

02/24/2021



BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

March 4, 2021
Via WebEx Videoconferences

Thursday, March 4, 2021

8:45 a.m.

Board of Regents
Via WebEx Videoconference

Closed Session
Via WebEx Videoconference

Webex videoconference registration information and meeting materials can be found at <https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/meetingmaterials> or may be obtained from Jess Lathrop, Executive Director, Office of the Board of Regents, 1860 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706, (608) 262-2324.

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

Board of Regents

Via WebEx Videoconference

Thursday, March 4, 2021

8:45 a.m.

1. Calling of the Roll
2. Declaration of Conflicts
3. Introduction of newly-appointed Regent John W. Miller
4. Other introductions
5. Approval of the record of the February 4-5, 2021 Meeting of the UW System Board of Regents
6. Report of the Board President
 - A. Update on the UW-River Falls chancellor search process
 - B. Capital Budget Update
7. Report of the System President
 - A. Update on COVID-19 response
8. Panel Discussion: Perspectives on Developing Innovative Approaches for Connecting Students with Career Opportunities in an Increasingly Diverse 21st Century Marketplace
9. Presentation and Discussion: University of Wisconsin System Federal Priorities for 2021
10. Review and approval of a UW-Madison contractual agreement with The Emmes Company, LLC
11. Approval of New Regent Award for University Staff Employees
12. Regent communications, petitions, and memorials
13. Closed Session – Move into closed session to:
 - A. consider strategies for crime detection and prevention as permitted under s. 19.85(1)(d), Wis. Stats.;

- B. confer with legal counsel regarding potential litigation in which it is likely to become involved regarding a contract, as permitted by s.19.85(1)(g);
- C. consider personnel evaluations of chancellors, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.

14. Adjourn

Thursday, March 4, 2021

**PANEL DISCUSSION: PERSPECTIVES ON DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE
APPROACHES FOR CONNECTING STUDENTS WITH CAREER
OPPORTUNITIES IN AN INCREASINGLY DIVERSE 21st CENTURY
MARKETPLACE**

REQUESTED ACTION

While panel discussions are not designed to lead to immediate action by the Board of Regents, today's discussion will serve to highlight issues and inform future decision-making.

SUMMARY

The UW System represents a significant talent pipeline that supplies Wisconsin's workforce needs. President Tommy Thompson has identified the UW System as a leading factor in supporting the continued success of state's economy. By strengthening the System's alignment with business and community partners, students and graduates experience more robust "real-life work" opportunities and more quickly identify career pathways with organizations seeking skilled workers, managers, and community leaders.

Across Wisconsin, regional economic development and chamber organizations play an integral role supporting workforce initiatives. These organizations lead the effort to attract and retain businesses, support local entrepreneurial and innovation-focused initiatives, and encourage the growth of young professional organizations. Wisconsin communities and regions benefit from a strong network of such organizations that serve as catalysts to improve the quality of life and strengthen business and community growth.

In-depth discussions, including today's panel of four community development and chamber leaders, provide a forum for the Board of Regents to assess important policy issues they may not otherwise have an opportunity to address. These discussions are designed to present helpful, current perspectives on topics of importance to the Board and which can help to guide strategies, directions, and actions that may be pursued later.

Presenters

- Becky Bartoszek, President/CEO, Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce
- Ashley DeMuth, Chief Executive Officer, Menomonie Chamber of Commerce
- Meghavi Patel, President, Platteville Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Jenny Trick, Executive Director, Racine County Economic Development Corporation

BACKGROUND

A strategic goal for the UW System is to become the leading higher educational enterprise in making workforce readiness a reality for all students and graduates. During the global coronavirus pandemic, cultivating these vital connections becomes increasingly challenging. UW System universities are highly active in business outreach efforts to support work experiences and job-placement programs for students and alumni. The UW System Career Services offices are widely recognized for being responsive by employers and community stakeholders who seek talent.

As part of the University of Wisconsin's efforts to more closely align its resources and programs with the needs of the state, today's conversation focuses on efforts to strengthen talent development initiatives and "Wisconsin Idea" collaborations across multiple geographies across the state.

