UW System Board of Regents

Resolution 10995 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the Board of Regents and President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the attached Regent Policy Document entitled “Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy for the UW System Board of Regents.”

Regent Grebe indicated that Mr. Williams would be arranging the policy’s implementation and individualized training for Board members in the near future. On behalf of the Board, he expressed appreciation for the work Mr. Williams has done and will continue to do in this important matter.
Finally, Regent Grebe said the Audit Committee moved into closed session to discuss information security audit findings and responses, as permitted by s. 19.85 (1)(d), Wis. Stats.

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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 reported that the Education Committee approved seven resolutions, received a report from the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, and heard two presentations.

First, Vice President Jim Henderson shared the excellent news that the UW System was awarded a $2.3 million grant from the Great Lakes Foundation to support the UW System Math Initiative.

Vice President Henderson also reported to the committee about plans that are in place to advance the goal of meeting workforce demand for highly qualified teachers in Wisconsin. Related to this matter, the Education Committee later heard a presentation from the Department of Public Instruction about its process for approving teacher education programs.

Regent Millner indicated that the Education Committee will hear a presentation from Dr. Mary Ann Rankin, Provost at the University of Maryland, at its April 5, 2018 meeting. Dr. Rankin will discuss UTeach, an innovative teacher preparation program that she launched while serving as Dean of the College of Natural Sciences at the University of Texas at Austin. Regent Millner noted that UTeach has demonstrated enormous success in graduating high-quality students from STEM fields for careers as secondary math, science, and computer science teachers.

Regent Millner said other plans underway related to teacher education will be reported on at the Education Committee’s subsequent meetings.

The Education Committee unanimously approved four academic degree programs, including a new Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degree in Neuroscience at UW-Eau Claire. Regent Millner explained this degree program emphasizes a multi-disciplinary approach to understanding the brain. Students will engage in high-impact learning practices such as undergraduate research and internships with local employers, including Mayo Clinic.

The committee approved a new Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering at UW-Green Bay. In support of this program, the committee also approved a proposal to create a new School of Engineering at UW-Green Bay, and to change the name of the College of Science and Technology to the “College of Science, Engineering and Technology.” Regent Millner
indicated that approval of the degree program was conditional, subject to the availability of sufficient funds, and to the use of no new or additional GPR funding for the first five years.

The Education Committee approved a new Master of Arts degree in Applied Professional Studies at UW-Parkside, which will meet workforce demand for advanced employee training in data visualization, public service leadership, and content expertise for professional educators. Regent Millner said that UW-Parkside anticipates enrollment primarily from working professionals, and all courses will be offered via an online, readily-accessible, and affordable course structure.

Finally, the committee also approved a Master of Science in Education (MSE) in Montessori Education at UW-River Falls. Since 2012, UW-River Falls has offered credentialing options in Montessori education. The new degree program will continue to serve full-time teachers who are required to earn Montessori credits per their teaching contracts. Regent Millner noted that this will be the first MSE in Montessori Education degree program in Wisconsin.

Regent Millner said the Education Committee renewed or approved two charter school contracts through UW-Milwaukee. The contract with Woodland School, Inc., which will maintain a charter school in Milwaukee known as Woodlands School-State Street, was renewed for a period of three years. As part of the approval process, the committee required UW-Milwaukee to return within one year to report on student achievement under the contract.

Regent Millner added that the second contract with Rocketship Education Wisconsin, Inc., which will maintain two charter schools in Milwaukee, was approved for a period of five years.

Regent Millner then moved for the adoption of Resolutions 10996, 10997, 10998, 10999, 11000, 11001, and 11002. The motion was seconded by Regent Whitburn, and the resolutions were adopted on a voice vote.

Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience, UW-Eau Claire

Resolution 10996 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Eau Claire 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 Neuroscience.

Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, UW-Green Bay

Resolution 10997 Upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board authorizes the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay to offer the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering on the condition that two requirements are fulfilled: The University must have at least $1.2M in cash donated to
support the Mechanical Engineering degree program before enrolling students, and the University must have donation commitments that generate between $800,000 and $1,000,000 for each of the succeeding four years.

**Establishment of a School of Engineering, and Renaming of the College of Science and Technology, UW-Green Bay**

Resolution 10998 Upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents authorizes the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay to establish a School of Engineering, and to change the name the College of Science and Technology to the “College of Science, Engineering and Technology.”

