

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

- I.4. Research, Economic Development,
and Innovation Committee
- Thursday, February 8, 2018
10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Union South, Varsity Hall II
UW-Madison
Madison, Wisconsin
- a. Approval of the Minutes of the December 7, 2017, Meeting of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee
- b. UW-Madison – Preparing Students for Success in the 21st Century Economy – Led by Dr. Karl Scholz, Dean of the College of Letters and Science
- c. UW-Whitewater – Student “FED Challenge” Team Delivers Strong Finish in National Federal Reserve Competition Event in Washington, D.C. – Led by Chancellor Beverly Kopper
- d. UW System Diversity/Inclusion Entrepreneurship Panel – Discussion Led by Regent Dr. Eve Hall
- Panelists:
- Jessica Cavazos, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Latino Chamber of Commerce of Dane County and Vice Chair of the UW System Diversity Council;
 - Craig Anderson, Board President and Executive Director of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin and Member of the UW System Diversity Council;
 - David Kircher, Board Member of the Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce

UW-MADISON – PREPARING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY ECONOMY

BACKGROUND

Each year, the UW-Madison College of Letters & Science (L&S) graduates more than 3,500 students across a wide range of STEM, social science, and arts and humanities disciplines. The College is committed to helping all graduates chart their paths beyond Bascom Hill.

This fall, L&S launched “SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science.” With SuccessWorks, L&S has built the framework for transforming the way its students think about and approach their future.

As the student-facing part of the L&S Career Initiative, SuccessWorks is a unique approach to supporting career readiness among the nation’s great public research universities. Its approach is becoming a model for institutions across the country who are eager to help students recognize and capitalize on the critical skills learned through their studies.

At its core, SuccessWorks is helping students:

- Explore career possibilities and internships;
- Connect with UW alumni; and
- Build vital networks of professors, teaching assistants, alumni and peers.

A foundation of these efforts is to develop durable reciprocal partnerships with employers, as SuccessWorks seeks to become the go-to source for talent for companies throughout the region, state and beyond.

SuccessWorks is much more than a career center—it is a space that challenges students to draw connections between their academic, personal and professional strengths to chart their own unique paths to success. This is a spot not just for specialized career advising, but also for hands-on workshops, networking with talented alumni, and employer interviews in its new, expanded interview suite. The tagline of SuccessWorks nicely captures its aspiration: Madison made, world ready.

Dr. John Karl Scholz, Dean of the College of Letters and Science, will lead the discussion of SuccessWorks.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

Employers seek creative and talented graduates who bring knowledge, critical thinking and problem-solving skills to the workplace, and who have familiarity with working in teams and preferably in real-world settings. Dr. Scholz will describe the development and broad implementation of SuccessWorks. Additionally, he will discuss some of its well-documented outcomes in which students engage in critical reflection on their curricular path, their extra-curricular experiences, and their career goals throughout their years of study at UW-Madison.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not Applicable

UW-WHITewater STUDENTS DELIVER STRONG FINISH AT NATIONAL FEDERAL RESERVE COMPETITION CHALLENGE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

BACKGROUND

Economics students at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater competed against some of the world's most prestigious universities at the 14th Annual College Federal Reserve Challenge in Washington, D.C. in December.

UW-Whitewater is the first-ever Wisconsin university to advance to this national event. The Warhawk team defeated Northwestern University, the University of Chicago, and Marquette University at the competition held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in order to become regional champions.

Advancing to the national event, the UW-Whitewater team competed in finals held at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Washington, D.C. This event served as the capstone to five district competitions held around the country, against regional winners Harvard University, Pace University, Princeton University and Virginia Commonwealth University.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

Managed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the College FED Challenge is an academic competition designed to bring real-world economics into the classroom. Teams analyze economic and financial conditions and make a recommendation for monetary policy. They are scored based on a 15-minute presentation and a 15-minute question-and-answer session with judges. It is an exceptional experience in which students build critical thinking, research, teamwork and public speaking skills.

UW-Whitewater Chancellor Beverly Kopper will lead the presentation and be joined by some of the faculty and student participants. The UW-Whitewater student presenters for the event in Washington, D.C., included:

- Mark Ellis of Buffalo Grove, Illinois
- Alejandro Esquivel of Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Taylor Griffith of Lake Elsinore, California
- Ronald Tittle of Crystal Lake, Illinois
- Alexandre Vieira of Brookfield, Wisconsin

Non-presenting team members included:

- Casey Russell of Belleville, Wisconsin
- Alujjage Pasan Samaranayake of Gonapola Junction, Sri Lanka
- Sean Spangard of Crystal Lake, Illinois

Faculty members include Yamin Ahmad, Stuart Glosser (emeritus), Nick Guo, and Eylem Ersal who serve as team coaches.

Pace University took first place in the national competition, which encourages students to learn about the U.S. economy, monetary policymaking, and the role of the Federal Reserve System. Harvard University took second place, and UW-Whitewater joined Princeton University and Virginia Commonwealth University in receiving honorable mentions.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.

ENERGIZING THE FUTURE: PERSPECTIVES ON BUILDING STRONG ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEMS IN DIVERSE CULTURAL SETTINGS

BACKGROUND

The spirit of entrepreneurship provides opportunities for Wisconsin start-ups to diversify and strengthen neighborhood, regional and statewide economies.

The rich multicultural fabric of diversity provides numerous opportunities for developing vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystems, such as those that are flourishing in the Milwaukee and Madison regions and across Wisconsin. Each year, for example, more than 500 participants attend the Governor's Business Development Conference and start-ups continue to increase across the metropolitan regions and well beyond.

To further support these efforts and to build stronger alliances with diverse communities, President Cross last year established the President's Diversity Council comprised of business and civic leaders from across the state. Additionally, he appointed Carl Hampton as Special Assistant to the President for Diversity and Inclusion.

In conjunction with Regent Dr. Eve Hall, Hampton has identified a panel of entrepreneurial leaders with diverse constituencies to provide their own unique perspectives. The purpose is to initiate discussions at REDI to highlight successes with diverse start-ups and small businesses and to focus on challenges and opportunities related to future progress in this important and growing economic development arena.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

Regent Dr. Eve Hall will moderate the Diversity/Inclusion Entrepreneurship Panel and take questions from REDI Committee members. Panelists were selected for their positive statewide influence and successful record of accomplishment increasing diversity and inclusion in entrepreneurship.

Panelists include:

- Jessica Cavazos, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Latino Chamber of Commerce of Dane County and Vice Chair of the UW System Diversity Council;

- Craig Anderson, Board President and Executive Director of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin and Member of the UW System Diversity Council; and
- David Kircher, Board Member of the Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.