

05/24/2019

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

I.4. Research, Economic Development,
and Innovation Committee

Thursday, June 6, 2019
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
UW-Milwaukee
2200 East Kenwood Boulevard
UWM Union, 2nd Floor
Wisconsin Room

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the February 7, 2019, Meeting of the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee
- b) WiSys Technology Foundation Progress Report on Faculty and Undergraduate Research, Technology Transfer, and Commercialization Initiatives
- c) Inclusive and Innovative Approaches to Teaching and Learning: UWM Student Panel with Focus on Preparing Students for Jobs of the Future in an Increasingly Diverse Marketplace

**WISYS TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION – UPDATE ON FACULTY AND
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, AND STATEWIDE
COMMERCIALIZATION INITIATIVES**

BACKGROUND

WiSys is the technology transfer entity authorized by the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System to advance promising research and innovation from discovery through commercialization on UW System four-year comprehensive campuses. For nearly two decades, WiSys has demonstrated leadership in advancing research and technology development in a cost-effective manner by building strategic partnerships with start-ups, high-tech companies, clinical organizations and other innovators.

REQUESTED ACTION

For information only.

DISCUSSION

Over the past year, the campus-based network of WiSys regional associates and student ambassadors has continued to expand “in-market” support for faculty and students. Additionally, WiSys has taken on oversight for significant UW System initiatives including the Regent Scholar program which recognizes faculty for innovation, entrepreneurship, and business collaboration. WiSys President Arjun Sanga and Tony Hanson, WiSys Regional and Licensing Associate, will provide an update of WiSys programs and project support, highlight successful campus initiatives under way, and provide an outlook for further progress. Hanson will introduce student inventors, including Brian Tuttle and Robert Hebel, who also will present their winning prototypes from the most recent WiSys Prototype Hackathon event at UW-Platteville. This event, like others held at UW campuses across the state, helps students collaborate across a wide range of disciplines to address and solve real-world challenges.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.

**PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE JOBS OF THE FUTURE IN
AN INCREASINGLY DIVERSE MARKETPLACE
UWM STUDENT PANEL**

BACKGROUND

As Wisconsin's only public urban research university, UW-Milwaukee (UWM) has established an international reputation for excellence in research, community engagement, teaching, and entrepreneurship. UWM offers 195 degree programs and is home to Wisconsin's largest online education program with more than 850 classes and 30 fully online certificate and degree programs. UWM recruits a diverse and growing population of international students and faculty and has made significant strides in its efforts to increase engagement with local, regional, and global business entities, and to provide opportunities for students to participate in internships and other hands-on work experiences.

Internships are recognized as key pathways for broadening student education and preparation for future employees in Wisconsin's increasingly diverse and inclusive workforce. Additionally, Wisconsin employers consistently express a desire for student interns who value broad-based diversity and inclusion. UWM students who think analytically, function creatively, and learn collaboratively in teams will acquire the skills to adjust to a rapidly changing global world. These student attributes are developed through internships and other experiential work opportunities. Recent data show more than 80% of UW System graduates remain in the state after graduation. Given the high retention rate, it pays dividends to provide UWM students of all backgrounds with internship opportunities.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

UWM provides hands-on learning and equips graduates with critical thinking skills and expertise that allows them to tackle issues locally and globally. UWM faculty have connections with nearly 3,900 companies and not-for-profit organizations across the region, enhancing students' capacity to learn and earn real-world experience. The university has developed the only U.S. school dedicated exclusively to freshwater science and has developed the UWM Innovation Center, located near the Medical Center Research facilities in Wauwatosa.

Notably, this year UWM has commissioned the Lubar Center for Entrepreneurship. The newly expanded center reflects the university's desire to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem on campus and serves as a powerful resource for students, staff, and faculty to transform ideas into reality. Additionally, the UWM Research Foundation builds partnerships and develops patents in the areas of desalination, medical technology, self-healing metals, pain-relief drug compounds, and

others. Research expenditures top \$60 million annually. UWM continues to develop and strengthen partnerships with Johnson Controls, Rockwell International, and other innovative, global companies.

Chancellor Mark Mone will offer opening and closing remarks, and Vice Chancellor Joan Prince and Anique Ruiz, Project Director, WiscAMP, will moderate a panel of student interns. This discussion is designed to highlight student successes at UWM and to illustrate the importance of STEM-based internship opportunities that prepare graduates for the jobs of the future to enhance workforce development in the Milwaukee area and the State of Wisconsin.

Panelists include four UWM students with current summer internships: Erick Rico-Sanchez, Valerie Seidl, Nicole Vignon, and Tamia Williams. Vice Chancellor Prince and Project Director Ruiz will jointly lead the discussion of how UWM is preparing these students to succeed in STEM majors and STEM-related internships. The panel serves as a showcase of UWM student talent that supports the state's workforce needs for jobs of both the present and future.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Section 17: Equal Opportunity Policies: Education and Employment