**Program Authorization (Implementation) Master of Arts in Applied Professional Studies, UW-Parkside**

Resolution 10999 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Parkside and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Master of Arts in Applied Professional Studies.

**Program Authorization (Implementation) Master of Science in Education in Montessori Education, UW-River Falls**

Resolution 11000 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-River Falls and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Master of Science in Education in Montessori Education.

**UW-Milwaukee Renewal of Charter School Contract, Woodlands School, Inc.**

Resolution 11001 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves renewal of the charter school contract with Woodlands School, Inc., so long as UW-Milwaukee returns to the Education Committee within one calendar year, in order to report on student achievement and performance under the contract.

**UW-Milwaukee Approval of Charter School Contract, Rocketship Education Wisconsin, Inc.**

Resolution 11002 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the charter school contract with Rocketship Education Wisconsin, Inc., to maintain two charter schools known as Rocketship Southside Community Prep and Rocketship North
Side School, for a period of five years, from July 1, 2018 until June 30, 2023.

In response to a request by Regent Higgins, President Behling indicated that the Board would have an opportunity after the committee reports to meet some of the community members responsible for helping to put together UW-Green Bay’s proposal for a new School of Engineering.

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

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

Regent Whitburn first reported on the joint meeting of the Business and Finance Committee and the Audit Committee. The two committees met in closed session to discuss information security audit findings and responses. Saying that he and Audit Committee Chair Regent Grebe had concluded the UW System’s current decentralized approach to risk management is not functioning adequately, Regent Whitburn suggested that a change of structure is likely.

Moving on, Regent Whitburn said the Business and Finance Committee heard an excellent presentation from Vice Chancellor Laurent Heller on the subject of UW-Madison’s financial performance and benchmarking. The vice chancellor and his staff have been carefully studying the financial statements of stronger peer institutions. Regent Whitburn indicated that Vice Chancellor Heller was comfortable with UW-Madison’s track record on expense control, but was particularly concerned about modest revenue growth when it comes to remaining competitive with competing institutions.

UW System Director of Financial Reporting Lana Becker briefed the Business and Finance Committee on the UW System’s FY 2017 Annual Financial Report. Regent Whitburn noted that though undergraduate tuition was frozen, the UW System saw $26.5 million in additional nonresident tuition and fee revenue. Gifts increased $75 million over the previous year, and a stronger market drove investment increases of almost $60 million.

By the end of FY 2017 unrestricted assets had decreased $63 million to about $921 million total. Regent Whitburn indicated that the UW System’s budget provides for some spend-down of its reserves, which has happened.

The Business and Finance Committee also received the UW System’s quarterly report on gifts, grants, and contracts. In the first half of FY 2018 gifts, grants, and contracts increased $45 million over the previous year. Regent Whitburn indicated that federal government grants and contracts accounted for about $32 million of this increase.
Regent Whitburn reminded his colleagues that the Business and Finance Committee receives Financial Management Reports, which look at mid-year spending-to-budget, after the second and third quarters of each fiscal year. He indicated that the UW System’s general spending appears to be on-target halfway through FY 2018, at about 47 percent of the annual expense budget. Among the UW institutions, mid-year spending varied from a low of about 42 percent to a high of 50 percent; Regent Whitburn noted that this was the first time campus-by-campus data was included in the report.

The Business and Finance Committee approved modest tuition increases for certain nonresident students at three institutions. At UW-Eau Claire, nonresident undergraduate tuition will increase 2.32 percent or 2.34 percent, depending on the program, and nonresident graduate tuition will increase 2.5 percent. At UW-Milwaukee, tuition will increase 2.0 percent for nonresident students in the Master of Business Administration program. At UW-Stout, increases will range from 1.61 to 2.0 percent for nonresident students in various graduate programs.

The Board of Regents is required to provide two reports to the legislature on UW System information technology (IT) projects – an annual strategic planning report illustrating IT goals on each campus, and a biannual update on any System or campus IT projects which are deemed high-risk or projected to exceed $1 million in expenditures. Regent Whitburn said the latter report includes nine current major IT projects with total projected expenditures of about $45 million.

