MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS

Thursday, June 6, 2019
1:00 p.m.

2nd Floor, Wisconsin Room
UW-Milwaukee Union
2200 East Kenwood Boulevard
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

-Vice President Petersen presiding-

CALLING OF THE ROLL

INTRODUCTION OF RECENTLY APPOINTED REGENTS

Regent Karen Walsh
Regent Olivia Woodmansee
Regent Edmund Manydeeds III

OTHER UPDATES AND INTRODUCTIONS

OPENING REMARKS BY UW SYSTEM PRESIDENT RAY CROSS: “THE UW SYSTEM IS AN INVALUABLE ASSET TO HELP SOLVE WISCONSIN'S MOST PRESSING NEEDS”

HOST CAMPUS PRESENTATION BY UW-MILWAUKEE CHANCELLOR MARK MONE: “MEETING WISCONSIN'S NEEDS THROUGH COLLABORATION”

UW SYSTEM'S FRESHWATER COLLABORATIVE OF WISCONSIN

Panel Presentation
Summary and Discussion

CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session Resolution
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The video recording of this meeting’s open session is available at: June 6, 2019 Video Webcast

CALLING OF THE ROLL [Video: 00:13]

PRESENT: Regents Robert Atwell, Scott Beightol, José Delgado, Michael Grebe, Eve Hall, Mike Jones, Tracey Klein, Janice Mueller, Andrew Petersen, Cris Peterson, Carolyn Stanford Taylor, Torrey Tiedeman, Mark Tyler, Karen Walsh, Gerald Whitburn, and Olivia Woodmansee

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regents Edmund Manydeeds and Jason Plante

Before considering any items on the open session agenda, Vice President Petersen asked if any Board members wished to declare any conflicts of interest as per Regent Policy Document 2-4, “Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy for the UW System Board of Regents.” No conflicts of interests were declared.

INTRODUCTION OF RECENTLY APPOINTED REGENTS [Video: 01:32]

Vice President Petersen introduced new members of the Board of Regents.
Regent Karen Walsh [Video: 01:42]

Regent Karen Walsh is director of the Berbeewalsh Foundation, a family foundation dedicated to human and animal health and welfare. Since 2006, the foundation has awarded more than $8 million dollars in grants in the State of Wisconsin, including a gift to the University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics that created the Berbeewalsh Department of Emergency Medicine.

Regent Walsh previously was a reporter for news outlets including Wisconsin Public Radio before serving in a variety of public information and communications positions at UW-Madison over the span of two decades. She retired in 2005 as the Assistant Dean for External Relations in the College of Engineering. She serves on a number of non-profit boards, including the Board of Visitors at the UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine.

A native of Columbus, Wisconsin, Regent Walsh holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Journalism from UW-Madison. She and her husband, Dr. James Berbee, live in Madison.

During her brief remarks, Regent Walsh shared that her parents, neither of whom attended college, felt it was important for all of their children to have a college education. “When I think of the students who attend college in the UW System, I think not only of the urban students but also the rural students from small towns, because those students are me.” She thanked everyone at the UW System for making her feel welcome, as well as Governor Evers for his confidence in her.

Regent Olivia Woodmansee [Video: 05:02]

Regent Olivia Woodmansee is originally from New Glarus and is currently a student at UW-La Crosse pursuing a degree in English. She has been very active in student government at UWL, serving the past two years as a member of the Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee, including time as committee chair. Looking ahead, Regent Woodmansee plans to attend law school.

Thanking everyone for welcoming her to the Board, Regent Woodmansee indicated that she looked forward to serving all students and faculty of the UW System. “My key goal in this is just to make sure I’m listening, making sure I’m taking in as much information as I can, and serving this Board as proudly as I can.”

Regent Edmund Manydeeds III [Video: 06:23]

Regent Edmund Manydeeds III is an Eau Claire attorney and a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. He previously served a seven-year term on the Board that ended in 2017.
Vice President Petersen noted that Regent Manydeeds was not able to attend the June meeting due to a prior scheduling conflict, and so would be introduced at the Board’s July meeting.

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**OTHER UPDATES AND INTRODUCTIONS** [Video: 06:59]

President Cross announced that new UW-Whitewater Chancellor Dwight Watson will begin his new role on August 1, 2019. Dr. Watson is currently Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at Southwest Minnesota State University.

President Cross thanked Interim Chancellor Cheryl Green for stepping up to lead UW-Whitewater during this time of transition. Dr. Green will resume her previous position as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at UW-Oshkosh.

President Cross introduced Jeffrey Kahler, new Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance at UW-Superior. A lifelong Superior resident, Mr. Kahler earned both his Bachelor of Science in Accounting and a Master of Business Administration degrees at UW-Superior. He has worked on campus since 2005, most recently as Administrative Officer in the Budget Office.

President Cross also introduced Jim Henderson, interim Provost at UW-Madison. Dr. Henderson retired last year from UW System, where he served as Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs. His current interim appointment will bridge the gap between former Madison Provost Sarah Mangelsdorf and the new Provost, John Karl Scholz, who is currently Dean of UW-Madison’s College of Letters and Science.

