

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

Friday, July 9, 2021
8:45 a.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: [July 9, 2021 Webcast](#)

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CALLING OF THE ROLL

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

PRESENT: Regents Robert Atwell, Scott Beightol, Amy Bogost, Héctor Colón, Michael Grebe, Mike Jones, Becky Lezvow, Edmund Manydeeds, John Miller, Andrew Petersen, Cris Peterson, Ashok Rai, Corey Saffold, Brianna Tucker, Jill Underly, Karen Walsh, and Kyle Weatherly.

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regent Tracey Klein

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INTRODUCTION OF REGENT JILL UNDERLY

[\[Recording: 00:01:10\]](#)

President Manydeeds welcomed Regent Jill Underly, who recently began her term as State Superintendent of Public Instruction, succeeding Regent Emeritus Carolyn Stanford Taylor.

Regent Underly's background in public education includes experience as a high school and middle school social studies teacher; academic advisor in the UW College of Letters & Science; Title I Consultant and assistant manager at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction; elementary school principal and Director of Instruction; and, most recently, six years as the superintendent of the Pecatonica School District in southwestern Wisconsin.

Her degrees include a master's degree in educational administration and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Regent Underly stated that she was looking forward to her service on the UW System Board of Regents.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

[\[Recording: 00:02:48\]](#)

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."

Regent Grebe and Regent Rai each recused themselves from voting on Resolution 11651, "Authority to Enter into a Lease with Eau Claire Community Complex, Inc., UW-Eau Claire," to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Regent Underly recused herself from discussing or voting on Resolution 11657, "Revised Authorization to Transfer Land and Improvements and Construct the UW-Managed Department of Information Technology (DoIT) Digital Publishing and Printing Services Relocation and the Facilities Planning & Management Physical Plant Relocation Projects, UW-Madison," given her dual fiduciary responsibilities for this arms-length transaction involving the Department of Public Instruction and the Board of Regents.

UW SYSTEM PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH PROCESS

[\[Recording: 00:03:25\]](#)

President Manydeeds said the Board of Regents has been fortunate to have interim President Tommy Thompson at the helm to guide the UW System through one of the most challenging periods in the history of this university, this state, this country, and the world.

Looking to the future, President Manydeeds observed that overseeing the selection of the next President of the University of Wisconsin System is one of the Board's most significant responsibilities. He invited Regent Vice President Karen Walsh, chair of the Presidential Search & Screen Committee, to provide an update on the search process.

Stating that the UW System is moving forward from the previous year's failed search, Regent Walsh indicated that the 19-member Search & Screen Committee will include Regents, faculty, Provosts, Chancellors, staff, and students from across the UW System.

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

[\[Recording: 00:07:53\]](#)

President Manydeeds called upon Regent Rai to present the report of actions taken by the Capital Planning & Budget Committee.

Regent Rai first noted that Associate Vice President Alex Roe's report on capital projects and the 2021-23 capital budget was postponed due to a power outage during the committee's meeting.

In addition to approving seven resolutions related to capital projects, Regent Rai reported that the Capital Planning & Budget Committee heard a report from UW-Madison Chancellor Blank, Vice Chancellor Rob Cramer, and Executive Director Aaron Oliver about a proposed Memorandum of Understanding with University Research Park, Inc., which outlines the collaborative process between the research park and the university to identify parcels for development both on and off campus. The agreement addresses pricing mechanisms and investments of proceeds on behalf of the university at the UW Foundation.

Regent Rai then moved for the adoption of Resolution 11651. The motion was seconded by Regent Petersen and approved on a voice vote, with Regents Grebe and Rai abstaining to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Authority to Enter Into a Lease with Eau Claire Community Complex, Inc., UW-Eau Claire

- Resolution 11651 That, upon the recommendation of the UW-Eau Claire Chancellor and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents:
- 1) grants authority to enter into a lease with Eau Claire Community Complex (EC3) for student athletics, event, and recreation space within the UW-Eau Claire Sonnentag Event and Recreation Complex; and
 - 2) approves a new segregated fee of \$90 per student, per semester that will be applied towards the lease of the facility and commences at the time the facility is occupied.