The UW System has been delegated new authority to manage certain capital projects. The Business and Finance Committee accordingly approved master agreements with five Wisconsin firms to provide up to $1 million dollars in on-call architectural, engineering, or planning services, or on-call site and civil engineering services, over the next three years.

Finally, Vice President for Finance Sean Nelson updated the committee on progress-to-date with the proposed transfer of management of the UW System’s trust fund assets to the State of Wisconsin Investment Board (SWIB). Since the Board’s December 2017 meeting, the SWIB Board of Trustees met and approved moving forward on a contract with the UW System. Regent Whitburn indicated that very positive negotiations have been taking place between Vice President Nelson and the staff at SWIB, and the transfer is now expected to occur on or about April 1, 2018.

Regent Whitburn moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11003, 11004, and 11005. The motion was seconded by Vice President Petersen.

Regent Ring stated his support for Resolution 11003, observing that the proposed nonresident tuition increases are modest and in line with the consumer price index, and will keep UW-Eau Claire, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Stout competitive with their peer institutions.

With no further discussion, Resolutions 11003, 11004, and 11005 were adopted on a voice vote.
Review and Approval of Proposed Nonresident Tuition Increases

Resolution 11003 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System and the Chancellors of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the University of Wisconsin-Stout, the Board of Regents approves the proposed nonresident tuition increases for these three UW institutions, as detailed in the attached executive summary.

Review and Approval of UW System Information Technology Reports

Resolution 11004 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves: (1) the Report on UW System Strategic Plans for Major Information Technology Projects; (2) the UW System Information Technology Status Report on Large/Vital Information Technology Projects dated February 9, 2018, which describes the implementation of information technology projects at UW-Madison, UW-Stevens Point, UW Colleges and UW-Extension, and the UW System; and (3) UW System Administration’s submittal of the report on the Board’s behalf to the legislative Joint Committee on Information Policy and Technology, as required by s. 36.59(7), Wis. Stats.

UW System Contractual Agreements for On-Call Architectural, Engineering, and Planning (AEP) and On-Call Site and Civil Engineering Professional Services

Resolution 11005 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreements between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System and Aro Eberle Architects, Inc.; Continuum Architects+Planners, S.C.; Hammel, Green and Abrahamson, Inc.; Ayres Associates Inc.; and SmithGroupJJR, Inc. The agreements will run from February 15, 2018, through February 14, 2021. Individual work orders will be executed under these Master Agreements, which will detail the specifics of professional services to be completed under the Agreement.

Following the committee reports President Behling ceded the floor to Regent Higgins, who invited Chancellor Miller to introduce some special guests from Green Bay who had attended the previous day’s Education Committee meeting.

Chancellor Miller introduced some of the great community supporters of UW-Green Bay’s new School of Engineering:
• Lou LeCalsey, chair of the UW-Green Bay Chancellor’s Council of Trustees;
• Craig Dickman, vice-chair of the UW-Green Bay Chancellor’s Council of Trustees, and president and CEO of Breakthrough Fuel;
• Troy Streckenbach, Brown County Executive;
• Peter Zaehringer, vice president for economic development for the Greater Green Bay Chamber;
• Doug Hensler, Dean of the UW-Green Bay Cofrin School of Business and an aeronautical engineer; and
• John Katers, Dean of the UW-Green Bay College of Science, Engineering and Technology.

Chancellor Miller also acknowledged Regent Higgins and Regent Ring, noting that they often attended meetings where the Chancellor’s Council of Trustees strategized about how UW-Green Bay should move forward.

President Behling led a round of applause for these special guests, and thanked them for their ongoing commitment to the University of Wisconsin.

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**BOARD OF REGENTS 2018 DIVERSITY AWARDS**

President Behling announced that it was time for one of the Board’s most enjoyable responsibilities: the presentation of the 10th annual Regents Diversity Awards, which recognize outstanding faculty and staff members. The Board honors these individuals for the support and opportunities for advancement they offer UW System students. President Behling said their work and achievements speak strongly to a systemwide commitment to diversity.

To lead the awards presentation President Behling turned to Regent Mark Tyler, chair of the Diversity Awards selection committee.

