

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

Thursday, December 9, 2021
1:00 p.m.

Gordon Dining & Event Center
770 W. Dayton Street
Madison, Wisconsin

-President Manydeeds presiding-

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The recording of this meeting's open session is available at: [December 9, 2021 Webcast](#)

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CALLING OF THE ROLL

[\[Recording: 00:00:01\]](#)

PRESENT: Regents Scott Beightol, Amy Bogost, Héctor Colón, Michael Grebe, Mike Jones, Tracey Klein, Edmund Manydeeds, John Miller, Rodney Pasch, Andrew Petersen, Cris Peterson, Ashok Rai, Corey Saffold, Brianna Tucker, Jill Underly, Karen Walsh, and Kyle Weatherly

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regent Robert Atwell

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DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

Before considering any items on the open session agenda, President Manydeeds 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 were declared.

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UPDATES AND INTRODUCTIONS

President Thompson welcomed Kate Burns, who was recently named to the permanent position of Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UW-Green Bay. Provost Burns began serving as interim Provost in Spring 2020.

APPROVAL OF MEETING RECORDS

Regent Petersen moved for the approval of the record of the November 4, 2021 meeting of the UW System Board of Regents. The motion was seconded by Regent Jones and approved on a voice vote.

REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

[\[Recording: 00:03:30\]](#)

Reports of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board

The November 2021 report of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board had been provided. There were no comments or questions.

Update on UW-Madison Chancellor Search Process

President Manydeeds reported that he and President Thompson recently announced the appointment of the UW-Madison Chancellor Search and Screen Committee, which will be chaired by Regent Vice President Karen Walsh. Professor Susan Hagness, Department Chair of the UW-Madison Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, will serve as vice chair.

President Manydeeds stated that the 21 members of the Search and Screen Committee consist of a broad-cross section of campus faculty, staff, and students; alumni and community members; and Regent representatives who will also serve on the Special Regent Committee for the UW-Madison Chancellor Search. Regents Amy Bogost, Mike Jones, Tracey Klein, John Miller, and Karen Walsh will serve on the Special Regent Committee, which will be chaired by President Manydeeds.

President Manydeeds indicated that he hopes to schedule an initial charging meeting of the Search and Screen Committee in December. A national search for Chancellor Blank's

successor will officially launch in January with the assistance of the executive search firm AGB Search.

Update on the UW System Presidential Search Process

President Manydeeds reported that progress on the search for the next UW System President continues to be on schedule. After considering input from listening sessions held all around the state earlier in the fall, the Search and Screen Committee reviewed and evaluated candidate materials and then conducted a series of interviews to narrow the field in late November. The Search and Screen Committee has forwarded a list of candidates they believe merit further evaluation to the Special Regents Committee, which consists of Regents Karen Walsh, Scott Beightol, Héctor Colón, Tracey Klein, Cris Peterson, Corey Saffold, and President Manydeeds as chair.

President Manydeeds said the Special Regent Committee met recently with search consultants and plan to meet again on Friday to begin a preliminary review of the candidates who were recommend by the Search and Screen Committee, and to determine the process to be used for selecting and evaluating finalists in January.

President Manydeeds concluded his report by offering early congratulations on behalf of the Board of Regents to the UW System's new graduates and their families.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SYSTEM

[\[Recording: 00:08:30\]](#)

COVID-19 Update

President Thompson reported that the UW System expects to continue providing testing operations for the people of Wisconsin at the state's request through the spring semester. He indicated that the university is in discussions with the state regarding reimbursement for testing expenses, including staffing, as well as for tuition rebates offered to nursing and pharmaceutical students who are providing support to the health care industry.

Wisconsin as Vital Innovation Hub

President Thompson commented on a panel discussion held earlier that day in the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee meeting focused on how Wisconsin can successfully compete to become one of the nation's vital research and innovation hubs. The U.S. Congress is expected to act soon on a bipartisan bill intended to

bolster the nation's research infrastructure with as much as \$250 billion in funding to invest in the study of new technologies.

President Thompson noted that the UW System's two public R-I universities have deep expertise in areas such as biotechnology and genomics, advanced manufacturing and sustainability, artificial intelligence and quantum computing, among others. Combined with the valuable expertise and experience at the comprehensive universities in areas including health care, engineering, and logistics, as well as the UW institutions' strong track records of successful collaborations with industry, he concluded that Wisconsin is well-suited for creating academic-industry partnership hubs.

On the subject of collaborations, President Thompson also reported that UW-Eau Claire recently announced a \$40 million gift from John and Carolyn Sonnentag – the largest donation in the university's history – towards the construction of the new, multi-use Sonnentag Complex, which will host events and performances, athletics and the arts, and health and wellness activities, including a Mayo Clinic location.

Legislative Updates

President Thompson reported that Chancellor Gallo and Chancellor Wachter recently testified before the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities in support of the bipartisan Assembly Bill 714, which would allow the UW System to administer Wisconsin's tuition reciprocity agreement with Minnesota. This legislation would allow UW institutions to retain more of the tuition dollars they earn and would also allow the UW System to renegotiate the 50-year-old agreement to ensure it is effectively serving the students of Wisconsin.

