

**UW System Board of Regents
Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 8, 2021**

Proceedings of the Education Committee Meeting. The Education Committee convened via WebEx from 8:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Committee members in attendance were: Regents Hall, Klein, Manydeeds, Stanford Taylor, Walsh, and Woodmansee. Absent was Regent Colón. No Regent declared a conflict of interest regarding any of the items listed on the meeting agenda. Regent Klein recognized departing Regents and acknowledged Education Committee staff service and transitions.

Agenda Item C.: Proposed Consent Agenda. Given the large number of agenda items to be covered during the 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 three following items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 4, 2010 Meeting of the Education Committee
2. UW-Madison: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering
3. UW-Stout: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Arts Administration and Entrepreneurship

Item C-3 was removed at the request of Regent Woodmansee. A motion to approve items C1-2 was made by Regent Manydeeds and seconded by Regent Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

Regent Woodmansee asked why the UW-Stout program was being offered as a Bachelor of Science instead of a Bachelor of Arts. Vice President Anny Morrobel-Sosa invited Glendalí Rodríguez, Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor, UW-Stout, who introduced David Beck, Dean, UW-Stout. Dean Beck stated the degree program focuses primarily on the business side of the arts and supporting others who create art. A motion to approve item C-3 was made by Regent Walsh and seconded by Regent Woodmansee. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item D: Approval of Changes to Regent Policy Document (RPD) 4-15, “Excess Credit Policy.”

Regent Klein asked Vice President Morrobel-Sosa to present the motion, who then invited Dr. Carleen Vander-Zande, UW System Associate Vice-President for Academic Programs & Faculty Advancement, to introduce the policy action. Dr. Vander-Zande stated the revised policy eliminates the UW System excess credit surcharge (ECH) for all UW universities except for UW-Madison, which allows UW-Madison to develop its own ECH policy. Regent Manydeeds asked why UW-Madison was exempt. UW-Madison Provost John Karl Scholz responded that the current policy allows for academic exploration and students who change their minds, and that UW-Madison does offer exceptions to the surcharge in special circumstances. Provost Scholz stated the policy helps balance the cost of providing education and creating space for other students.

Regent Walsh asked what happens if someone wants to come back after graduating to get a second undergraduate degree. Provost Scholz explained a student would not be allowed to re-enroll for a degree program, but could return in special status to take specific courses. In response, Regent Walsh suggested allowing exceptions especially in high-needs areas. Regent Klein suggested considering the re-

enrollment policy at a different meeting. A motion to approve was made by Regent Walsh and seconded by Regent Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item E: UW-Stout Host Campus Presentation: Polytechnic FOCUS2030. Regent Klein welcomed Glendalí Rodríguez, Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor, UW-Stout and Sandi Scott, Dean of Students, UW-Stout, to complete the host campus presentation. The presentation shared examples of how each academic college at UW-Stout has adapted instructional delivery methods to engage students virtually during the COVID-10 pandemic.

Regent Klein asked how the program array at UW-Stout compares with other polytechnic universities and who those peer universities are. Provost Rodríguez responded that the array is diverse, and will share a list of peer institutions. Regent Walsh asked about gender equity in the esports program and expressed concern about the depiction of women in such programs. Provost Rodríguez responded that UW-Stout has diversity, equity, and inclusion goals for all programs. Dean David Beck also stated the university has seen a change in gender equity at the university level and has also offered programs to younger students, and UW-Stout Athletic Director Duey Naatz stated the program has expanded its recruitment and number of teams. Vice President Morrobel-Sosa also noted the uniqueness to have women in senior leadership roles at a polytechnic institution.

Agenda Item F: Update: Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin. The presentation 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 four-year institutions to collaborate on freshwater research, training, innovation and economic development. At its June 6, 2019, the Board of Regents requested periodic updates on the FCW. The presentation was the seventh in a series, and was delivered by Dr. Marissa Jablonski, FCW Executive Director.

Agenda Item G: Report of the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs. Anny Morrobel-Sosa, UW System Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, in advance of a full board presentation, reported on the UW System Presidential Initiative for expanding online learning. The Vice President explained that meetings have occurred about the initiative with UW shared governance, and a faculty workgroup has been formed. President Thompson also explained that the UW System is facing intense marketing competition from other programs and that UW System leadership will meet with campus leaders to address concerns. Regent Walsh asked about an opportunity for Board members to hear campus concerns directly, which the Vice President noted is for Board leadership to determine. Regent Manydeeds asked whether the initiative will be able to attract students and encouraged working with shared governance and listening to campus concerns. Vice President Morrobel-Sosa explained the proposed market for the initiative is based on census data, and that the initiative seeks additional funding for advanced market research.

The Vice President noted that Regent Stanford-Taylor was promised an update and presentation on the Office of Educational Opportunity. Due to time constraints, that will occur at the June meeting. The Education Committee meeting was adjourned by Regent Klein at 10:15 a.m.