

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

Friday, February 5, 2021
8:45 a.m.

By WebEx Videoconference

-President Petersen presiding-

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The recording of this meeting's open session is available at: [February 5, 2021 Webcast](#)

CALLING OF THE ROLL

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

PRESENT: Regents Robert Atwell, Amy Bogost, Michael Grebe, Eve Hall, Mike Jones, Tracey Klein, Becky Lezow, Edmund Manydeeds, Andrew Petersen, Carolyn Stanford Taylor, Karen Walsh, Kyle Weatherly, and Olivia Woodmansee.

Regent Scott Beightol joined the meeting by phone at 8:52 a.m. during the report of the Audit Committee.

Regent Cris Peterson joined the meeting at 8:59 a.m. during the report of the Business & Finance Committee.

Regent Atwell left the meeting at 9:20 a.m. following the report of the Capital Planning & Budget Committee.

Regent Corey Saffold joined the meeting at 10:00 a.m. during discussion on the UW System Teacher Workforce Initiative.

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regent Héctor Colón

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

[\[Recording: 00:01:46\]](#)

Before considering any items on the open session agenda, President Petersen 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."

Regents Michael Grebe, Mike Jones, and Karen Walsh each recused themselves from voting on Resolution 11585, "UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with Abbvie, Inc."

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REPORT OF THE RESEARCH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:03:15\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Atwell to present the report of the Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee.

Regent Atwell reported that the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee received an update on continuing research at UW-Madison in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education Steve Ackerman provided an overview of the broad range of research activities UW-Madison researchers are engaged in to address the impacts of COVID-19.

The Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee heard from two UW-Madison researchers about their pandemic-related projects. Dr. Song Gao, Professor of Geography, discussed mapping human mobility for geospatial modeling of COVID-19's spread. Dr. Nasia Safdar, Professor of Medicine, discussed innovative strategies for tracking COVID-19 cases among health care workers and assessing the impact of various safer-at-home initiatives on the spread of the virus.

Regent Atwell said the Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee also heard a presentation about business and university perspectives on generating sustainable economic growth through innovative health and wellness initiatives. He noted that the pandemic has increased overall awareness of the importance and benefits of personal health and wellness, as well as an increased interest in outdoor activities.

Chris Fortune, founder and CEO of Saris, spoke to the Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee about his Madison-based bicycle company's efforts to increase physical activity and improve mental health among children by developing more bicycle-friendly communities. Led by Provost Johannes Britz, UW-Milwaukee faculty and students provided the Committee with an overview of their professional and volunteer outreach

efforts to improve health and wellness through community-based research and support services.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:09:20\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Walsh to present a report of actions taken by the Audit Committee.

Regent Walsh reported that the Audit Committee received an update on progress to date on the UW System's FY2021 internal audit plan. The Committee requested a second audit of emergency grant aid to students following the next release of federal funding for COVID-19 relief be added to the FY2022 audit plan, which is expected to be presented at the Audit Committee's June meeting.

Regent Walsh said Chief Audit Executive Lori Stortz provided the Audit Committee with a high-level summary of recently-issued reports related to NCAA agreed-upon procedures, with additional comments from the athletic directors at UW-Green Bay and UW-Milwaukee.

Regent Walsh said the Audit Committee also received updates from Sarah Harebo, Title IX and Clery Administrator, and Prenicia Clifton, Director of Youth Protection and Compliance, regarding recent compliance efforts. Chief Compliance Officer Katie Ignatowski discussed the Office of Compliance's ongoing efforts to develop guidelines and resources for the UW System and campuses.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE BUSINESS & FINANCE COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:11:47\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Beightol to present a report of actions taken by the Business & Finance Committee.

Regent Beightol reported the Business & Finance Committee heard a presentation from Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Laurent Heller and Associate Vice Chancellor David Murphy on how UW-Madison is responding to the financial impacts of the pandemic. The presentation highlighted recommendations developed by the Revenue Innovations Study Group regarding new and creative ways to leverage assets in support of the university's public mission, including through real estate development and industry investment in research.

Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee approved nonresident and graduate tuition increases for UW-Milwaukee, UW-Platteville, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Stout, as well as a proposal to expand the purposes for which the UW-Milwaukee College of Engineering and Applied Science differential tuition funds may be used, allowing flexibility in directing funds towards the instructional and support services that will have the most impact for students.

Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee also approved a master clinical study agreement between UW-Madison and Abbvie, Inc., as well as the replacement of three Regent Policy Documents related to the management of auxiliary funds with a new policy titled, "Internal Management Flexibility of Auxiliary Funds."

Regent Beightol reviewed several reports that were received or approved by the Business & Finance Committee, including the UW System's semi-annual Status Report on Large/Vital Information Technology Projects, strategic plans for major information technology projects, the semi-annual budget-to-actuals report, and the semi-annual report of gifts, grants, and contracts.

The Business & Finance Committee also received an update from Vice President Sean Nelson on the financial impacts of the pandemic, including revenue losses and COVID-related expenses, campus efforts to reduce costs, and the use of federal funding to help mitigate losses, support COVID testing programs, and provide direct aid to students. Regent Beightol noted that even with federal funding, UW institutions had a collective net loss of \$317.7 million through the end of December 2020.

Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee concluded its meeting with a report from Interim Vice President for Administration James Langdon on a recent reorganization within UW System Administration that consolidated all procurement and human resource functions in the Office of Shared Services.

Regent Bogost then moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11580, 11581, 11582, 11583, and 11584. The motion was seconded by Regent Hall and approved on a voice vote.

Review and Approval of Proposed Nonresident Undergraduate and Graduate Tuition Increases

Resolution 11580 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents approves the proposed nonresident undergraduate and graduate school tuition increases for UW-Milwaukee, UW-Platteville, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Stout.

Review and Approval of Proposed Change in Scope for UW-Milwaukee Engineering and Applied Science Tuition Differential

Resolution 11581 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents approves the proposed change in the purposes for which the UW-Milwaukee College of Engineering & Applied Science tuition differential revenue may be used.

UW System Technology Status Report on Large/Vital Information Technology Projects

Resolution 11582 That, upon the recommendation the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents approves: (1) the UW System Status Report on Large/Vital Information Technology Projects dated February 4, 2021; and (2) UW System Administration's submittal of the report on the Board's behalf to the legislative Joint Committee on Information Policy and Technology, as required by s. 36.59(7), Wis. Stats.

UW System Report on Strategic Plans for Major Information Technology Projects

Resolution 11583 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents approves: (1) the UW System Report on Strategic Plans for Major Information Technology Projects; and (2) UW System Administration's submittal of the report on the Board's behalf to the legislative Joint Committee on Information Policy and Technology, as required by s. 36.59(7), Wis. Stats.

Regent Policy Document Review: Internal Management Flexibility of Auxiliary Funds

Resolution 11584 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents rescinds and removes RPDs 21-1, "Internal Management Flexibility," 21-2, "Auxiliary Transfer Policy," and 21-3, "Auxiliary Reserve Policy," and creates a new Regent Policy Document titled "Internal Management Flexibility of Auxiliary Funds."

Regent Beightol moved for the adoption of Resolution 11585. The motion was seconded by Regent Atwell and approved on a voice vote. (Regents Grebe, Jones, and Walsh abstained.)

UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with Abbvie, Inc

Resolution 11585 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and AbbVie, Inc.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:25:06\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Klein to present a report of actions taken by the Education Committee.

Regent Klein reported the Education Committee heard presentations on the Freshwater Collaborative's curriculum development and efforts to secure grants and organize internships; UW-Madison's efforts to continue providing high-quality education during the pandemic.

Regent Klein said Vice President for Academic Affairs Anny Morrobel-Sosa provided the Education Committee with an update on the efforts of the UW System Office of Academic and Student Affairs to advance student success through a reverse transfer implementation plan, as well as a preview of the UW System Teacher Workforce Initiative.

Regent Klein reported the Education Committee approved extending the temporary suspension of ACT/SAT admission requirements for freshman applicants in Regent Policy Document 7-3. The Education Committee also approved six new academic degrees, including the Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education at UW-Green Bay; the Master of Science in Environmental Remediation and Management at UW-Madison; the Doctor of Philosophy in Information at UW-Madison; the Doctor of Education in Montessori Studies at UW-River Falls; and the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies at UW-Whitewater.