Regent Rai next moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11652, 11653, 11654, 11655, and 11656. The motion was seconded by Regent Bogost and approved on a voice vote.

Authority to Exchange Two Parcels of Improved Land, UW-Green Bay

Resolution 11652 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents grants authority to exchange a 5.33-acre parcel of land with improvements, owned by Board of Regents, for a 4.66-acre parcel of land with improvements, owned by University Village Housing, Incorporated, both of which are located within the campus boundary.

Authority to Construct the Kohl Center Addition and Renovation Project, UW-Madison

Resolution 11653 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes construction of the Kohl Center Addition and Renovation project for an estimated total cost of \$48,074,000 (\$33,974,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing, \$4,100,000 Program Revenue -Cash and \$10,000,000 Gifts).

Authority to Construct a Minor Facilities Renewal Project, UW System

Resolution 11654 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents grants authority to construct a minor facilities renewal project at an estimated total cost of \$3,133,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing.

Authority to Construct All Agency Maintenance and Repair Projects, UW System

Resolution 11655 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 \$5,717,500 (\$2,825,500 General Fund Supported Borrowing and \$2,892,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing).

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

Resolution 11656 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 project at an estimated total cost of \$6,037,500 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 an individual project budget, and add or substitute other high-priority Classroom Renovation/Instructional Technology projects within the authorized funding.

Finally, Regent Rai moved for the adoption of Resolution 11657. The motion was seconded by Regent Bogost and approved on a voice vote, with Regent Underly abstaining due to her dual fiduciary responsibilities for this arms-length transaction involving the Department of Public Instruction and the Board of Regents.

Revised Authorization to Transfer Land and Improvements and Construct the UW-Managed Department of Information Technology (DoIT) Digital Publishing & Printing Services Relocation and the Facilities Planning & Management Physical Plant Relocation Projects, UW-Madison

- Resolution 11657 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes:
- a. the transfer of 1.91 acres of land and improvements from the Department of Public Instruction to the Board of Regents for an estimated total cost of \$113,322.41 Program Revenue-Cash;
 - b. the completion of design, and construction of the UW-Managed DoIT Digital Publishing & Printing Services Relocation project for an estimated total cost of \$2,212,000 Grant Funds; and
 - c. the completion of design and construction of the UW-Managed Facilities Planning & Management, Physical Plant Relocation project for an estimated total cost of \$9,000,000 Grant Funds.

REPORT OF THE RESEARCH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:13:32\]](#)

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

Regent Atwell reported that the Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee heard from WiSys President Arjun Sanga and a panel of Chancellors about the impact of WiSys in the areas of undergraduate research, technology transfer, and commercialization initiatives at the regional comprehensive universities. He indicated that, due to the previous day's power outage, the committee was unable to hear from planned panels of faculty and student representatives on the same topic.

Regent Atwell noted that WiSys has maintained a high level of activity throughout the COVID pandemic and was recently recognized internationally by the University Industry Innovation Network.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:17:46\]](#)

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

Regent Weatherly reported that the Audit Committee received an update from Chief Audit Executive Lori Stortz on progress to date on the UW System's FY2021 internal audit plan, as well as a high-level summary of recently-issued reports related to change requests of bank and contact information, and the continuous purchasing cards audit.

Regent Weatherly reported that Chief Compliance Officer Katie Ignatowski presented on the proposed FY2022 compliance plan and a requested dual reporting line of the Chief Compliance Officer position to the Board's Audit Committee in addition to the System President.

Regent Weatherly said Ms. Stortz and Ms. Ignatowski also jointly presented on proposed revisions to the Audit Committee's charter and provided an update on the revamped hotline for reporting waste, fraud, and abuse. He indicated that an overview of the three lines of defense model for internal controls has been planned for the Audit Committee's next meeting in October.

Regent Weatherly moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11658, 11659, and 11660. The motion was seconded by Regent Petersen and approved on a voice vote.