**Introduction**

On behalf of his colleagues, Regent Tyler extended a special welcome to the 2018 Diversity Award recipients and their families, friends, and colleagues who were present. He noted that this was the tenth year that the Board of Regents has presented its Diversity Awards, which are meant to recognize the outstanding contributions to diversity and inclusion by people and programs at the UW institutions. These are ideals that the UW System has promoted for several decades.

Regent Tyler explained that the Diversity Awards are part of a special family of awards sponsored by the Regents, which also include the Regents Teaching Excellence Awards and the Regents Academic Staff Excellence Awards, both of which recognize exceptional service. The Regents Diversity Awards program was established through a Board directive calling for the
formal recognition of individuals, teams, or units within the UW System who have successfully fostered greater access and success for historically underrepresented populations.

Regent Tyler recognized the commitment of his Regent colleagues who served on the selection committee, including Regent Eve Hall, Regent Tim Higgins, and Regent Ryan Ring. He thanked all of the nominees for taking the time to submit materials, and expressed appreciation for the work of those who supported the committee, including Sal Carranza and his team.

Regent Tyler observed that the people and programs about to be honored understand what is needed; more than that, they do something about meeting those needs. Each of the award winners shows a genuine respect for human differences, a deep attentiveness to the learning process, and a keen responsiveness to students and their educational needs. The Board of Regents is proud to recognize their accomplishments, and is also proud that they are part of the UW System family.

Before presenting the awards, Regent Tyler noted that profiles of each of the award winners had been provided to the Regents and were available online.

Explaining that his colleagues on the Diversity Awards selection committee would each introduce one of the award recipients and present the award, Regent Tyler said each winner would then have an opportunity to address the Board of Regents. He then called upon Regent Tim Higgins to present the first award.

**Individual Award: Bee Vang, Upward Bound Program, UW-River Falls**

Regent Higgins said it was his privilege to present the first 2018 Board of Regents Diversity Award in the Individual category to Bee Vang, Program Director of Upward Bound at UW-River Falls.

Ms. Vang joined the university’s Upward Bound program in 2010 as a program advisor and was promoted to director in 2011. Under her leadership, the federal Upward Bound grant has been successfully renewed twice through the U.S. Department of Education’s competitive grant process. The program is currently funded through the year 2022.

As director, Ms. Vang hires, supervises, trains, and evaluates one full-time academic advisor, 10 part-time student workers, and eight part-time instructors to help prepare low-income and first-generation high school students for college. Through her commitment to ensuring every student is successful, 100 percent of the students in Upward Bound’s partner school, the Washington Technology Magnet School, have been accepted to post-secondary education each year.

Regarding these college-bound students and Ms. Vang’s role in their lives, Regent Higgins said the school’s principal had this to say: “For many of them, children of immigrants and/or living in poverty, they will be the first generation of college students in their family. Ms.
Vang is exactly the type of change agent that has altered the pathway and improved the potential success of hundreds of students that the Diversity Award was designed to recognize.”

Regent Higgins indicated that Ms. Vang is recognized for promoting partnerships, including with the university’s six-week summer program; the McNair Scholars program; TRIO Student Support Services; and STEMteach, a program that allows student teachers to interact with high school youth. She also selects student designates to attend the National Student Leadership Congress held annually in Washington, D.C., where they cultivate civic leadership and speak to Congress on Capitol Hill.

Noting that Ms. Vang received a UW System Outstanding Woman of Color Award in Education in 2014, Regent Higgins said the Board was happy to add to her accolades. He then presented the first Regents Diversity Award to Ms. Vang.

After accepting the award, Ms. Vang acknowledged her mother, who was present in the gallery. She noted that her mother raised eight children, six of whom have completed a bachelor’s degree or higher, and two of whom are currently in college.

Ms. Vang stated that the Upward Bound program believes in and has been successful at building positive and supporting peer relationships among low-income and first-generation students by maintaining high participation standards and dynamic programming. She indicated that the program’s work is only possible through the full participation of the students as they come together and make a unique family.

Ms. Vang thanked everyone on the award selection committee. She also thanked her students for their hard work which made this award and her program’s success possible. Expressing her appreciation to the Board of Regents for their recognition, Ms. Vang said she looked forward to hearing from the other award-winners as well.

**Institution/Unit Award: Sociocultural Programming, UW-Milwaukee**

Regent Eve Hall announced that the Regents Diversity Award in the Institution/Unit category would go to Sociocultural Programming at UW-Milwaukee.