Regent Klein moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11586, 11587, 11588, 11589, 11590, and 11591. The motion was seconded by Regent Jones and approved on a voice vote.

New Program Authorization (Implementation); Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education, UW-Green Bay

Resolution 11586 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the

Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education program at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

New Program Authorization (Implementation); Master of Science in Environmental Remediation and Management, UW-Madison

Resolution 11587 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Master of Science in Environmental Remediation and Management program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

New Program Authorization (Implementation): Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Information, UW-Madison

Resolution 11588 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Doctor of Philosophy in Information program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

New Program Authorization (Implementation); Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Montessori Studies, UW-River Falls

Resolution 11589 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-River Falls and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Doctor of Education in Montessori Studies program at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

New Program Authorization (Implementation); Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies, UW-Whitewater

Resolution 11590 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Whitewater and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies program at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

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

Resolution 11591 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents extends the temporary

suspension of the requirement for freshman applicants to provide an ACT or SAT score as part of their application referenced in Regent Policy Document 7-3, Sections I. C. and II. B. The initial suspension of this requirement, authorized by Resolution 11430, applied to all freshman applications to UW System campuses, except applications to UW-Madison, for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 academic years. Resolution 11489 temporarily suspended the ACT/SAT requirement for applicants to UW-Madison for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years. This action extends the suspension for all other UW System campuses through the 2022-2023 academic year. The last term that students would be able to opt out of submitting an ACT/SAT score would be spring 2023.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CAPITAL PLANNING & BUDGET COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:29:10\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Jones to present the report of the Capital Planning & Budget Committee.

Regent Jones said the Capital Planning & Budget Committee heard a presentation from Rob Cramer, interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning and Management, on critical building and infrastructure priorities at UW-Madison.

Regent Jones said Senior Associate Vice President Alex Roe provided the Capital Planning & Budget Committee with updates on the recent sale of the Alumni House at UW-Milwaukee for \$1.8 million dollars, and on the actions taken by the Board's Executive Committee in January related to capital projects.

Regent Jones reported the Capital Planning & Budget Committee approved four resolutions authorizing a space rental agreement for the Flesch Family Welcome Center at UW-Eau Claire; the design and construction of the UW-managed Engineering Hall sprinkler and gas piping Phase I project at UW-Madison; and the construction of various classroom renovation/instructional technology improvement projects and minor facilities renewal projects.

Regent Jones moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11592, 11593, 11594, and 11595. The motion was seconded by Regent Klein and approved on a voice vote.

Authority to Enter into a Space Rental Agreement for the Flesch Family Welcome Center, UW-Eau Claire

Resolution 11592 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Eau Claire Chancellor and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents grants authority for UW-Eau Claire to enter into a lease of 2,152 GSF of space located in the Flesch Family Welcome Center to provide office space for the UW-Eau Claire Foundation.

Authority to Construct 2019-21 Classroom Renovation/Instructional Technology Improvement Program Projects, UW System

Resolution 11593 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents approves the allocation of 2019-21 Classroom Renovation/Instructional Technology Improvement Program funds; authorizes construction of the related projects at an estimated total cost of \$10,039,900 General Fund Supported Borrowing of the originally enumerated \$31,689,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing; and allows the Division of Facilities Development to transfer balances, adjust individual project budgets, and add or substitute other high-priority Classroom Renovation/Instructional Technology projects within the authorized funding.

Authority to Construct Minor Facilities Renewal Projects, UW System

Resolution 11594 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents grants authority to construct various maintenance and repair projects at an estimated total cost of \$12,193,000 (\$10,259,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing and \$1,934,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing).

Authority to Construct the Engineering Hall Sprinkler Piping and Gas Distribution Piping Phase I Project, UW-Madison

Resolution 11595 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes the completion of design and construction of the Engineering Hall Sprinkler Piping and Gas Distribution Piping Phase I project for an estimated total cost of \$4,726,000 Grant Funds.