Approval of University of Wisconsin System Annual Compliance Plan Fiscal Year 2022

Resolution 11658 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the University of Wisconsin System Annual Compliance Plan Fiscal Year 2022.

Approval of Chief Compliance Officer Reporting Line

Resolution 11659 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the Board of Regents, the Chief Compliance Officer shall report to the Board of Regents through the Audit Committee directly (solid line) and to the President of the System (solid line). The UW System President and the

Chair of the Audit Committee have joint responsibility for the hiring, performance evaluation and compensation of the Chief Compliance Officer.

Approval of Updated University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents Audit Committee Charter

Resolution 11660 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the updated University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents Audit Committee Charter.

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

[\[Recording: 00:20:23\]](#)

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

Regent Beightol reported that the Business & Finance Committee approved revisions to Regent Policy Document (RPD) 25-4, "Strategic Planning and Large or High Risk Projects," regarding the delegation of project approval authority and procedural provisions related to the Department of Administration's master lease program for financing large IT purchases over several years.

Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee also approved an IT project for replacement of the electronic door access system on the UW-Madison campus, as well as a 10-year Software-as-a-Service agreement between the UW System and WorkDay, Inc. for cloud-based enterprise resource planning software related to the Administrative Transformation Program (ATP).

Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee also received a semi-annual status report on 14 pending large/vital information technology projects. He noted that the majority of projects are either on track or experiencing minor delays for which management is seeking resolution.

Regarding the ATP pre-planning project, which was extended by one month in order to complete contract negotiations with WorkDay, Inc., Regent Beightol noted it went \$247,000 over budget and reduced its scope due to a failed RFP to select a systems integrator. He indicated that upon approval of the contract with WorkDay, the pre-planning project will formally close and the budget of the full ATP implementation project will be reduced by

\$247,000 to account for the initial overrun. He added that a new RFP for a system integrator is currently underway and will be completed as part of the ATP implementation.

Regent Beightol reported that the Business & Finance Committee also approved several bookstore and dining service contracts for various campuses, three research contracts for UW-Madison, and amendments to RPD 17-4, "Equal Employment Opportunities," to bring the policy into compliance with federal law, as well as rescinding related RPDs 17-2 and 17-8 which are now obsolete.

Finally, Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee received an overview of the history of and upcoming enhancements to the TSA 403b supplemental retirement savings program offered to UW System employees.

Regent Beightol moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11661, 11662, 11663, 11664, 11665, 11666, 11667, 11668, 11669, 11670, 11671, and 11672. The motion was seconded by Regent Peterson.

Regent Atwell and Regent Colón each indicated that they would abstain from voting on Resolution 11670 due to personal ethical conflicts related to the use of stem cells in research.

The motion to adopt Resolutions 11661, 11662, 11663, 11664, 11665, 11666, 11667, 11668, 11669, 11670, 11671, and 11672 was then approved on a voice vote.

Approval to Amend Regent Policy Document 25-4, "Strategic Planning and Large or High Risk Projects"

Resolution 11661 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the UW System Board of Regents approves the amendment of Regent Policy Document 25-4, "Strategic Planning and Large or High Risk Projects" to delineate the delegation of project approval authority for projects that do not meet the criteria of large or high-risk and to update the role of the UW System Office of Learning and Information Technology Services.

UW-Madison Electronic Access Control Project

Resolution 11662 That, upon the 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 Electronic Access Control Project to replace the Andover System with the Lenel S2 system.

UW System Software as a Service (SaaS) Agreement with Workday, Inc.

Resolution 11663 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the UW System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, and Workday, Inc. for a ten (10) year contract.

UW System Status Report on Large/Vital Information Technology Projects

Resolution 11664 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 July 8, 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-Eau Claire Bookstore and Textbook Rental Services Agreement with Follett Higher Education Group, Inc.

Resolution 11665 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire 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 System, and Follett Higher Education Group, Inc.

UW-La Crosse Dining Services Contract Extension with Compass Group USA, Inc.

Resolution 11666 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse 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 System, and Compass Group USA, Inc.

UW-River Falls Dining Services Contract Extension with Compass Group USA, Inc.

