

**UW System Board of Regents
Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 20, 2020**

Proceedings of the Education Committee Meeting. The Education Committee convened via WebEx from 8:45 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. Committee members in attendance were: Regents Colón, Hall, Klein, Manydeeds, Stanford Taylor, Walsh, and Woodmansee. No Regent declared a conflict of interest regarding any of the items listed on the meeting agenda.

Committee Agenda Items: Unanimously Approved. The Education Committee unanimously approved nine resolutions, including:

- Approval of the Minutes of the June 4, 2020 Meeting of the Education Committee
 - Resolution C.1.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.
- UW-Madison: Approval of Master of Science in Financial Economics
 - Resolution C.2.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.
- UW-Madison: Approval of Master of Science in Information
 - Resolution C.3.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.
- UW-Madison: Approval of Educational Specialist in School Psychology
 - Resolution C.4.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.
- UW-Milwaukee: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Freshwater Sciences
 - Resolution C.5.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.
- UW-Oshkosh: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science
 - Resolution C.6.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.
- UW-Parkside: Approval of Master of Arts in Professional Communication
 - Resolution C.7.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.
- UW-Stout: Approval of Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics
 - Resolution C.8.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.

- UW-Superior: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Public Leadership and Innovation
 - Resolution C.9.
 - A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor.

Agenda Item C.: Proposed Consent Agenda. Given the large number of agenda items to be covered during the 90 minute meeting, the Chair requested a motion to move the following routine, non-controversial items to a consent agenda. Note: Items on a consent agenda may be acted upon by the committee in a single vote. Any Board Member may remove items from a consent agenda for separate discussion and consideration. The meeting minutes must reflect the motion and vote on each item.

The meeting agenda reflected the twelve following items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the June 4, 2020 Meeting of the Education Committee
2. UW-Madison: Approval of Master of Science in Financial Economics
3. UW-Madison: Approval of Master of Science in Information
4. UW-Madison: Approval of Educational Specialist in School Psychology
5. UW-Milwaukee: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Freshwater Sciences
6. UW-Oshkosh: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science
7. UW-Parkside: Approval of Master of Arts in Professional Communication
8. UW-Stout: Approval of Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics
9. UW-Superior: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Public Leadership and Innovation

Agenda Item D.: Approval of Temporary Suspension of ACT/SAT Requirements in Regent Policy Document 7-3, “UW System Freshman Admissions Policy” for the University of Wisconsin-Madison

Regent Klein invited both Karl Scholz, Provost, UW-Madison, and Derek Kindle, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, UW-Madison to join the committee to explain the policy waiver request.

Provost Scholz explained that the University of Wisconsin-Madison faces challenges in its freshman applicants’ ability to submit ACT or SAT test scores, as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, the Board of Regents is being asked to temporarily suspend Regent Policy Document 7-3, which requires the submission of ACT/SAT test scores by freshman applicants.

Provost Scholz stated that by suspending these sections of the policy, freshman applicants will be able to move forward in the admissions process and not be penalized for their inability to take and submit test scores due to cancellations or significant delays in testing from the testing agencies themselves during the stated time period. He also stated that the suspension will cover the academic years that run from 2021-2023.

Vice Provost Kindle explained that UW-Madison will also use this opportunity to conduct scholarly research, studying the effects of suspending the standardized test score requirement on the admissions review process, and on the demographic composition and academic achievement of entering classes.

In response, Regent Klein stated that this is a powerful moment for equity and inclusion in college admissions. And that the Education Committee would welcome the results of the research-based study that UW-Madison will be conducting.

A motion to approve was made by Regent Stanford Taylor, and seconded by Regent Manydeeds. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item E.: Approval of Regent Policy Document XX-X, “Application Fees and Waiver”

Regent Klein stated that this policy requests is an extension of COVID-19 temporary policies that our campuses have sought in order to best respond to the global pandemic.

A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh, and seconded by Regent Woodmansee. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item F.: UW-Milwaukee Update: Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee provided an update on the status of planning for the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin (FCW). This initiative builds upon the collective assets of all 13 campuses to collaborate on freshwater research, training, innovation and economic development. At its June 6, 2019, the Board of Regents requested periodic updates on the Freshwater Collaborative. This presentation was the fifth in a series of such updates, and was provided by Dr. Marissa Jablonski, who is the Executive Director of the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin.

Agenda Item G.: Vice President’s Report. Dr. Anny Morrobel-Sosa, UW System Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, reported on two topics, including:

1. Update: UW System Electronic Admissions Application
2. Update: UW System Student Behavioral Health Initiative
3. Presentation: UW System Online Learning Initiative

Dr. Christine Navia, UW System Associate Vice President for Student Success, joined the Vice President, in providing an update on both the UW System Electronic Admissions Application and the UW System Behavioral Health Initiative.

Next, the Vice President asked Dr. Laura Dunek, UW System Special Assistant for Governance and Strategic Initiatives, to lead a presentation on the UW System Online Learning Initiative. This project addresses one of the most critical challenges facing the UW System due to the COVID-19 pandemic: Delivering high-quality online learning at scale, while ensuring broad access and equity so that all students succeed. In order to meet this challenge, the UW System is working collaboratively with campus leaders to expand the capacity of faculty and student support staff to plan, develop, and deliver online learning and advising for students, which is of high quality, equitable, and accessible. UW Extended Campus also has created high-quality professional development materials to support faculty, staff, and students in the online learning environment, and to ensure that quality online education scales across the entire UW System. In addition, for students in need, both UW System and campus leaders are expanding access to information technology tools by providing hardware, such as laptops and tablets, as well as access to WIFI networks and hotspots. The presentation delineated the Initiative’s blueprint for success.

The Education Committee meeting was adjourned by Regent Klein at 10:20 a.m.