The panel discussion, led by Regent President Drew Petersen and moderated by David Brukardt, Associate Vice President of Corporate Relations and Economic Engagement, is designed to provide a more detailed look into regional economic priorities and concerns and to highlight innovations and best practices in business-university talent development. This interactive engagement can help inform decisions related to university curriculum choices; it can also help to expand awareness of workforce readiness and pathways to career development and success.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM 2021 FEDERAL PRIORITIES

REQUESTED ACTION

Presentation and Discussion: University of Wisconsin System Federal Priorities for 2021

SUMMARY

Every year, the University of Wisconsin (UW) System's Office of Government Relations prepares a report outlining the System's agenda of federal priorities for the upcoming year. The document is compiled with input from UW System campuses and UW System Administration offices, including the Office of the President.

The identified federal priorities build on past federal relations work and the System's commitment to inspire, connect, and convene with the people, businesses, and communities of the State of Wisconsin and beyond. Federal investments in education and research are essential to higher education nationally and to the University of Wisconsin System. Federal support touches every institution in the UW System. It helps all campuses to attract and retain promising students, faculty and staff, and helps them contribute to Wisconsin's economy. The federal funds that support research on UW campuses drive innovation and growth in Wisconsin businesses and help yield well-paying jobs in the state.

As the 1st Session of the 117th Congress continues, the priorities of President Biden's Administration – ranging from additional efforts to confront and address the ongoing pandemic to infrastructure investment, immigration reform, and efforts to improve racial equity – are expected to be the immediate focus of Congressional action. The higher education agenda at the federal level may include additional efforts to reauthorize the Higher Education Act (HEA); further work to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on institutions of higher education, including the impact on students, faculty and research; and action on recommendations to simplify and make more effective the regulation of U.S. colleges and universities.

Against that backdrop, the UW System's key priorities for 2021 include:

- Additional funding and funding flexibility as institutions continue to address the impact of the ongoing pandemic;

- Funding of federal financial aid for students, including supporting efforts to find and finance a replacement for the now expired Perkins Loan Program;
- Sustained funding for research and development; and
- Support for efforts that promote the talent and diversity of our students, faculty, and staff.

Supported by a guiding principle and data, this document highlights five key priorities and areas of concern for the UW System. It is meant to serve as an introduction to the areas that will be the focus of our conversations with our federal legislators. Importantly, as other issues arise, we will work with our higher educational partners and Congressional delegation to review and respond according.

Presenters

- Jeff Buhrandt, Associate Vice President for Government Relations
- Allison Steil, Director for Federal Relations