Resolution 11667 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls 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 System, and Compass Group USA, Inc.

UW-Superior Dining Services Contract Extension with Compass Group USA, Inc.

Resolution 11668 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Superior 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 System, and Compass Group USA, Inc.

UW-Madison Contractual Agreement with the National Football League

Resolution 11669 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 the National Football League.

UW-Madison Standard Research Agreement with Galilei Biosciences, Inc.

Resolution 11670 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 standard research agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and Galilei Biosciences, Inc.

UW-Madison Master Clinical Trial Agreement with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Resolution 11671 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 master clinical trial agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.

Amendment of Regent Policy Document 17-4, "Equal Employment Opportunities," and Rescission of Regent Policy Documents 17-2, "Establishment of Equal Opportunity Employment Offices," and 17-8, "Equal Opportunities in Education and Employment"

Resolution 11672 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the UW System Board of Regents amends Regent Policy Document (RPD) 17-4, "Equal Employment Opportunities," to update the policy and renames the policy "Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action in Employment." The President of the University

Wisconsin System further recommends that the Board rescind RPD 17-2, "Establishment of Equal Opportunity Employment Offices," and RPD 17-8, "Equal Opportunities in Education and Employment," because the policies are obsolete.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:38:26\]](#)

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

Regent Bogost reported that the Education Committee accepted the first reading of a proposed revised mission statement for UW-Stout, heard an end-of-year review of the activities of the UW System Office of Academic & Student Affairs, and received an update on the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin.

Indicating that the Education Committee also discussed religious holiday conflicts with the Fall 2021 semester start date on several campuses, Regent Bogost stated that the UW System will review current policy to see where it can improve related to diversity, inclusivity, and equity.

Finally, Regent Bogost reported that the Education Committee approved four new academic degree programs and an amendment to RPD 4-12, "Academic Program Planning, Review, and Approval in the UW System."

Regent Bogost moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11673, 11674, 11675, 11676, and 11677. The motion was seconded by Regent Rai and approved on a voice vote.

Approval of Bachelor of Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Bioinformatics, UW-Eau Claire

Resolution 11673 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Eau Claire and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Bioinformatics program at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Approval of Master of Science in Sport Administration, UW-Platteville

Resolution 11674 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Platteville and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the

Chancellor is authorized to implement the Master of Science in Sport Administration program at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

Approval of Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity, UW-Whitewater

Resolution 11675 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 Science in Cybersecurity program at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Approval of Master of Science in Marketing, UW-Whitewater

Resolution 11676 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 Master of Science in Marketing program at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Amendment of Regent Policy Document 4-12, "Academic Program Planning, Review, and Approval in the University of Wisconsin System"

Resolution 11677 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the UW System Board of Regents amends Regent Policy Document 4-12, "Academic Program Planning, Review, and Approval in the University of Wisconsin System," to incorporate provisions requiring institutions to review the credit requirements of degree programs that require more than 130 credit hours to complete and to identify approaches to reduce the number of students who accumulate excess credits, consistent with Board Resolution 11610.

Following the report of the Education Committee, President Manydeeds announced that the Board had received corrections to the 2021 Report on Faculty Promotions, Tenure Designations, and Other Changes of Status that was approved at the June meeting. Regent Peterson moved for the adoption of Resolution 11678, approving the corrected report. The motion was seconded by Regent Walsh and approved on a voice vote.

Corrected UW System 2021 Report on Faculty Promotions, Tenure Designations, and Other Changes of Status

Resolution 11678 That, upon the recommendation of the respective Chancellors and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents

approves the Corrected 2021 Report on Faculty Promotions, Tenure Designations, and Other Changes of Status, and rescinds Resolution 11645, adopted June 4, 2021, which approved an incorrect version of the 2021 Report on Faculty Promotions, Tenure Designations, and Other Changes of Status.