Under the leadership of program manager Claudia Guzmán, with the assistance of two student employees, Sociocultural Programming creates spaces and experiences that help students of color feel connected to and valued by their campus community. In collaboration with more than 60 distinct partners on and off campus, Sociocultural Programming offers about 50 programs serving more than 6,000 participants annually.

A successful partnership with the Muslim Student Association in the spring of 2017 brought Kareem Abdul-Jabbar to campus for the distinguished lecture series. More than 1,100 students and community members participated in this meaningful conversation about Abdul-Jabbar’s identity as a Muslim, athlete, and activist.
Regent Hall indicated that Sociocultural Programming has developed learning outcomes for all 10 of its cornerstone programs and annually assesses at least one program series to determine impact. Key performance indicators include audience size, demographics, surveys to measure learning outcomes, and internal debriefs among staff to ensure continuous improvement. The program reaches beyond campus to partner with organizations across the greater Milwaukee area and sponsors field trips exploring and connecting students to community assets throughout the city.

Regent Hall quoted a UW-Milwaukee student leader who partnered with the program: “From brainstorming an idea and holding collaborative meetings, to writing thank-you cards for partners and volunteers...I’ve learned how to establish positive and effective working relationships along with so many other valuable professional skills, which I have taken with me into my engineering career.”

On that note, Regent Hall said it was her pleasure to present the 2018 Regents Diversity Award in the Institution/Unit category to Sociocultural Programming at UW-Milwaukee.

The award was accepted by program manager Claudia Guzmán, who thanked the Board of Regents for their recognition of Sociocultural Programming’s work.

Ms. Guzmán indicated that her student staff have been essential for Sociocultural Programming to have a measurable impact on closing the achievement gap for students from under-represented populations. Some of these students were present in the gallery, including Ms. Guzmán’s former graduate assistant, Megan DuFrane-Groose, who is currently a multicultural recruiter at UW-Stout; her current graduate assistant, Peter Burress; and her undergraduate assistant, Michaela Murry.

Stating that the student staff are “the heart and soul” of Sociocultural Programming, Ms. Guzmán explained that they devote their out-of-class time to doing work that is significantly impactful to not only students of color but all students who want to make a difference, be connected, and make campus a place where individuals can thrive, grow, and “be fully who they are as they explore who they want to become.”

She indicated that Sociocultural Programming creates inclusive spaces and helps students be at the forefront of building community and engaging in critical conversations about real world issues – issues that affect students beyond the classroom or residence hall – where they can make a huge difference in the future.

In addition to the student staff, Ms. Guzmán also recognized the importance of institutional and organizational support, student involvement, the UWM Student Union, and the general way in which UW-Milwaukee values diversity and inclusion as significant to her program’s ability to do its work.

Ms. Guzmán thanked the Board of Regents for recognizing and supporting the continuing development of Sociocultural Programming, stating that the Regents Diversity Awards ensure
that these values are not just ideals but also action-oriented work that has a measurable impact on the UW campuses and on the state.

**Institution/Unit Award: Upward Bound Program, UW-Eau Claire**

Regent Ryan Ring said he was honored to present the final Regents Diversity Award in the Institution/Unit category to the Upward Bound program at UW-Eau Claire.

For nearly three decades, the UW-Eau Claire Upward Bound program has had a significant impact on closing the opportunity and equity gap for low-income, first-generation college students. The program provides academic support during the school year through weekly study sessions and tutoring, social and cultural enrichment activities, and personal and career counseling.

Regent Ring indicated that program director Kimamo Wahome has incorporated data collection and feedback loops to monitor and track program effectiveness. For the past five years, students in the program have had a retention rate between 97 and 100 percent. A high percentage of low-income, first-generation, and Southeast Asian students graduate and enroll in post-secondary institutions – 90 to 100 percent over the last five years of the grant cycle. Historically, similar results can be seen since the inception of the program in 1990.

The program collaborates with many community entities, including the Boys and Girls Club, Chippewa Valley Technical College, area middle and high schools, and a variety of community non-profit organizations, to fulfill a service-learning requirement.

