

Minutes of the UW System Board of Regents
Education Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 10, 2019

Education Committee

Chairperson Tracey Klein convened the meeting of the Education Committee at 9:03 a.m. on the UW-Superior campus, within the Grand Hall of the Student Union. In attendance were Regents Klein, Manydeeds, Hall, Plante, Stanford Taylor, Walsh, and Woodmansee. Absent was Regent Whitburn.

Regent Klein provided an opportunity for anyone to declare a conflict of interest: None were stated. The meeting minutes from the July 11, 2019 meeting of the Education Committee were unanimously approved.

Regent Klein began the meeting by asking the Provosts from the 13 UW System institutions to join the Education Committee members at the meeting table. Regent Klein also encouraged committee members to seek insight and information from the Provosts, when discussing items on the meeting agenda.

Committee Agenda Items

The Education Committee approved eight resolutions, including:

- **Approval of Changes to Regent Policy Documents (RPDs)** [Resolutions B(1)-(4)]
 - 1) Updating Criteria for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and Rescinding RPD 4-3, “Criteria for the Use of Animals in Research”
 - 2) Revisions to RPD 4-6, “Granting of Degrees, Honors and Awards”
 - 3) Removal of RPD 4-7, “Add/Drop Policy for Courses”
 - 4) Revisions to RPD 24-4, “Policy on the Role of Resident Assistants in Residence Halls”

A motion for approval of resolutions (1)-(3) was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Hall. The motion carried unanimously. A motion for amended approval of resolution (4) was made by Regent Woodmansee, and seconded by Regent Walsh. The amended motion carried unanimously.

- **Approval of the Reappointments of Dr. Sharon Dunwoody and Dr. Kenneth Rhoads Bradbury to the Natural Areas Preservation Council** [Resolution C]

A motion for approval was made by Regent Woodmansee, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

- **UW-La Crosse: Approval of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering** [Resolution D]

A motion for approval was made by Regent Hall, and seconded by Regent Plante. The motion carried unanimously.

- **UW-Madison: Approval of the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science in Data Science** [Resolution E]

A motion for approval was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

- **UW-Whitewater: Approval of the Bachelor of Arts in Business Analytics** [Resolution F]

A motion for approval was made by Regent Woodmansee, and seconded by Regent Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Regent Policy Documents: The Education Committee approved changes to four Regent Policy Documents, including:

- RPD 4-3, “Criteria for the Use of Animals in Research”
- RPD 4-6, “Granting of Degrees, Honors and Awards”
- RPD 4-7, “Add/Drop Policy for Courses”
- RPD 24-4, “Policy on the Role of Resident Assistants in Residence Halls” Motion to amend Furthermore in order to inform student residents

Regent Woodmansee made a motion to amend RPD 24-4 by adding the following sentence at the end of the final paragraph of the Policy Statement: *Furthermore, in order to inform student residents as to the capacity RAs will be in when promoting or holding events, RAs are expected to clarify the host organizer for all media being promoted to student residents in residence halls.*

The amended motion was unanimously approved.

Natural Areas Council Reappointments: Education Committee members approved the reappointments of two council members to the Natural Areas Preservation Council for three-year terms: Dr. Sharon Dunwoody and Dr. Kenneth Rhoads Bradbury. Dunwoody is Professor Emeritus of the Department of Journalism at UW-Madison. Rhoads Bradbury is Director and State Geologist of the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey in Madison.

UW-La Crosse: UW-La Crosse requested approval for a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering, responding to strong growth in technology fields and strong student interest. Graduates will be equipped to find novel technical solutions to real-world challenges because they will have developed the ability to engineer computer hardware systems, develop low-level software solutions, and carry out the integration of electrical and physical systems. The Computer Science program at UW-La Crosse has seen an increase of 82% in undergraduate student enrollment over the past five years. Will assist in bringing more students to UW-La Crosse in order to increase student enrollment in STEM fields. Initiated/in response to outcomes-based funding. Most productive and efficacious way to better serve students.

Appearing on behalf of the campus were: Provost Betsy Morgan; Dr. Mark Sandheinrich, Dean of the College of Science and Health; Dr. Gubbi Sudhakaran, Associate Dean of the College of Science and Health; and Dr. Elliott Forbes, Assistant Professor of Computer Science.