PROPOSED REGENT POLICY ON TRIBAL CONSULTATION

Welcome and Introduction of Wisconsin Native Nations Representatives

[\[Recording: 00:41:43\]](#)

President Manydeeds recognized each of the sovereign Native Nations of Wisconsin, many of which are geographically located near one of the UW System's 13 universities across 26 campuses:

- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Brothertown Indian Nation
- Forest County Potawatomi
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
- Oneida Nation
- Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Mole Lake (Sokaogon Chippewa Community) Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Saint Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
- Stockbridge – Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians

President Manydeeds and President Thompson presented traditional offerings of tobacco to welcome representatives of the Native Nations of Wisconsin who were present at the meeting, including:

- Gunnar Peters, Chairman of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
- Dr. Jeremy Rockman, Executive Compliance Officer, and Nehoma Thundercloud, Executive Director of the Education Department, on behalf of the Ho-Chunk Nation
- Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens, Vice Chairman of the Oneida Nation and President of the Haskell Indian Nations University Board of Regents

President Manydeeds also welcomed representatives of the Native Nations of Wisconsin who were in attendance virtually, including:

- Jared Blanche, Education Director for the Red Cliff Nation of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Shannon Holsey, President of the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians
- Donald Keeble and Michael LaRange, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, on behalf of the Forest County Potawatomi
- Jessica Ryan, Vice Chair of the Brothertown Indian Nation

President Manydeeds stated, "As the state's public university, the UW System has an obligation to serve each Nation to its fullest capacity." Recognizing that each Nation has its own unique needs, he said the UW System Board of Regents is committed to establishing a solid foundation for building relationships with the Native Nations of Wisconsin in order to better serve Native students and their communities.

Presentation on Proposed Regent Policy on Tribal Consultation

[\[Recording: 01:03:43\]](#)

President Manydeeds called on Dr. Sasanehsaeh Jennings, who was hired in 2018 as the UW System's first-ever Native American Student Success Coordinator and Tribal Liaison, to provide an overview of recent efforts to develop a systemwide tribal consultation policy which would serve to guide the university's work with tribal communities.

Dr. Jennings began her presentation by sharing the following land acknowledgement statement:

"The Native population in Wisconsin dates back centuries. Their presence in this state long predates Wisconsin statehood and the University of Wisconsin System. These Native Nations have fought to maintain their sovereignty and self-determination in the face of federal policies of assimilation, allotment, and termination. Present day Wisconsin is home to 12 Native Nations, each with unique identities, heritage, strengths, and needs. They are geographically located near one of the 13 four-year UW universities and/or one of the 13 branch campuses. The University of Wisconsin System Administration respects the inherent sovereignty of these Native Nations who call Wisconsin home."

Dr. Jennings discussed the purpose of a tribal consultation policy, critical steps needed to develop and implement such a policy, and the benefits of greater understanding and a more open exchange of information between the Native Nations and UW institutions.

Providing current context, Dr. Jennings reported that about 2,000 Native American students were enrolled across the UW System from 2011-2020, comprising 1.7% of Wisconsin resident enrollment. During that period, 50% of Native American students graduated within six years, compared to 68% of Wisconsin resident students. Additionally, the number of

Native American employees in the UW System decreased from around 200 in 2011 to 140 in 2020, or 0.3% of all UW System employees.

Dr. Jennings also highlighted the need for additional stakeholder and leadership conversations on how the UW System's proposed tribal consultation policy development process might unfold over the next several months, as well as next steps for building capacity at each UW institution for collaboration and consultation with the Native Nations and Tribal leaders, including educational programming, training, and additional resources.

Discussion

[\[Recording: 01:18:55\]](#)

President Manydeeds stated that the proposed policy presents a commitment by the UW System Board of Regents and a general framework for future action. He emphasized that the main goal of the consultation policy is to ensure that the university seeks the input and expertise of the Native Nations in improving the experience of Native students on the UW campuses.

Noting that some federal and state agencies and other university systems have tribal consultation policies, Regent Bogost asked Dr. Jennings to comment on how policies at universities might differ from those at government agencies. Dr. Jennings explained that the UW System's proposed policy does not prescribe a specific process for consultation, allowing for each UW institution to work with the Native Nations to determine the appropriate process for their situation.