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2021 REGENTS DIVERSITY AWARDS PRESENTATION

[\[Recording: 00:34:45\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Woodmansee, chair of the selection committee, to introduce the 13th annual Board of Regents Diversity Awards, which are meant to recognize the outstanding contributions to diversity and inclusion by people and programs at UW universities.

Introduction

Welcoming the 2021 Diversity Award recipients and their families, friends, and colleagues, Regent Woodmansee explained that the Regents Diversity Awards program formally recognize individuals, teams, or units within the UW System who have successfully fostered greater access and success for historically underrepresented populations.

Regent Woodmansee noted that the selection committee, which also included Regents Atwell, Bogost, and Colón, reviewed submissions from an impressive pool of nominees: “We are proud to recognize the accomplishments of this year’s recipients, and proud they are part of the UW System family.”

Individual Award: Dr. Selika Ducksworth-Lawton, Professor of History, UW-Eau Claire

Regent Bogost presented the Board of Regents Diversity Award in the Individual category to Dr. Selika Ducksworth-Lawton, Professor of History at UW-Eau Claire.

Regent Bogost said Dr. Ducksworth-Lawton has played a pivotal role at UW-Eau Claire in producing positive change in equity and diversity. In addition to creating and teaching courses on African American history, the Civil Rights movement, and Black masculinity, Dr. Ducksworth-Lawton served as one of UW-Eau Claire’s first Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) fellows. As an EDI fellow, she helped develop the university’s 2016 EDI Implementation plan and worked with the Office of Multicultural Affairs on training staff and students to be more attuned to EDI issues.

Dr. Ducksworth-Lawton created a mentoring program for underrepresented students which became part of the Blugold Beginnings precollege initiative. She advised black student organizations and helped guide and lead student responses to recent incidents on campus, in the community, and across the country.

Regent Bogost noted that Dr. Ducksworth-Lawton also works with local government and community organizations, participating in regional and national conversations about race and social justice and its effects. For example, she is the co-host of a weekly radio show and

podcast, "Conversations of Color," which features community conversations around race and how to create an inclusive community.

Dr. Ducksworth-Lawton expressed the hope that this award will help UW-Eau Claire further conversations about "how the university can fulfill the Wisconsin Idea of bringing expertise into the community and making everyone's lives better."

Program Award: Counseling Services, UW-Eau Claire

Regent Bogost presented the first Regents Diversity Award in the Program category to Counseling Services at UW-Eau Claire.

Regent Bogost highlighted the department's efforts to develop resources and mental health services to support UW-Eau Claire's goal of making access to education equitable, fostering greater access and success for students of color, students with disabilities, first-generation college students, international students, and LGBTQ students.

Since 2016, Counseling Services has seen a 45 percent increase in the use of its services among students of color. Regent Bogost said Counseling Services has improved student outcomes at UW-Eau Claire by collaborating with other student-supporting organizations; diversifying staff, which has allowed the department to begin offering services in Spanish and Hmong; creating staff growth plans to increase cultural competence; and providing relevant training to the campus community. Clinicians work to stay current with industry and national best practices; participate in ongoing equity, diversity, and inclusion training and education; and offer identity-specific group therapy.

The award was accepted by Dr. Riley McGrath, Director of Counseling Services. Dr. McGrath recognized the work of his staff, particularly EDI Coordinator Ashley Walton-Beal, for pushing themselves to make changes, seek feedback from underrepresented students, connect with other offices on campus, and take on the internal work related to diversity and inclusion.

Dr. McGrath gave special thanks to the students of color who trust Counseling Services with their mental health: "It's really hard for students to reach out and ask for help at times, especially students of color. The fact that they've embraced our office over the last few years is something that I'm really proud of."

Program Award: Wisconsin Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, UW-Madison

Regent Woodmansee presented the second Regents Diversity Award in the Program category to the Wisconsin Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (WiscAMP) at UW-Madison.

Established in 2004 with a grant from the National Science Foundation to increase the number of students graduating in a STEM discipline who are from an ethnic or racial group underrepresented in STEM, Regent Woodmansee said WiscAMP contributes to the successful recruitment, retention, academic success, and career paths of hundreds of students, sustaining connections across 13 UW System campuses, Wisconsin's private colleges, and one of the state's technical colleges.