Regent Walsh asked for clarification regarding transfer within the 3+2 program and whether there had been changes in that program. Provost Morgan stated that UW-Madison previously had allowed guaranteed transfer between UW-La Crosse and UW-Madison within the program, but then rescinded guaranteed transfer.

Regent Walsh asked whether the full-time employee that is projected to be hired is necessary, when the degree program is likely to enroll only 15 students. Provost Morgan replied, stating that UW-La Crosse needs two employees to staff the program, and that the campus already has hired one of these employees. She also stated that the campus has more than 300 students enrolled in computer science. Thus, both new hires will have full teaching loads, across the Computer Science and Computer Engineering degree programs. They also will support the Computer Science Division.

Regent Klein expressed gratitude for this information, stating that the Regents seek to ensure that faculty are being utilized efficiently and effectively.

UW-Madison: UW-Madison requested approval of a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Data Science. Appearing on behalf of the campus was Provost Karl Scholz. He reported that the degree program responds to substantial student interest in the field. Between 2014 and 2018, undergraduate declared majors in Computer Sciences grew 316%, in Statistics 241%, and Mathematics 170%. He also explained that students will develop abilities in computational, mathematical and statistical thinking combined with knowledge to apply these abilities to data-rich problems across a variety of subject matters.

Provost Scholz also reported that by UW-Madison standards, this is a very unusual major. Because it has been created by four different academic departments, including: mathematics, statistics, computer science, and data science. The modularized structure of the major also is new to UW-Madison. The peer campus for this degree program is UC-Berkeley, which began a data science major 2-3 years ago, and now has more than 700 students in the major. Finally, Provost Scholz stated that hiring has been extensive in the departments to meet student demand, and the campus will continue to hire statisticians, computer scientists, and mathematicians in the near future.

Regent Woodmansee asked about the revenue projections for the degree program and why it is projected to precisely break even for five years. Provost Scholz responded that especially with an interdisciplinary degree, it is difficult to account for professor salaries across all four of the sponsoring departments. As such, the four academic departments will equally share costs to ensure that the program is revenue neutral. At present, the campus does not have the architecture to project revenue for a modular program, but will have better numbers, as the program unfolds over several years.

Regent Walsh asked whether there would be new courses for the degree program, across the four sponsoring departments. Provost Scholz explained that some courses have been redesigned for the degree program, and that some new courses have been created, as well.

Regent Hall asked about diversity efforts from both a student and faculty perspective. Provost Scholz responded that faculty members within the department have created special programming for students from traditionally-disadvantaged backgrounds. They also have created ancillary supports to facilitate student success, reduce intimidation, and build community. UW-Madison also has a targeted hiring program to diversify faculty hires across all domains, which provides additional funding for hiring. Fourteen new colleagues have been hired within the program, and millions of dollars have been dedicated to this process.

Regent Manydeeds asked about the degree authorization proposal, and how it mentions reaching out to students in high schools, in order to diversify enrollment numbers. Provost Scholz explained that a campus leader reaches out to 60 or more high schools, mostly in the MMSD area. Regent Manydeeds asked why there was not more outreach in other areas of the State of Wisconsin, such as Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Appleton. Provost Scholz stated that the campus has growth opportunities in this area, and that there are outreach efforts and newly-hired staff members to expand recruitment and student access, more broadly across the State of Wisconsin.

Regent Klein expressed that it would be important for the campus to expand its efforts in this respect, as recommended by Regents Hall and Manydeeds.

UW-Whitewater: UW-Whitewater requested approval of a Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Analytics. Appearing on behalf of the campus was John Chenoweth, Dean of the College of Business and Economics.

Dean Chenoweth stated that the new multidisciplinary major will include a range of courses in business analytics as well as elective courses from the College of Business and Economics, such as marketing and economics. Dean Chenoweth reported that regional workforce demand is strong for this program, and that both employer need and student demand are expected to grow at an accelerated pace, as the economy in general becomes more reliant on effective uses of data.

Regent Walsh asked whether one option for the degree program is completely online. Dean Chenoweth responded that the program is, indeed, available online. He also confirmed that the program currently offers coursework on campus, but that after the program is approved by the Regents, the campus will begin to offer the courses online.

Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin: An update on the Freshwater Collaborative was provided by UW-Milwaukee Chancellor Mark Mone, and Dr. Phyllis King, Associate Vice Chancellor, UW-Milwaukee.