As a testament to the program’s value, Regent Ring shared this experience from a former participant and UW-Eau Claire alumna: “The Upward Bound program opened doors and opportunities that set my family on a journey that many only dream of embarking: using education to not only lift ourselves out of poverty, but empower ourselves into spaces we never imagined occupying – community leader, compliance officer, software engineer, business owner...”

Regent Ring invited his colleagues to join him in congratulating the UW-Eau Claire Upward Bound team and program director Kimamo Wahome, who was present to accept the award on the team’s behalf.

Mr. Wahome thanked Chancellor Schmidt and UW-Eau Claire for the program’s nomination, as well as the awards selection committee for their recognition.

Mr. Wahome said he was accompanied by Upward Bound’s first director, Betty Twink Hanson, who helped establish the program at a time when Southeast Asians were arriving and the Hmong community was being established in Eau Claire. He added that Ms. Twink Hanson has continued to be a tremendous friend of the program since then: in addition to teaching English classes, she lends her expertise as an editor during the competitive grant writing process every five years. He thanked Ms. Twink Hanson, saying the program would not be where it is today without her hard work.
Indicating that half of his office staff are Upward Bound graduates, Mr. Wahome thanked his coworkers for their hard work, dedication, and excellence. He concluded that Upward Bound’s work “is a labor of love.”

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**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR REGENT EMERITUS LISA ERICKSON’S SERVICE ON THE UW SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS**

President Behling said it was time for the Regents to officially recognize the service, commitment, and contributions of one of their colleagues, whose term on the Board has ended: Regent Emeritus Lisa Erickson. He called upon Regents Eve Hall and Mark Tyler to offer the Board’s resolution of appreciation.

Regent Tyler said he and Regent Hall were delighted to have the opportunity to recognize Regent Emeritus Lisa Erickson’s service to the university and to the Board of Regents.

Regent Tyler said he was fortunate to get to know Lisa while carpooling together from their homes in northwestern Wisconsin to many of the Board’s meetings. He recalled that all of their conversations were very engaging and made the seven hour trip go by very quickly.

Regent Tyler pointed out that, in addition to Lisa’s strong advocacy as a nontraditional student for both students and for the university, she continued serving in a wide variety of roles in broadcasting journalism, community development, and as a mom of teenage boys.

Regent Tyler noted that Lisa is not shy about corralling folks in her network to help support important initiatives. For example, she had recruited Regent Tyler to help convince local businesses and community leaders to support the development of a community-focused and community-supported fab lab in Osceola’s Discovery Center – a unique center which brings people of all ages together, provides access to resources, and strives for innovation.

Suggesting that most of the Regents set high expectations, Regent Tyler shared a story about how Lisa’s helped prepare her son to go into the military: When he wanted to stop exercising, she would ask if he was “having trouble keeping up with your mom?”

Regent Tyler thanked Lisa for her great questions and for setting the bar high with her contributions at UW-River Falls and in the community. He said her Regent colleagues would continue to watch for great things from her.

Regent Hall spoke next about how Lisa was someone who supported all of her Regent colleagues. Regent Hall recalled that after she broke her foot, Lisa was always by her side to make sure she was alright. She also recalled Lisa’s passion for the Board’s Task Force on Campus Climate, though she was not a direct member. She added that Lisa was always concerned about nontraditional students, and about the responsibility of the Regents and the institutions to provide flexibility and support to all students.
Regent Hall then read aloud the Board’s resolution of appreciation for Regent Emeritus Lisa Erickson’s service on the UW System Board of Regents:

**Resolution of Appreciation for Regent Emeritus Lisa Erickson’s Service on the UW System Board of Regents**

Resolution 11006  
WHEREAS, Lisa Erickson served as a dedicated student representative on the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, from May 2016 to December 2017; and

WHEREAS, Lisa helped oversee the financial well-being of the entire UW System by serving as a member of the Business and Finance Committee and also as one of the first members of the Subcommittee on Investments; and

WHEREAS, Lisa thoughtfully served as a member of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee and as a Regent member of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board, in addition to offering a valuable perspective as a member of the Committee on Student Discipline and Other Student Appeals; and

WHEREAS, after a 26-year hiatus, Lisa made the decision to go back to college to finish her degree and graduated this past December from UW-River Falls with a degree in journalism and a minor in food science; and

WHEREAS, while she was a student, Lisa combined her higher educational interests by hosting a weekly radio program on UW-River Falls’ campus radio station, WRFW, part of Wisconsin Public Radio; and

WHEREAS, Lisa has given of her time and talents in the spirit of the Wisconsin Idea;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System commends Lisa Erickson for her excellent service on behalf of the UW System and the citizens of Wisconsin, and wishes her every success in the future.