Regent Woodmansee noted that over the past decade, more than 90 Wisconsin small grants and subawards have supported initiatives at every alliance institution, with more than 90 percent of resources going to students. The five-year growth rate in underrepresented minority STEM degrees averaged across participating institutions between 2014 and 2018 was 86 percent, compared to 46 percent between 2009 and 2013, translating into an average of 200 more underrepresented minority students graduating with STEM baccalaureate degrees each year between 2013 and 2018 compared to the previous five years.

The award was accepted by Dr. Gail Coover, Executive Director of WiscAMP. Dr. Coover recognized the students, faculty, staff, and senior administrative leaders from all of the program's allied institutions: "The success of our program is due to their hard work and their dedication to equity and diversity – and most importantly, their persistence."

Noting that equity, diversity, and inclusion issues are complex and require many approaches within the systems that support student success, Dr. Coover highlighted several programs within the WiscAMP alliance for their scope and innovation in supporting student persistence and changing the conditions that create inequity in STEM learning experiences.

UW SYSTEM TEACHER WORKFORCE INITIATIVE

[\[Recording: 00:56:49\]](#)

In August 2020 the Board of Regents approved the UW System's operating budget request for the 2021-23 biennium, which included 10 key initiatives closely aligned with the state's most pressing needs. President Petersen said the next presentation would provide more

details on one of these key initiatives which calls for growing the number of teachers in Wisconsin.

President Thompson explained that Wisconsin currently has significant unmet needs in the workforce for highly-qualified teachers and school leaders, particularly in high-need school districts, especially in rural areas, as well as in high-need subject matter fields, such as special education, bilingual education, and the STEM fields.

At the same time, President Thompson said the UW System Schools and Colleges of Education have experienced a significant drop in the number of students enrolling in teacher education programs over the past 10 years.

Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Anny Morrobel-Sosa presented two recommended strategies for addressing teacher workforce issues in Wisconsin: providing stipends for student teachers, and expanding funding for the student loan forgiveness programs administered by the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB).

Regent Walsh asked if there are reasons besides cost that are deterring students from enrolling in teacher education programs. Vice President Morrobel-Sosa said the public's perceived value of teachers and school leaders is low, both nationally and in Wisconsin, which is reflected in teachers' salaries. She noted that many teachers pay money out of their own pockets to buy supplies for their students.

President Thompson added that both urban and rural school districts have severe financial problems due to the reliance on property taxes to support teacher salaries, which typically account for about 85 percent of a K-12 district's budget. He noted that property taxes are already very high throughout the state, so district's ability to raise more funds to compensate teachers is limited.

President Thompson also observed that teaching has become less rewarding as a profession, with more students who have problems at home or are underprepared for school placing a greater burden on teachers. He said there is less encouragement for today's high school graduates to consider teaching as a career.

Regent Manydeeds remarked on the time and effort it takes for teachers to prepare, implement, and grade lesson plans and tests, and also volunteer to organize or oversee extracurricular activities for students: "Unless we start respecting and supporting them, we will not have people getting into this profession. As a Board of Regents member, I would ask that we start giving them the respect that's due when they start out in this profession on our campuses."

Regent Bogost suggested that increasing diversity in the teacher workforce can make a big difference for students of color, growing their respect for and interest in teaching as a profession.

Regent Stanford Taylor noted that the number of referendums passed in recent years shows that Wisconsin residents do recognize the importance of education, but teachers are also dealing with an increasing burden as a result of the many societal issues that come into the classroom. She expressed support for finding ways to help compensate educators for this additional work or eliminate some of their expenditures, such as through expanded loan forgiveness programs, and to elevate the profession and attract more people to become educators, especially people of color.

In her position as a member of a local school board for a rural district, Regent Lezvow said that despite strong community support through referendums, she has experienced firsthand the challenge of finding compensation that is worth the value of what qualified, dedicated educators bring to the district.

Regent Klein expressed her support for this initiative, noting that the UW System plays a critical role in the education, professional development, and career advancement of teachers and school leaders. She also recognized the contributions of Regent Emeritus Regina Millner and Regent Mike Jones for their contributions as the former chair and co-chair of the Education Committee in bringing attention to teacher workforce issues.