Dr. King explained that the Freshwater Collaborative is currently in the process of hiring an Executive Director, that a strong pool of applicants has been identified for the position, and that the hiring process will be completed in November of 2019. Dr. King also reported that Wisconsin Governor, Tony Evers, toured the UW-Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences in

August of 2019, together with DNR Secretary, Preston Cole, and Vincent Rice, Vice President, Sector Strategy Development at Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

Chancellor Mone reported that he and campus leaders from UW-Milwaukee regularly have been meeting with legislators to seek funding for the Freshwater Collaborative. Moreover, Assembly Speaker Robin Voss and Senator Alberta Darling recently toured the UW-Milwaukee School of Freshwater Science in order to support and advance the work of the Freshwater Collaborative.

Chancellor Mone also reported that UW System President, Ray Cross, has met with legislative leaders in support of the Freshwater Collaborative, and to advocate for funding in the next biennial budget cycle. In response, legislators have projected support in the amount of \$3-5 million in the base budget. Legislative leaders have also asked the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin to focus upon issues of water quality and water contamination in rural and urban settings, rather than the ten grand challenges in the original proposal. In response, campus leaders are now refining the proposal to reflect this request.

Regent Klein thanked Chancellor Mone for his leadership and vision in advancing the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin. She also recognized that this is a tremendous undertaking, and stated that the additional time and effort which UW-Milwaukee is going to have to put behind this, is breathtaking. Regent Klein also recognized the incredible potential impact of the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin, and stated that we are now just scratching the surface of what this will become in the future.

Regents Hall and Manydeeds thanked Chancellor Mone for his vision and diligent work in advancing the Freshwater Collaborative. Chancellor Mone responded by stating that Wisconsin is uniquely positioned to advance freshwater and that this is a great and rare opportunity.

Regent Klein asked whether additional funding would be necessary, in addition to the 3-5 million for one year, base budget that is currently projected. Chancellor Mone stated that this initial investment would be a huge bump. And in future years, the Freshwater Collaborative will have to simultaneously seek add-on funding from industry, WEDC, and philanthropic sources.

Regent Walsh asked what the biggest challenges will be, in terms of bringing colleagues and campuses together in support of the Freshwater Collaborative. Chancellor Mone stated that distance and logistics are potential challenges. But already, there is a great faculty network. The faculty know each other, and because no one campus is big enough to have all of the answers, faculty across the UW System already have been collaboratively working together, building natural areas of specialty across campuses.

Regent Walsh asked whether coordination of the Freshwater Collaborative will fall on the shoulders of the Executive Director. Dr. King stated that the Executive Director and Advisory Council will coordinate the logistics and statewide reach of the Freshwater Collaborative.

Regent Stanford Taylor encouraged Chancellor Mone to build strong connections to K-12 schools as the Freshwater Collaborative advances. Chancellor Mone affirmed that these pathways will be built.

Report of the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs: Regent Klein welcomed Dr. Anny Morrobel-Sosa as the new UW System Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs. She explained that Dr. Morrobel-Sosa has extensive leadership experience in higher education, having served as a leader in four different university systems, including most recently as the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Lehman College, which is part of the City University of New York System. Dr. Morrobel-Sosa also has been a higher education leader at the University of Texas at El Paso, Georgia Southern University, California Polytechnic State University, and the University of Alabama.

Regent Klein stated that Dr. Morrobel-Sosa earned her bachelor of science degree at the University of Puerto Rico, a master's degree at State University of New York at Stony Brook, and her PhD at the University of Southern California, all in Chemistry.

To provide an update on the work of the UW System Student Behavioral Health Work Groups, Vice President Morrobel-Sosa welcomed Harry Anderson, Dean of Students, UW-Superior; and Artanya Wesley, Dean of Students, UW-Whitewater. Together, they reported that the work groups met in person at UW-Stevens Point in September of 2019. They also stated that each work group convenes monthly by teleconference, in order to continue advancing their work. Finally, they reported that each group will continue work through the spring semester, with recommendations coming to the full Board of Regents in April of 2020.

UW-Superior: On behalf of the host campus, Interim Provost Dr. Maria Cuzzo delivered a presentation titled: "Small but Mighty: Embedded Influential Learning Experiences at UW-Superior."