Regent Emeritus Erickson thanked Regents Hall and Tyler for their kind words. She said her last couple years had been “a pure joy” and that it was an honor and a privilege to serve on the Board of Regents.

Regent Emeritus Erickson indicated that the learning curve of being on the Board of Regents was nothing like she had expected. Though everybody had warned her it would be “like drinking out of a fire hose,” she argued that it was more like “a tidal wave that takes you over in the undercurrent and pulls you under.” Being a Regent “kind of takes over your life,” she
explained: you think about it all the time, dream about it, and read about all the information that is provided in order to make a good decision.

Regent Emeritus Erickson recalled her very first Board meeting in March 2016. She and the other newly appointed Regents, Tracey Klein and Bryan Steil, had not yet officially started their terms, but had been invited to sit in the audience to help get up-to-speed. Regent Emeritus Erickson was sitting in the front row, next to Dr. William “Brit” Kirwan from the Association of Governing Boards, when a lively protest broke out shortly after the meeting began. Dr. Kirwan leaned over to her to ask, “Is this normal?” and she answered, “I hope not, this is my first meeting!” Dr. Kirwan then shook his head and told her, “Oh, you’re in for a ride.”

Regent Emeritus Erickson said it had been a ride: in her short time on the Board, the UW System has been through discussions about tenure, a new budget, freedom of speech, the tuition freeze, Foxconn, votes of no confidence on campuses, the reorganization of campuses, System administrators leaving and new hires, and campus climate and diversity. The Board of Regents also addressed student mental health, campus foundation issues, sexual assault and sexual harassment, and more. Noting that all of this occurred within two years, Regent Emeritus Erickson said she could not believe all that the Board of Regents does and accomplishes.

Being a nontraditional student-Regent, Regent Emeritus Erickson said she was often asked how she made it on to the Board of Regents – to which she tried not to take offense! Saying that there is always one defining moment that sets a person on a different course, Regent Emeritus Erickson said that hers came when a math class did not transfer to UW-River Falls from a community college she had previously attended.

Determined not to retake that math course after 30 years, Regent Emeritus Erickson said she went to see then-Assistant Dean Tricia Davis (now serving as the interim Dean for the College of Arts and Science). She recalled being struck by Ms. Davis’s willingness to help her find a way to make the math course fit. Regent Emeritus Erickson said she was incredibly grateful to Ms. Davis for her time and willingness to “bend over backwards” to help students, adding that it is people like Ms. Davis who make the University of Wisconsin a world-class system.

Shortly after figuring out her math class dilemma, Regent Emeritus Erickson received an email from Ms. Davis suggesting she would be a good candidate for the Board of Regents. Having now served two years on the Board, Regent Emeritus Erickson said she had met some of the most dedicated, hardworking people in the UW System – people who care deeply not only about the education students receive, but also about economic development and partnerships with businesses and industry. She added that these were not just professors, but everyone who works on the UW campuses.

Having recently come across a “pros and cons” list made by one of her sons, Regent Emeritus Erickson said she decided to make her own list of things she will and will not miss about being on the Board of Regents. The things she would not miss included:
• receiving hate mail;
• having her picture on the front page of the newspaper and the nightly news;
• the ten-pound stack of papers that would arrive Friday nights before the Board meetings;
• **reading** that ten-pound stack of papers all weekend and the following week;
• the five-hours-one-way road trips to Madison (despite the enjoyable discussions with Regent Tyler);
• sitting for more than eight hours during the meetings and in closed session;
• being unable to sleep at night because of something the Board was voting on;
• trying to figure out a budget without knowing all the moving parts; and
• her hair turning gray from stress.

Regent Emeritus Erickson joked that she would also not miss “not having a life”; though it had been a fun and enjoyable time, she observed that serving on the Board of Regents is very time-consuming.