President Halsey stated that formal tribal consultation policies are foundational to continuity and consistency in the university's relationship with the Native Nations as their elected leaders change: "No decisions about us, without us – I think that's really what consultation is about in its truest, simplest form."

President Manydeeds encouraged that Chancellors to consider how they can engage with the tribes near their campuses and across the state to recruit, retain, and graduate Native American students: "This issue requires more attention than it has ever received in the past."

Regent Walsh asked the Native Nations representatives for their insights as to why some Native American students do not finish their educations and how the UW System can re-connect with them.

Mr. Blanche described some of the challenges Native American students face, including the transition from majority-Native K-12 schools to majority-white universities, being needed at home to help out their families, accumulating debt, and mental health issues and stress.

He shared stories of teachers singling out Native students or other students of color to participate in class discussions about history or culture.

Mr. Blanche noted that Native American student organizations and programs that match Native elders or mentors are helpful in answering students' questions and helping them through the transition from reservation to campus.

Ms. Thundercloud said mental health issues are a challenge for many Native students, adding that some counselors provided by schools are not sensitive to cultural issues. She said Native students are required to self-advocate, and may feel burdened with educating their peers, professors, and university leaders about various issues.

Chairman Peters said he would like to see an expansion of programs like PEOPLE (Precollege Enrichment Opportunity Program for Learning Excellence) at UW-Madison, which provided students with an opportunity to spend time on campus in the summer and offered scholarships for students to attend their school of choice within the UW System. He also emphasized the need for more programs on campus to help retain Native American students.

Vice Chairman Yellowbird-Stevens said that Native students from communal societies are often impacted by the lack of familiarity on campus and feelings of isolation and insecurity. He pointed to Arizona State University as one example of how universities can create communal areas for Native students. He added that schools should be providing basic education to other students, faculty, and staff about the sovereign Native Nations in the U.S. so that Native students do not feel burdened with the need to educate others.

President Manydeeds noted that state statutes indicate licensed teachers should be familiar with the various Nations in Wisconsin and should take courses in Native American history, but that this is not enforced.

Regent Atwell thanked the representatives from the Native Nations for bringing greater awareness to the issue of Native students experiencing exclusion on campus.

Dr. Rockman provided some historical perspective on the Native American community's fraught relationship with educational institutions in the United States and Canada. He also shared his personal experiences with bullying and harassment as one of the few Native students attending his public elementary school in the early 1950s. Dr. Rockman stated, "This body is undertaking a crusade to counteract the negative destructive effects of institutional racism."

Acknowledging that a lot of work needs to be done to restore trust, President Manydeeds indicated that Dr. Jennings would continue to work with representatives from the Native

Nations to develop the proposed tribal consultation policy for the Board's consideration in December.

Chairman Peters delivered a statement on the proposed policy on behalf of the representatives in which he expressed appreciation for the UW System's commitment to re-evaluating protocols, procedures, and policies related to tribal consultation, and thanked Dr. Jennings for her efforts in working with every tribal Nation in Wisconsin on the proposed policy. In his testimony, Chairman Peters stated that he would like to see the policy broadened to address the recruitment and retention of Native American students, faculty, and staff, as well as the expansion of Native American academic programs, including Native languages and linguistics. He also noted the importance of UW-Extension to Native American families. Finally, he called for additional discussions and meetings between Native Nations and university leaders moving forward.

Vice Chairman Yellowbird-Stevens offered additional testimony about the disparities Native people currently experience as a specific result of federal government actions intended to displace tribal governments and peoples and seize tribal lands. He noted that approximately 700 Oneidas attended the UW System in the last decade, with just over 200 obtaining degrees, at an approximate cost of \$20.9 million to the Oneida Tribe. He offered several recommendations related to the consultation policy, including the creation of specific, timely initiatives with measurable outcomes. Finally, he encouraged the UW System to more openly acknowledge the value of indigenous knowledge and to support Native students and faculty conducting research in their own communities: "As tribes, we like to be a part of the conversation, to be developing those research agendas and not be the subjects."

President Manydeeds said the UW System will look to the Native Nations for guidance and wisdom in ongoing discussions about the tribal consultation policy.