ATTACHMENTS

- A) University of Wisconsin System 2021 Federal Priorities

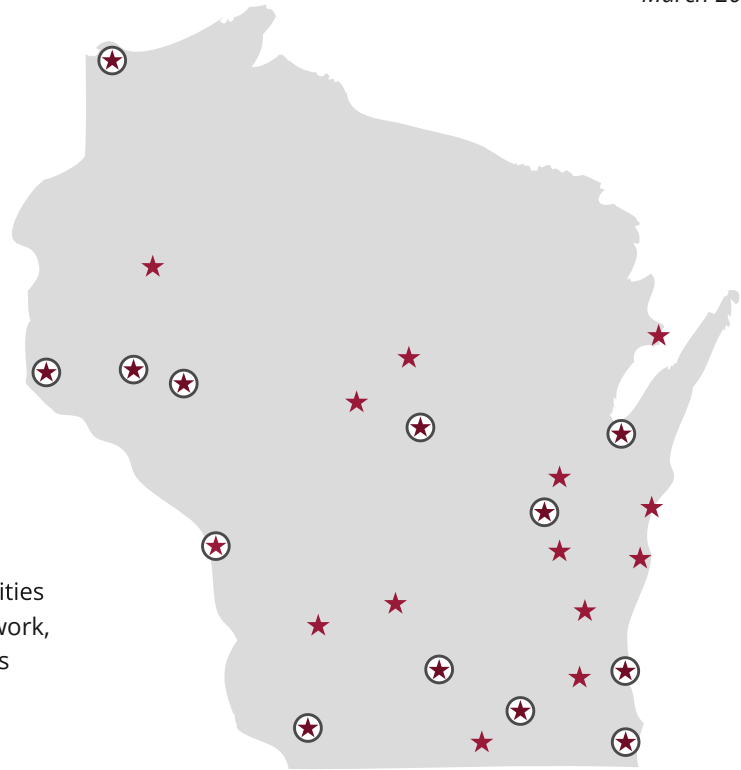


UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM 2021 FEDERAL PRIORITIES

March 2021

UW SYSTEM'S IMPACT ON WISCONSIN

The University of Wisconsin System, with 13 universities across 26 campuses and a statewide extension network, serves approximately 165,000 students and employs 39,000 faculty and staff statewide.



UW SYSTEM'S ONGOING RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Our universities remain open with students in classrooms – both in person and online. To help ensure the continued safety of our campus communities, we continue to use aggressive testing and mitigation strategies.

DATA POINTS

- The University of Wisconsin System has experienced both significant cost increases and revenue reductions associated with the pandemic.
- Through December 2020, UW institutions have incurred a total of \$466.7 million in COVID-related costs and lost revenue, including a state budget cut of \$86.1 million over FY20 and FY21 and refunds issued for housing, dining, and parking. When accounting for the funding UW Institutions received via the CARES Act, through December 2020, the net financial impact to the UW System has been a loss of \$317.7 million dollars.
- Even after accounting for the \$101.3 million in institutional funds received through the recently enacted Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), the net financial impact to the UW System is expected to be a loss of at least \$216.4 million. Importantly, however, the UW System must still quantify the financial exposure for the 2021 spring and summer semesters and the net financial loss is expected to be even greater.

ASK

We remain hopeful that with the vaccine, continued public health efforts, and a decrease in COVID-19 cases, a slow return to a pre-pandemic normal will be possible. However, even with the generous federal support to this point, the University of Wisconsin System estimates we will need an additional \$30 million in funding and further flexibility to maintain and expand our ongoing testing, contact tracing, and virus mitigation efforts across our campuses.

HEA REAUTHORIZATION: PROMOTING ACCESS AND DEGREE COMPLETION

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The University of Wisconsin System supports efforts to modernize the Higher Education Act to reflect a 21st-century model of higher education and to give more students access to an affordable, quality education.

ASK

As Congress continues efforts to reform and reauthorize the Higher Education Act, the University of Wisconsin System hopes to be a resource on matters of higher education policy, including on areas of regulatory reform, innovation, and the priorities included in this document.

FINANCIAL AID AND STUDENT INVESTMENT: WORKING TO INCREASE ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Financial aid funding is critical to our students' success as it plays an integral role in access, retention, graduation, and ultimately, employment.

DATA POINTS

- In 2019-20, over two-thirds (68 percent) of UW System undergraduates, or 97,000 students, received some form of financial aid. Undergraduate and graduate students received nearly \$1.4 billion in financial aid in 2019-20 (the most recent year for which data are available), including \$681 million in grants, \$737 million in loans, and \$13 million in work-study funding.
- In the UW System during the 2019-20 academic year, 66,000 undergraduates and 8,700 graduate students received a student loan. The Pell Grant program provided \$125 million to over 29,000 Wisconsin resident undergraduates (28 percent of resident undergraduates), with an average grant of nearly \$4,200.
- In 2019-20, Wisconsin resident undergraduates in the University of Wisconsin System faced an unmet need of \$10,178 after accounting for family contributions and state/federal need-based financial aid. Over two-thirds, or 68 percent, of Wisconsin resident baccalaureate recipients had student loan debt averaging \$29,671.
- In 2019-20, the federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) program awarded \$11.8 million in grants to over 18,000 students.

ASK

The University of Wisconsin System asks Congress to consider the following when looking at financial aid:

- Reinstating the annual inflation-based index for Pell Grant awards.
- Continuing support for federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG).
- Simplifying and consolidating the array of federal loan repayment plan programs.
- Continuing and expanding the Perkins Loan concept with a replacement program to reduce the financial aid "gap" created by the expiration of the program.
- Increasing authorization levels and access for TRIO and GEAR UP.