Finally, President Cross extended the UW System’s appreciation to Greg Davis, who recently announced his decision to step down as Provost at UW-Green Bay to rejoin the Mathematics faculty in UWGB’s College of Science, Engineering and Technology starting this fall.

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**OPENING REMARKS BY UW SYSTEM PRESIDENT RAY CROSS: “THE UW SYSTEM IS AN INVALUABLE ASSET TO HELP SOLVE WISCONSIN’S MOST PRESSING NEEDS”** [Video: 11:15]

Vice President Petersen announced that the theme of the June meeting is “UW System: Meeting the Needs of Wisconsin.” He invited President Cross to share some opening remarks.

President Cross stated, “Our commitment to advocating for the UW System is unwavering. It is just too important. The UW System is invaluable to this state and we must not be passive when it is so clear that no-one else, no other entity, can do what we can do to help our state and our economy.”
President Cross remarked on the UW System’s contributions in developing and attracting talent to Wisconsin, as well as the ideas and intellectual property which translate into entrepreneurial enterprises, from small businesses to multi-billion-dollar operations.

President Cross said the UW System’s operating budget request was reasonable and reflects the System’s commitment to its students, faculty and staff, and the citizens of Wisconsin: “For that reason, we will continue to relentlessly work to convince legislators, business leaders, community members and others of the importance to all of us of investing in the UW.”

President Cross added that the UW System’s capital budget request provides another opportunity to attract, develop, and retain the world-class talent Wisconsin desperately needs by creating world-class classrooms and adding STEM capacity. The UW System is focused on repairing and renovating buildings which will allow the universities to continue to ensure a safe and productive environment for students, faculty and staff.

Vice President Petersen stated, “The University of Wisconsin System is indeed an invaluable asset. It is vitally important to the future of this state. The UW System deserves and has earned an infusion of investment. The returns have been calculated: they are significant and benefit us all. As a Board, I believe we must remain tenacious advocates for the UW System. If we are going to build on the momentum we’ve generated in the last few years, stalling progress is a risk Wisconsin cannot afford – and now is the time for continued action.”

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HOST CAMPUS PRESENTATION BY UW-MILWAUKEE CHANCELLOR MARK MONE: “MEETING WISCONSIN’S NEEDS THROUGH COLLABORATION” [Video: 15:59]

Vice President Petersen noted that the Board’s meetings are an opportunity to learn more about how each campus is meeting the needs of the state. He invited Chancellor Mark Mone to share UW-Milwaukee’s story.

Chancellor Mone discussed UW-Milwaukee’s background and unique role as Wisconsin’s only public, research, urban, access university. Of UWM’s 27,444 students, 83% are from Wisconsin and 17% are from out of state; 37% are first-generation students; and 35% are students of color.

After sharing some recent highlights on campus, Chancellor Mone explained how UWM is addressing Wisconsin’s needs through collaboration in the areas of health; entrepreneurship and business development; education and the achievement gap; and workforce development.

Chancellor Mone described how UWM has been doing a tremendous amount with fewer resources. Though UWM manages its budget responsibly, he said it is among the most under resourced R1 institutions in the country in terms of the numbers of faculty and faculty salaries. He observed that UWM’s progress towards its dual mission access and research will be difficult
to sustain in light of challenging budgets that are insufficient to replace faculty lost to poaching and retirements: “When you’re retrenching, it’s hard to grow.”

Emphasizing the impact of UWM’s graduates, research, and collaborations in responding to the state’s needs, Chancellor Mone concluded that investing in UWM is investing in Wisconsin.

Answering questions from Regents, Chancellor Mone explained the value of the R1 designation in securing additional funding for research and provided additional details about UWM’s collaborations in developing high-demand degree programs.

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**UW SYSTEM’S FRESHWATER COLLABORATIVE OF WISCONSIN** [Video: 01:15:34]

Vice President Petersen said the Board would next hear an update on the UW System’s Freshwater Collaborative for Wisconsin, a joint initiative led by UWM and involving all the UW campuses to varying degrees.

**Panel Presentation** [Video: 01:16:09]

Chancellor Mone, Chancellor Miller, and Chancellor Wachter briefly outlined some of the challenges and opportunities of the UW System’s Freshwater Collaborative.

Chancellor Mone then introduced J. Val Klump, Dean of the UW-Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences, who stated that water is both a global issue and a Wisconsin issue.

Dean Klump discussed how freshwater is tied to economic development and workforce development. Water is a fast-growing sector of the world economy, and 78 percent of all jobs globally are water-dependent according to UNESCO. Careers related to the water sector make up 2 percent of Wisconsin’s workforce.

Survey data from 2017 shows that 68 percent of Wisconsin’s water sector employers struggled to find well-prepared employees, and many new hires required extensive training in water-related issues, technologies or processes. Employees reported that water-related positions were a growth area within their organizations, and a plurality favored water-focused degree programs with specializations.