PRESENTATION: SUPPORTING INCOMING FRESHMAN WITH SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAMS

[\[Recording: 02:22:43\]](#)

President Thompson introduced Dr. Warren Anderson, Senior Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Officer for the UW System, who highlighted recent efforts to expand access to Summer Bridge Programs, which are designed to assist incoming freshman in making a successful transition to college life.

Dr. Anderson explained that successful summer bridge programs have been shown to have significant impact on the persistence of students of color from their second to third

year and through graduation. With a student population that is growing more diverse, he said it is imperative to dedicate more resources to support their success. He noted that President Thompson has been working to identify ways to secure ongoing funding for the expanded summer bridge programs.

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RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR REGENT BECKY LEVZOW

[\[Recording: 02:34:46\]](#)

President Manydeeds invited Regent Peterson to present the Board's resolution of appreciation for Regent Levzow's service to the UW System.

Regent Peterson highlighted Regent Levzow's numerous personal and professional accomplishments, which include managing her family's dairy farm, serving on several state and international dairy industry boards and committees, serving as President of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board and as a member of her local school board, working as a diagnostic medical sonographer and clinical instructor for an ultrasonic sound technician program, and being published in two textbooks and one professional journal.

Calling Regent Levzow an "incredible servant," Regent Peterson stated, "Becky's commitment, dedication, and enthusiasm for the UW System is so evident to us all." She then read aloud the Board's resolution of appreciation, which was adopted by acclamation.

Resolution of Appreciation for Regent Emeritus Becky Levzow's Service to the University of Wisconsin System

Resolution 11679 WHEREAS, Becky Levzow has dedicated two years of exemplary service as a Regent of the University of Wisconsin System, from July 2019 through May 2021, as the President of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board; and

WHEREAS, Becky has worked to enhance the partnership of these two nationally recognized public higher education systems, both of which are critical to developing a highly skilled, 21st-century workforce for the state; and

WHEREAS, Becky served as a thoughtful member of multiple committees, including the Business and Finance Committee, the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee, and the Personnel Matters Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, Becky helped honor and reward educators across the UW System for their work supporting student success through her service on the Diversity Awards Committee; and

WHEREAS, Becky helped to select future campus leadership for the Phoenix and Falcons as a member of the chancellor search committees for UW-Green Bay and UW-River Falls; and

WHEREAS, Becky, a family dairy farmer who shares a passion for both education and agriculture, was a staunch supporter of UW-Madison's Babcock Hall renovation, observing that the Babcock project will play an important role in addressing the dairy industry's crisis; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Becky—who is also a healthcare worker—visited the UW Oshkosh nursing program's simulation lab, calling the nursing program “just amazing” and observing that she believes students are being trained for success in the workplace and to be strong contributors in their communities;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System hereby commends Becky Levzow for her service to the UW System and outstanding commitment to education in Wisconsin.

Regent Levzow thanked her husband and children for their support, as well as her fellow Regents, the Chancellors, President Thompson, and UW staff.

Regent Levzow expressed her appreciation for the UW System's efforts to support Wisconsin's dairy agriculture industry: “I applaud the hard work it took to increase the addition of 20 UW-Extension county agents, the push for funding and the completion of the UW Center for Dairy Research and the Animal Muscle Lab, the Dairy Hub Collaborative initiative, and the addition to the UW-Madison Veterinary School. This demonstrates the forward-thinking progress to a stronger agriculture sector in the state of Wisconsin that we will all benefit from.”

Recalling her own non-traditional path towards completing her bachelor's degree, Regent Levzow stated, “My passion, my mission, is education – I seek to find opportunities for all. Every campus, whether UW or Wisconsin Technical College, invigorates me to want to do more.” Describing her efforts to expand dual credit and Advanced Placement courses in her local school district, she observed that offering these classes builds students' confidence, opens their eyes to available programs, and provides them with a ladder to a successful career.

