

**UW System Board of Regents
Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 9, 2021**

Proceedings of the Education Committee Meeting. The Education Committee convened in person from 08:47 a.m. to 12:21 p.m. Committee members in attendance were: Regents Bogost, Colón, Grebe, Pasch, Underly, Tucker, Saffold, and Peterson. No Regent declared a conflict of interest regarding any of the items listed on the meeting agenda.

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 five following items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 7, 2021 Meeting of the Education Committee
2. UW-Milwaukee: Approval of Bachelor of Fine Arts in Design and Visual Communication
3. UW Oshkosh: Approval of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Advertising
4. UW-Stevens Point: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Community Sustainability
5. UW-River Falls: Approval of Bachelor of Science in International Food Operations Management

All items remained on the consent agenda. A motion to approve item was made by Regent Peterson and seconded by Regent Colón. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item D. Approval of Extension of Temporary Suspension of ACT/SAT Requirements in Regent Policy Document 7-3, "UW System Freshman Admissions Policy"

A motion to approve was made by Regent Grebe and seconded by Regent Pasch.

Regent Pasch asked about the standardized test as a formative part of the K-12 education experience, and noted a report that noted a higher percentage of students who drop out of college after two years. Regent Underly expressed support for the resolution, but noted that schools and foundations do use the test to determine scholarships and that the issue will need to be considered. Regent Grebe noted that the initial suspension was due to COVID-19, and that the consideration is now about the efficacy of the test and asked why the extension is going until 2024-25.

In response, John Achter, UW System Interim Associate Vice President for Student Success and Student Behavioral Health Coordinator, stated that the UW System is undergoing a comprehensive study of the test suspension, and that the extension provides certainty to current high school students.

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item E. Approval of Amendments to Regent Policy Document 20-24, "Procedures Relating to Financial Emergency or Program Discontinuance Requiring Faculty Layoff and Termination"

A motion to approve item was made by Regent Peterson and seconded by Regent Colón. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item F. Approval of a Program Discontinuance and Faculty Layoff at UW-Platteville pursuant to Regent Policy Document 20-24

A motion to approve item was made by Regent Peterson and seconded by Regent Colón. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item G. University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health: The Wisconsin Partnership Program Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report.

The FY 2021 Annual Report of the Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP), covering the activities and expenditures from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 was presented by: Dr. Robert N. Golden, MD, Dean, UW School of Medicine and Public Health. The report highlights how WPP has expanded its response to the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to support initiatives that address the impact of racism and other social determinants on health outcomes.

Joining Dr. Golden were Amy Kind, Executive Director, WPP; Eileen Smith, Assistant Dean and Director, WPP; Richard L. Moss, Senior Associate Dean for Basic Research, Biotechnology and Graduate Studies, UW School of Medicine and Public Health; Chair, WPP Partnership Education and Research Committee; Ken Mount, Senior Associate Dean for Finance, UW School of Medicine and Public Health; and Jon Thomas, Finance Associate Director, WPP, UW School of Medicine and Public Health.

In response to the presentation, Regent Colón asked if the original WPP agreement is being followed given critical emails. In response, Dean Golden stated the WPP had responded directly to criticism, and completed a successful independent audit at the advice of the Insurance Commissioner. Regent Colón also asked for example of WPP impact and relationships in Milwaukee. Dr. Kind stated the WPP has invested over \$30 million in Milwaukee, and cited examples of the FREE campaign, United Community Center, and maternal fetal health grants. Regent Pasch asked about efforts to expand grant access. Dean Golden stated WPP has dedicated staff to support applicants, Dr. Kind added the WPP has reached all Wisconsin counties and continues to seek to expand access.

Regent Grebe asked how the WPP chooses what to prioritize in grantmaking. Dr. Moss explained the WPP committee process and emphasis factors based on stakeholder input, and consideration of grantee sustainability beyond the WPP grant.

Agenda Item H. UW System Developmental Education Report. Dr. Ben Passmore, UW System Associate Vice President for Policy Analysis and Research, shared highlights from the 2021 Developmental Education Report and explained the new and publicly available online dashboard that shares further data.

Agenda Item I. UW System Math Initiative Update

Alice Pulvermacher, University of Wisconsin System Math Initiative Principal Investigator and Office of Academic Innovation Associate Director, led a panel presentation to share impacts of the Math Initiative strategies at the UW System, campus, and student levels. Panelists included UW-Parkside Vice Provost Gary Wood, Phyllis King, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UW-Milwaukee, and student speaker Brandon Pope, a UW-Whitewater senior.

In response to the presentation, Regent Bogost asked about alignment between K-12 math standards and those considered in the initiative. Ms. Pulvermacher responded that the initiative has formed a representative committee to examine the standards and develop a college readiness statement. Regent Underly added that requirements from the Department of Public Instruction required three years of math, but not specific types of math so it may not currently align with all future pathways. Regent Pasch complimented the work with technical colleges and asked about content alignment. Dr. King stated that dual enrollment has also been a tool and that there is continued collaboration. Regent Colón asked about students who do need extra help. Vice Provost Wood described the summer bridge program at UW-Parkside and additional support in the fall semester. Vice President Morrobel-Sosa acknowledged the work done on this initiative particularly around content alignment including by now Interim UW-Whitewater Chancellor Jim Henderson.

Agenda Item J. UW System Disability Services Annual Report

Dr. John Achter, UW System Interim Associate Vice President for Student Success and Student Behavioral Health Coordinator, and directors Vicky Thomas, M.S., M.Ed., UW-Eau Claire, and Mari Magler, JD, UW-Madison, provided a summary of the 2020-21 Services for Students with Disabilities Report. The report, which is available on the UW System Disability Resources website, documents the total number of students with disabilities affiliated with campus disability resource centers, disability categories, accommodations, personnel/staffing, and COVID-19 impact on services.

Agenda Item K. Discussion of Campus Mental Health Challenges and Strategies

Regent Bogost asked Dr. Achter to facilitate a discussion focusing “upstream” strategies for addressing the well-known mental health and well-being challenges facing UW System students, faculty, and staff. Dr. Achter explained the UW System’s 3-tier approach to addressing student behavioral health, and how the discussion would share examples of creating healthy campus environments and improving overall well-being. He introduced: Randy Barker, Director of Health, Counseling, and Well-Being, UW-Superior; Adam Jussel, Dean of Students, UW-Milwaukee; and Susan Huber, Director of Well-being in Higher Education, Center for Healthy Minds, UW-Madison.

In response to the presentation, Regent Colón asked about tools to scale mindfulness strategies. Mr. Barker responded that infusing it into all classes, and offering a specific mindfulness classes. Ms. Huber described the preventative approach at UW-Madison and the use of a mobile app.

Regent Bogost asked about sustainability and scalability at the UW-Milwaukee trauma-informed care program. Mr. Barker explained trauma-informed care and building awareness, and the “return to campus” team at UW-Milwaukee to address pandemic issues and create workshops for faculty/staff and community engagement. Regent Grebe then noted this has been a discussion topic at several past meetings, commended the impact of the current efforts, and asked how this will apply returning from the pandemic. Ms. Huber responded that reducing mental health stigma,

Regent Bogost thanked the presenters and stated a hope that the discussion will spark future inclusive conversations including campus voices with the Committee and full Board about how to create cultures of well-being and care for one another, in service to wholistic educational goals.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.