RESEARCH FUNDING AND AWARDS: INVESTING IN RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The University of Wisconsin System is committed to research that helps promote economic, social, and cultural development on all our campuses. To remain globally competitive, the United States needs to increase investments in research and development.

DATA POINTS

- The University of Wisconsin System is home to two Research I institutions, UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee.
- The University of Wisconsin System is a major source of research and innovation, with more than \$1 billion of sponsored research activity annually across our 13 institutions.
- See charts (page 4) with federal awards data.

ASK

The University of Wisconsin System supports institutional efforts that provide more opportunities for student participation in research, as well as expanding capacity-building initiatives and undergraduate research. Sustaining – and, where appropriate, increasing – funding for basic and applied research is also of critical importance.

FOSTERING TALENT AND DIVERSITY

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

We value programs that increase college participation and completion by students from all walks of life. We support policies that attract the brightest international students, faculty, and researchers and make them feel welcome on our campuses and in our communities.

ASK

The University of Wisconsin System supports efforts to pass comprehensive immigration reform, which includes support for students brought to the United States as young children and talented international students who want to remain in the country after graduation. Further, we ask that the Duration of Status rule change, which was authored during the last administration, not be reintroduced, and for Congress to examine the ways to improve the efficacy of visa processing and review without compromising national security interests.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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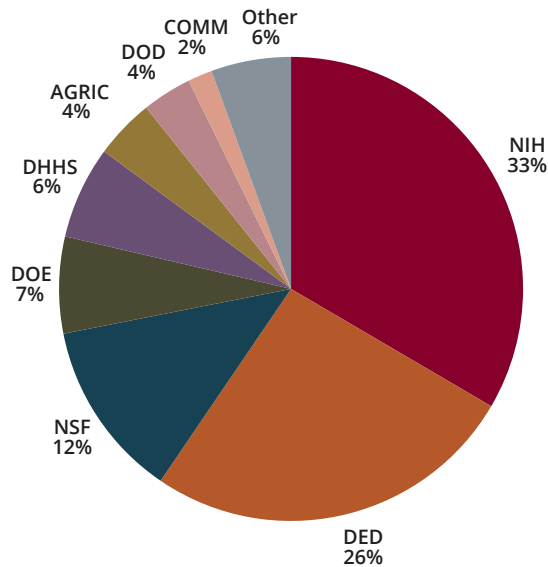
wisconsin.edu

UW SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY DASHBOARD

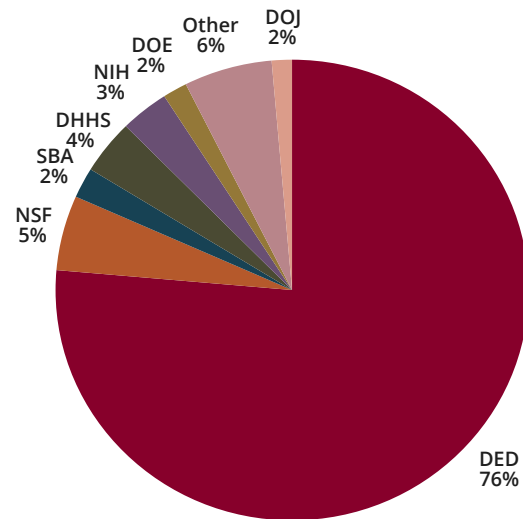
Visit wisconsin.edu/accountability for more data on UW System's performance and service to Wisconsin