Regent Emeritus Erickson said there were also many things that she will miss, though she only had time to mention a few:

• meeting so many wonderful people from across the state;
• seeing first-hand the differences that an education can make in people’s lives;
• gaining a deeper understanding of how higher education affects the state’s economy;
• visiting the campuses and meeting amazing students;
• hearing about the latest discoveries and research happening with faculty and students; and
• making so many new friends.

Regent Emeritus Erickson stated that being on the Board of Regents has helped her see the power of education beyond herself and her family. Education is one of the few things that has an immense amount of power to change an individual, a family, a community, a state, and even the country. She said she knows education has changed her personally.

Regent Emeritus Erickson thanked Governor Walker for giving her this opportunity to see the state from the perspective of a Regent, which had changed her forever. She also thanked all of her colleagues on the Board, each of whom contributed to all the knowledge that she has gained.

Regent Emeritus Erickson gave special thanks to former Regent President Regina Millner for appointing her to the Wisconsin Technical College Board, which gave her a unique perspective of the state from two different systems of higher education. She said this experience solidified for her how the state needs both systems and how higher education can change people’s lives through different avenues.
Regent Emeritus Erickson expressed her great appreciation for the chancellors and the provosts, who had been “more than welcoming and kind” and have contributed to so many people’s lives.

Finally, Regent Emeritus Erickson thanked her husband for putting up with her going back to college, noting that this decision was also a big commitment for him. She also reported that because she went back to college, he had learned how to cook – proving that there is more than one way to accomplish a goal!

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

In December the Board of Regents welcomed Quinn Williams to the UW System as its new General Counsel. President Behling explained that the UW System General Counsel has traditionally also served as one of the Board’s assistant trust officers.

Vice President Petersen moved and Regent Ring seconded the nomination of Mr. Williams as assistant trust officer. There were no other nominations, and Mr. Williams was elected as assistant trust officer on a voice vote.

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**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO UW-MADISON FOR HOSTING THE FEBRUARY 2018 MEETING**

President Behling called upon Regent Millner to read the resolution of appreciation to UW-Madison for hosting the Board’s February meeting.

Regent Millner first said good-bye to Regent Emeritus Erickson, who had been “an excellent contributor to the Board of Regents.”

Noting that this was her second time thanking UW-Madison for hosting one of the Board’s meetings, Regent Millner then read aloud the resolution of appreciation:

**Resolution of Appreciation: UW-Madison**

Resolution 11007 WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Regents are pleased to recognize the University of Wisconsin-Madison as the official host campus for the Board’s February 2018 meeting, and are grateful for the generous hospitality extended this month by Chancellor Rebecca Blank and the entire Badger community; and

WHEREAS, the Board appreciated hearing Chancellor Blank’s presentation, “UW-Madison’s Partnership with Wisconsin”; and
WHEREAS, the Education Committee thanks Provost Sarah Mangelsdorf for leading a discussion regarding UW-Madison’s data on enrollment and student success; and

WHEREAS, the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee heard an informative presentation by Dean Karl Scholz on SuccessWorks, a unique approach to preparing students for success in the 21st century economy; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Capital Planning and Budget Committee learned of the challenges of UW-Madison’s deferred maintenance and how it relates to campus facilities, and the Business and Finance Committee appreciated Vice Chancellor Laurent Heller’s presentation on UW-Madison’s benchmarking efforts, fiscal challenges, and plans to enhance revenue growth; and

WHEREAS, the Board was delighted to hear from this month’s Student Spotlight, Isabel Markowski, who will become a first-generation college graduate in May with a degree in Nutritional Science and a certificate in Environmental Studies; and

WHEREAS, the Board appreciated being invited to the Makerspace Campus Engagement Event held at Grainger Engineering Design Innovation Laboratory, as well as conversing with UW-Madison students over lunch;

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

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REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND MEMORIALS

There were no communications, petitions, or memorials.

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CLOSED SESSION – VARSITY HALL I

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

Resolution 11008   That the Board of Regents move into closed session to consider personal histories related to the naming of a school at UW-Green Bay, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats.

The following resolution was adopted during the closed session:

**Authority to Name School of Engineering, UW-Green Bay**

Resolution 11009   That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents grants authority to name the Richard J. Resch School of Engineering within the UW-Green Bay College of Science, Engineering, and Technology, effective immediately.

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

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Submitted by:

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