Regent Hall also expressed her support for the initiative and stated that these conversations must continue: "We must do all that we can to improve the number of teachers in our state."

President Petersen indicated that the teacher workforce shortage is an important issue for legislators from both inner city and rural districts.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR UW-STEVENSON POINT CHANCELLOR BERNIE PATTERSON

[\[Recording: 01:24:10\]](#)

President Petersen welcomed back Regent Emeritus Mark Bradley, who he invited to present the Board's resolution of appreciation to UW-Stevens Point Chancellor Emeritus Bernie Patterson.

As chair of the search committee which selected Bernie Patterson to lead UW-Stevens Point, Regent Emeritus Bradley recalled that "his candor, his self-deprecating humor, his decisiveness, and most of all his genuine concern for the welfare of students" made the

committee's decision an easy one. He then read aloud the Board's resolution of appreciation, which was adopted by acclamation.

Resolution of Appreciation for Chancellor Bernie L. Patterson's Service to the University of Wisconsin System

Resolution 11596 Whereas, Bernie L. Patterson served as the 14th Chancellor of University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point from 2010 to 2020, advancing the university and its students by helping raise \$46 million in private contributions to support 90 new scholarships, 60 new program funds, and six endowed academic chairs, professorships, and assistantships; and

Whereas, under his leadership, the university added 10,000 new donors and significant gifts, including more than \$4 million from Sentry Insurance to create a data analytics program; the Berard Gateway and Berard endowed scholarships; the Anderson Classroom to Career Center in the School of Business and Economics; the Joan North Place in the College of Professional Studies; and the university's largest gift ever, \$4.3 million from alumna Dorothy Harju to further elementary education in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Bernie was instrumental in bringing more than \$120 million in investments to campus, including the new Chemistry Biology Building, the complete renovation of DeBot Dining Center and five residence halls; a new welcome center for visiting students, and the integration of branch campuses in Wausau and Marshfield; and

Whereas, during Bernie's tenure, several master's degrees and two doctoral programs were initiated; he built and nurtured partnerships with local businesses and community organizations, many of which provide internships and careers for UW-Stevens Point students; and he helped establish the university's first Office of Sustainability and first Office of Economic and Community Development; and

Whereas, Bernie championed diversity and inclusion through creating a Center for Inclusive Teaching and Learning, expanding the Office of Diversity and College Access, and introducing the Chancellor's Medal for Commitment to Diversity; and

Whereas, Bernie supported reorganizing shared governance into a joint council that represents faculty, academic staff, and university staff, and he was a proponent of strong student government; and

Whereas, his commitment to veterans led him to support creating a student veterans' memorial on campus, participate in Veterans Day observances, and include commissioning of ROTC officers during Commencement; and

Whereas, Bernie established a new tradition of students touching a wooden replica of the Old Main cupola as they enter the university at Convocation and as they graduate from the university at Commencement, and led UW-Stevens Point with collaboration and respect, supporting an environment for student success;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System hereby offers thanks and commendation to Bernie L. Patterson for his many life achievements and for his service as Chancellor of UW-Stevens Point.

After reading aloud an open letter to his successor, Chancellor Thomas Gibson, which was published on his final day in the office, Chancellor Emeritus Patterson stated that serving UW-Stevens Point has been his greatest honor: "I do not have the words today to adequately describe my pride in my university and in the UW System."

Chancellor Emeritus Patterson concluded his remarks by sharing a portion of the charge which he issued to UW-Stevens Point graduates at the conclusion of every commencement ceremony: "Reach out to those who are alone; speak up for those who have no voice; stand up for those who cannot stand; now go and be servant leaders."

REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

[\[Recording: 01:40:13\]](#)

President Petersen noted the recent passing of Dr. Willard Henken, founding dean of UW-Oshkosh's Fond du Lac campus, which opened for its first classes in fall 1968. For more than 20 years, Dr. Henken saw the Fond du Lac campus through enrollment increases and the 1970s restructuring that created the UW System and reframed the two-year satellite campuses into the collective institution known as UW Centers.

President Petersen extended the Board's condolences to Dr. Henken's family, friends, and colleagues.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

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Submitted by:

/s/ Jess Lathrop _____

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