UW SYSTEM FEDERAL AWARDS

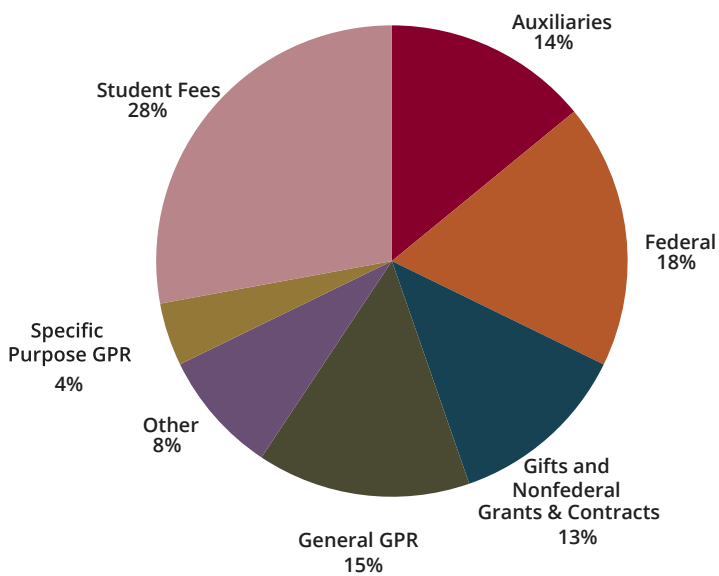
FEDERAL AWARDS : \$1,096,294,575



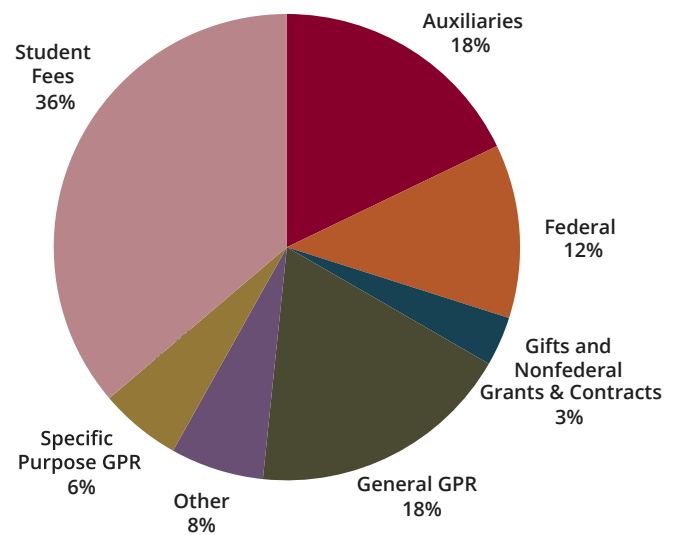
FEDERAL AWARDS (without Madison): \$297,238,864



TOTAL REVENUES: \$5,667,764,236
FEDERAL SOURCES: \$1,029,093,872



TOTAL REVENUES (without Madison): \$2,349,832,587
FEDERAL SOURCES: \$283,182,656



These four charts are from State Fiscal Year 2020 and exclude federal funding for the Direct Student Loan program.

**UW-MADISON FEE FOR SERVICE AGREEMENT
WITH THE EMMES COMPANY, LLC**

REQUESTED ACTION

Adoption of Resolution 10., approving the contractual agreement between the Board of Regents and The Emmes Company, LLC.

Resolution 10. 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 fee for service agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and The Emmes Company, LLC for the period ending March 30, 2023.

SUMMARY

The UW-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health, with assistance from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, has negotiated a fee for service agreement with The Emmes Company, LLC ("Emmes"). This agreement allows UW-Madison's Fundus Photograph Reading Center to furnish all necessary personnel, labor, facilities, equipment, materials, and supplies necessary in coordination with Emmes to ensure completion of the work and services through the end date of March 30, 2023 at an estimated value of over \$1.4 million.

Emmes is a Maryland-based leading contract research organization dedicated to helping achieve biopharmaceutical development and human health goals. Under the agreement, FPRC will conduct an artificial intelligence (AI) software validation study with Emmes' prime contractor, Verily Life Sciences (formerly a division of Google).

FPRC will evaluate images of eyes (retinal images) and provide related services to assist Google in assessing the results of this clinical trial. The contract is for the Google Prospective Clinical Validation Study Protocol. This study is evaluating the accuracy of AI software (Google Deep Mind) in detecting referable diabetic retinopathy using a handheld camera in a tele-screening environment. The accuracy will be assessed by comparing against the gold standard grading of standard images at the Fundus Photograph Reading Center. The validation study will help obtain FDA approval to use the camera and software

for population screening of diabetic retinopathy to identify patients who need ophthalmologist examination.