Noting the potential of partnering with local businesses to create educational pathways and overcome barriers for adult learners, Regent Lezvow said the UW and technical college systems need to continue investigating ways to make it easier, more economical, and more accessible for students to accomplish their educational goals. She concluded, "Education is a key to the success of the Wisconsin economy and our democratic society. We need to keep pushing forward with even more pathways to success for all our citizens."

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RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR REGENT EMERITUS JOHN BEHLING

[\[Recording: 01:49:27\]](#)

President Manydeeds invited Regent Petersen to present the Board's resolution of appreciation for Regent Emeritus John Behling, whose term on the Board ended in 2019 and whose recognition was delayed due to the pandemic.

Regent Petersen stated, "As Vice President and President of the Board, John focused his leadership energies on representing all of our UW campuses." In addition to his advocacy on behalf of the comprehensive campuses and his service on a number of committees, task forces, chancellor searches, and other high-profile initiatives during his years of service on the Board of Regents, Regent Petersen highlighted the significant time Regent Emeritus Behling dedicated to engaging with System President Ray Cross and senior leadership staff on the day-to-day activities of the UW System: "The Board salutes you for your service, collegiality, no-nonsense board leadership, and most importantly, your friendship."

Regent Petersen then read aloud the Board's resolution of appreciation for Regent Emeritus John Behling's service to the University of Wisconsin System, which was adopted by acclamation.

Resolution of Appreciation for Regent Emeritus John Behling's Service to the University of Wisconsin System

Resolution 11680 WHEREAS, John Robert Behling has served the citizens of Wisconsin with distinguished leadership during his seven years on the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, including two years as Board president (2017 to 2019) and two years as vice president (2015 to 2017); and

WHEREAS, John is the first Board President from the Chippewa Valley and the youngest Board President in three decades, as well as a proud graduate of UW-River Falls and the UW Law School; and

WHEREAS, John chaired the Tenure Policy Task Force charged with reviewing tenure policy and making recommendations to the Board of Regents, which adopted new and revised tenure policies based on the task force's recommendations in March 2016, balancing accountability with flexibility; and

WHEREAS, the revised tenure policies were constructed with the following three goals in mind as articulated by Regent Behling: "to reaffirm this Board's and the System's commitment to strong tenure and academic freedom; to increase our accountability to students and taxpayers of the state; and to ensure our state has comparable tenure policy that allows us to continue to be in the global education marketplace;" and

WHEREAS, John served on numerous standing committees, including Business and Finance (serving as vice chair for two years and audit liaison for one year); Capital Planning and Budget; Research, Economic Development, and Innovation; Student Discipline and Other Student Appeals (serving as chair for two years); and the Personnel Matters Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, John served on three chancellor search committees for UW-Eau Claire, UW-Stout, and the former UW Colleges and UW-Extension; and

WHEREAS, John's previous board service includes the Foundation Board of Wisconsin 4-H, an influential outreach service of Extension that reaches well over 32,000 youth throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the UW System and the Board of Regents built a stronger, more effective partnership with the legislature and the Governor during John's time leading the Board, and John worked diligently to "advocate for our campuses, govern wisely, and remain accountable to the taxpayers, citizens and students we serve;"

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that on behalf of the citizens of the state and a grateful university community, the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents highly commends John Robert Behling for his leadership and achievements as president, as vice president, and as a member of the UW System Board of Regents.

Regent Emeritus Behling thanked President and former Governor Tommy Thompson for providing some of his early professional opportunities; his wife Tabitha for her patience

and support; and Regent Drew Petersen for serving as his Vice President on the Board and helping to take on controversial issues such as the chancellor hiring process, free speech, and tenure reform. He also expressed his appreciation to Executive Director and Corporate Secretary Jess Lathrop and General Counsel Quinn Williams, both of whom he helped to hire during his term as President, as well as then-Director of State Relations Jeff Buhrandt, for their assistance and friendship.

Regent Emeritus Behling concluded, "The role of a Regent is not always easy, and your work is certainly never done. Regents, I thank you for investing in Wisconsin your time and your efforts. Regents, I thank you for investing in our students."

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REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

[\[Recording: 03:17:16\]](#)

There were no Regent communications, petitions, or memorials.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.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