Dean Klump explained that the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin seeks to meet Wisconsin’s needs by creating a System-wide, one-of-a-kind undergraduate program in Freshwater Studies and by supporting academic research focused on Wisconsin’s water issues.

The goals of the Freshwater Collaborative are to leverage the collective assets of the UW institutions, develop an elite program of training and research, and launch talent development through a multidisciplinary course of study across the UW System. Areas of focus include
academics, innovation and research, community and industry, and national marketing and recruiting.

Dean Klump said the Freshwater Institute of Wisconsin will address “10 Grand Water Challenges,” and will be implemented at campuses across the UW System over the next three biennial budgets. A series of presenters then briefly described the assets and strengths each UW institution will bring to the Freshwater Collaborative.

**Summary and Discussion**  [Video: 02:09:33]

Chancellor Mone said UW System leaders have visited with Governor Evers and a number of legislators to explore options for funding the Freshwater Collaborative in the next budget cycle. He noted that Governor Evers recently stated, “2019 in the Year of Clean Drinking Water in Wisconsin,” and Joint Finance Committee Chair Alberta Darling had remarked “this initiative is too good” to wait until the next budget cycle.

Chancellor Mone indicated that representatives of the Freshwater Collaborative will also speak to the Task Force on Water Quality, created by Speaker Robin Vos “to protect a healthy and stable supply of water for residents and industry,” about how the UW System will contribute to addressing Wisconsin’s water challenges.

Chancellor Mone concluded that the next steps for the Freshwater Collaborative are to continue briefing legislators on water issues and building their support, and to assist companies and communities with attracting talent and solving issues.

Regent Atwell said that several years ago he became “appalled” at the misuse of one of Wisconsin’s greatest social and economic assets. Noting that sound environmental and economic policies are not necessarily in opposition, he encouraged the Freshwater Collaborative’s leaders to involve economists at a more robust level.

Dean Klump said the Freshwater Institute has approached a private foundation for support and will soon have a new fellow who is an expert in valuing water systems.

Regent Mueller applauded the collaboration between campuses and emphasized the urgency of this issue. She noted that UW-Madison’s “Go Big Read” selection for 2018-19, *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* by Dan Egan, also addressed this topic.

Regent Beightol also noted the urgency of utilizing Wisconsin’s competitive advantage in this area and agreed with Regent Atwell’s suggestion that the Freshwater Collaborative include more economic perspectives. Recognizing that water issues exist both nationally and internationally, he said the Freshwater Collaborative could attract more talent into the state.

Responding to a question from Regent Klein, Chancellor Mone said it would be helpful to have an endorsement from the Board and to have Regents join Freshwater Collaborative
representatives at listening sessions held by the Task Force on Water Quality across the state. Regent Klein then offered a nonbinding motion recommending that the state legislature fund the Freshwater Collaborative in the 2019-21 biennial budget, but not to the exclusion of other priorities previously expressed. The motion was seconded by Regent Atwell and approved unanimously. President Cross note that he and Vice President Petersen would write a letter to the legislature communicating the Board’s endorsement of the Freshwater Collaborative and support for funding the initiative.

Vice President Petersen also agreed with a request by Regent Jones that the Board receive periodic updates on this initiative.

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CLOSED SESSION [Video: 02:32:31]

Vice President Petersen read the motion to move into closed session. The motion was seconded by Regent Tiedeman, and adopted on a roll-call vote, with Regents Atwell, Delgado, Grebe, Jones, Klein, Mueller, Petersen, Peterson, Stanford Taylor, Tiedeman, Tyler, Walsh, Whitburn, and Woodmansee voting in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes and no abstentions.

Closed Session Resolution

Resolution 11212 That the Board of Regents move into closed session to (a) consider a student request for review of a UW-Madison disciplinary decision, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(a), (f), and (g), Wis. Stats.; (b) consider personnel evaluations of chancellors, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.; and (c) confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation (A.R. v. Board of Regents; Fabbrocini v. Pearce, et. al.) and potential litigation, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(g), Wis. Stats.

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Before considering any items on the closed session agenda, Vice President Petersen asked if any Board members wished to declare any conflicts of interest as per Regent Policy Document 2-4, “Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy for the UW System Board of Regents.”

Regents Michael Grebe and Tracey Klein recused themselves from discussion of pending litigation (Fabbrocini v. Pearce, et. al.).

Regents Scott Beightol, Mike Jones, and Mark Tyler recused themselves from discussion of potential litigation.
During the closed session, Resolution 11213 was moved by Regent Peterson, seconded by Regent Jones, and adopted on a voice vote.

**Student Request for Review of a UW-Madison Disciplinary Decision**

Resolution 11213 That the Board of Regents adopts the attached proposed decision and order as the Board’s final decision and order in the matter of a student request for Regent review of a UW-Madison decision.

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The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

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Submitted by:

/s/ Jess Lathrop

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