Over the past five years, UW-Madison has executed several clinical trial agreements and research agreements with Emmes. Google Deep Mind is at the forefront of AI software for predicting and diagnosis retinal diseases. FPRC has significant experience working with other AI companies in this field and has been specifically requested to collaborate in this project. Currently, diabetic retinopathy is a leading cause of new cases of blindness in the U.S. Supporting studies such as this will help improve screening and prevention of blindness, and will provide opportunities to further develop methods for analyzing retinal diseases and the potential treatments for those diseases. This project helps fund research and development in order to keep the FPRC at the forefront of image analysis in clinical trials of retinal disease.

Presenter:

- Laurent Heller, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administrative Affairs, UW-Madison

BACKGROUND

Regent Policy Document 13-1 requires any grant or contract with private, profit-making organizations in excess of \$1,000,000 be presented to the Board of Regents for formal approval prior to execution.

Related Policies

- Regent Policy Document 13-1, "General Contract Signature Authority, Approval, and Reporting"

Thursday, March 4, 2021

UNIVERSITY STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

REQUESTED ACTION

Approval of Resolution 11., approving the establishment of the Board of Regents University Staff Excellence Awards.

Resolution I.11. That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the Board of Regents establishes up to three University Staff Excellence Awards to be given annually.

SUMMARY

In recognition of the contributions of University Staff employees throughout the UW System, the Board of Regents is asked to consider approving an annual award designated for University Staff employees. The new award would recognize the exceptional service of University Staff employees, as well as the important role played by University Staff in supporting the UW System's mission, priorities, or programs.

Each UW institution would be asked to nominate one university staff member and one program or initiative staffed primarily by university staff employees. Recipients and nominees would be honored annually at a Board of Regents meeting.

Presenter

- Olivia Woodmansee, Regent

BACKGROUND

The UW System includes three permanent employee groups: Faculty, Academic Staff, and University Staff.

The UW System Board of Regents sponsors several award programs which honor the excellence of UW System staff and programs. The Regents Teaching Excellence Awards have recognized excellent teachers among UW System instructional staff since 1992. The Regents Academic Staff Excellence Awards have recognized non-instructional

administrative and professional Academic Staff for exceptional service to the university since 1998. A third award, the Regent Diversity Awards, recognizes individuals and programs that foster access and success for students who are members of historically underrepresented populations. Currently, no award exists to recognize excellence among University Staff employees.

The attached guidelines and selection criteria for the proposed Regents University Staff Excellence Awards are modeled after those used for the other Regent award programs.

ATTACHMENTS

- A) Regents University Staff Excellence Awards, 2021 Guidelines and Selection Criteria



University of Wisconsin System

REGENTS UNIVERSITY STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

2021 GUIDELINES AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Nomination Deadline: June 25, 2021

THE AWARD

The purpose of the newly created Regents University Staff Excellence Awards is to recognize the dedicated work, vital services, initiative, and outstanding contributions of the UW System's university staff.

Two awards of \$7,500 each will be made to university staff members in recognition of their exceptional service to the university. The funds for these awards are designated to support professional development or other activities approved by the recipients that enhance a university program or function. One award of \$7,500 will be made to a program staffed primarily by university staff in recognition of the important role played by university staff in supporting the UW System mission, priorities, or programs. The funds for the program award are designated to support program enhancements such as the staff recipients' professional development or program/-related supplies and expenses, or for other activities approved by the recipients that enhance a university program or function. A Board of Regents Awards Committee will select the recipients.

It is anticipated that award recipients will be publicly recognized at the **October 2021** meeting of the Board of Regents. In addition, all nominees will be recognized by the Board of Regents and in UW System announcements and press releases.

NOMINEE CATEGORIES

UW System universities may nominate one university staff member and one program or initiative staffed primarily by university staff for this award. We see this as an opportunity to highlight for our Regents the qualities of our outstanding staff and we strongly encourage you to submit a nomination in each category.