President Thompson reported that Senate Bill 557, which would expand the Board's investment authority to the entirety of the UW System's working capital, has received public hearings in both houses. He noted that the private sector and many peer institutions have this capability, which could generate an additional \$11.2 million for the benefit of the UW System's mission and students.

Finally, President Thompson reported that the UW System is awaiting action by the Joint Finance Committee on its plan for supplemental funding, as well as the Joint Committee on Employee Relations on the 2% pay plan increase. He noted that it is possible JCOER will not meet until January, which would mean a delay in salary increases for UW System employees.

Staffing Update

President Thompson announced that Warren Anderson, UW System Senior Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Officer, accepted a position at Bradley University. He highlighted some of the UW System's accomplishments during Mr. Anderson's tenure, including the launch of the Regents Opportunity Scholarship Program for underrepresented and deserving students; the expansion of Summer Bridge programs; and the convening of UW System campus senior diversity officers, multicultural and disadvantaged student coordinators, and LGBTQ+ student coordinators.

Winter Commencements

President Thompson offered congratulations to the 10,000 students around the UW System who are expected to receive their degrees in December. He remarked on the need to continue expanding opportunities in higher education, including by recruiting more first-generation students, nontraditional students, and students from underrepresented or financially disadvantaged backgrounds.

CLOSED SESSION

[\[Recording: 00:31:10\]](#)

President Manydeeds called upon Vice President Walsh to read the motion to move into closed session. The motion was seconded by Regent Petersen and adopted on a roll-call vote, with Regents Beightol, Bogost, Colón, Grebe, Jones, Klein, Manydeeds, Miller, Pasch, Petersen, Peterson, Rai, Saffold, Tucker, Underly, Walsh, and Weatherly voting in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes and no abstentions.

Closed Session Resolution

Resolution 11735 That the Board of Regents move into closed session to: (a) consider personal histories related to a UW-Eau Claire honorary degree nomination, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats.; (b) consider compensation adjustments for individuals with salaries that exceed 75% of the UW System President's salary, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.; (c) consider two requests from UW-Madison to approve salary ranges and authorizations to recruit, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c) and (e), Wis. Stats.; (d) consider personal histories related to the naming of a facility at UW-Madison, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats.; (e) consider compensation adjustments for chancellors, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.; (f) deliberate regarding a recommendation for dismissal with cause of two UW-Milwaukee

faculty members, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(a) and (b), Wis. Stats.; and (g) discuss ongoing personnel matters, as permitted by s. 19.85 (1)(c) and (f), Wis. Stats.

Before considering items on the closed session agenda, President Manydeeds 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 were declared.

During the closed session, Regent Walsh moved for the adoption of Resolution 11736. The motion was seconded by Regent Jones and approved on a voice vote.

Approval of Proposed State Pay Plan Adjustments for Individuals with Salaries that Exceed 75% of the UW System President's Salary

Resolution 11736 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves a 2% pay plan increase effective January 2, 2022, for individuals with salaries that exceed 75% of the UW System President's salary, contingent upon satisfactory performance, as set forth in Attachment A.

Regent Underly moved for the adoption of Resolution 11737. The motion was seconded by Regent Grebe and approved on a voice vote.

Authorization to Recruit and Approval of Salary for the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, UW-Madison

Resolution 11737 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System and the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Board of Regents authorizes the recruitment for the Dean of the UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences up to a maximum of \$425,000.

Regent Grebe moved for the adoption of Resolution 11738. The motion was seconded by Regent Jones and approved on a voice vote.

Authorization to Recruit and Approval of Salary for the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, UW-Madison

Resolution 11738 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System and the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Board of Regents authorizes the recruitment for the UW-Madison Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration up to a maximum of \$450,000.

Regent Walsh moved for the adoption of Resolution 11739. The motion was seconded by Regent Bogost and approved on a voice vote.

Authorization to Name the School of Veterinary Medicine New Large Animal Arena, UW-Madison

Resolution 11739 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison, and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes that the new School of Veterinary Medicine new large animal arena be named the "Barbara A. Tooman Large Animal Arena."

Regent Beightol moved for the adoption of Resolution 11740 and Resolution 11741. The motion was seconded by Regent Petersen and approved on a voice vote.

Adoption of Decision and Order of Dismissal of a UW-Milwaukee Faculty Member

Resolution 11740 That the Board of Regents adopts the attached proposed decision and order as the Board's final decision and order of dismissal in the matter of Yue Liu, UW-Milwaukee.

Adoption of Decision and Order of Dismissal of a UW-Milwaukee Faculty Member

Resolution 11741 That the Board of Regents adopts the attached proposed decision and order as the Board's final decision and order of dismissal in the matter of Jie Yu, UW-Milwaukee.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/ Jess Lathrop

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