Individual – UW System university staff member. The nominee should provide essential services to the university while demonstrating excellence of performance, personal interaction, initiative or creativity, and outstanding achievement. The nominee must:

- Have a permanent appointment; university staff with temporary or project appointments are not eligible for consideration.
- Be employed 50 percent or more time.

- Have been a university staff employee at their institution for a minimum of twelve months.

Program – A UW System program or initiative primarily staffed university staff. The program or initiative should provide essential services to the university while demonstrating excellence of performance, initiative or creativity, and outstanding achievement.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Each nomination must provide evidence of outcomes and impacts. Nominations which fail to meaningfully address the criteria listed below will not be considered.

Individual

- *Excellence of Performance:* performance that consistently and substantially exceeds in quality the expectations for the position, including, but not limited to, taking on additional responsibilities or increased workload, accepting and completing special projects not part of the normal work duties, or exhibiting behavior that enhances the workplace. The nominees' performance has set superior standards of excellence and efficiency in relation to the mission of the departmental unit and the university and has resulted in important and significant contributions to the nominee's department and university.
- *Personal Interaction:* performance that consistently and substantially demonstrates ability and willingness to work positively and effectively with others; performance that demonstrates the ability and willingness to manage changes in work priorities, procedures, and organization.
- *Initiative or creativity:* performance that consistently and substantially demonstrates an innovative approach to the job, thereby improving productivity and the quality of the work. assigned; performance that demonstrates efforts to improve personal job performance.
- *Outstanding Achievement:* actions that by way of their day-to-day activities effected special accomplishments that have demonstrated positive benefits or support for the university and its members as well as significant contributions to the goals and objectives of their work units; performance that has resulted in distinction – campus-wide, systemwide, statewide, nationally, or internationally.

Program

- *Excellence of Performance:* performance that has set superior standards of excellence and efficiency in relation to the mission of the university and has resulted in important and significant contributions to the university.
- *Initiative or creativity:* performance that consistently and substantially demonstrates an innovative approach, thereby improving productivity and the performance of program services.
- *Outstanding Achievement:* performance that consistently and substantially has resulted in important and significant contributions to the program or initiative and that has

furthered the mission of the university; performance that has resulted in distinction – campus-wide, systemwide, statewide, nationally, or internationally.

NOMINATION MATERIALS

Individual

Nominations should not exceed 10 pages.

Nominations must include:

- A letter of nomination addressing the criteria listed above (*2-page limit*). This should highlight the contributions and the achievements of the nominee as described in the criteria, including evidence of work above and beyond the nominee's stated job responsibilities and requirements.
- A statement by the nominee on their professional contributions and service to the university that includes including evidence of work above and beyond the nominee's stated job responsibilities and requirements (*2-page limit*).
- Two letters of support from colleagues qualified to comment on the nominee's work (*2-page limit each*). Where possible, the nomination criteria should be addressed.
- A brief resume which documents the nominee's performance (*2-page limit*).

Program

Nominations should not exceed 14 pages.

Nominations must include:

- A letter of nomination addressing the three criteria listed above (*4-page limit*).
- A statement by program or initiative staff on the program's or in initiative's contributions and service to the university (*3-page limit*).
- One or two letters of support from colleagues qualified to comment on the nominated program or initiative (*2-page limit each*). Where possible, the three nomination criteria should be addressed.
- A brief overview of the program or initiative (*3-page limit*).

Nomination materials are subject to release under Wisconsin Open Records laws and should be written with the possibility of those materials being made publicly available.

SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS

UW System universities may submit one nomination per category for a maximum of two nominations per university.

Each university will determine its own nomination procedures. Nominations should be submitted to the central office designated by each respective university. Check with your university administration office for any deadlines that precede the UW System due date.

After each university identifies the nominees that they would like to forward to the Board of Regents for consideration, it submits the nomination PDFs via

<https://www.wisconsin.edu/grants-awards/regents-university-staff-excellence-awards-nominations-2021/>

Submit Nomination PDFs no later than midnight June 25, 2021.

Questions regarding the award may be directed to Sal Carranza, Senior Policy Advisor, at scarranza@uwsa.edu or 608.265.9177.