

**UW System Board of Regents
Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday April 7, 2022**

Proceedings of the Education Committee Meeting. The Education Committee convened in person from 8:46 a.m. until 10:15 a.m. Committee members in attendance were: Regents Bogost, Colón, Grebe, Underly, Tucker, Pasch, and Petersen. Regent Saffold appeared via WebEx. No Regent declared a conflict of interest regarding any of the items listed on the meeting agenda.

Agenda Item C. Proposed Consent Agenda: Given the large number of agenda items to be covered during the meeting, the Chair requested a motion to move the following routine, non-controversial items to a consent agenda. Note: Items on a consent agenda may be acted upon by the committee in a single vote. Any Board Member may remove items from a consent agenda for separate discussion and consideration. The meeting minutes must reflect the motion and vote on each item.

The meeting agenda reflected the following eight items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 10, 2022 Meeting of the Education Committee
2. UW-Madison: Approval of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Gender and Women's Studies
3. UW-Madison: Approval of a Master of Science in Data Engineering
4. UW-Madison: Approval of a Master of Science in Data Science
5. UW-Stout: Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity
6. UW-Superior: Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Business Analytics
7. Wisconsin Technical College System: Approval of a Collaborative Request for New Liberal Arts Transfer Programs for the Associate of Arts at Blackhawk Technical College; Fox Valley Technical College; Lakeshore Technical College; Mid-State Technical College; Moraine Park Technical College; Northeast Wisconsin Technical College; Waukesha County Technical College; and Western Technical College
8. Wisconsin Technical College System: Approval of a Collaborative Request for New Liberal Arts Transfer Programs for the Associate of Sciences at Blackhawk Technical College; Fox Valley Technical College; Lakeshore Technical College; Mid-State Technical College; Moraine Park Technical College; Northeast Wisconsin Technical College; and Waukesha County Technical College

All items remained on the consent agenda. Regent Bogost acknowledged the more than 20 WTCS leaders who were in attendance and thanked them for their support of items C(7) and C(8). A motion to approve item was made by Regent Petersen and seconded by Regent Colón. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item D. Host Presentation by UW-Stevens Point: One Point—Many Futures

Professor and Program Director of Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program Kathy Zalewski introduced three UW-Stevens Point students who delivered the host presentation. Colin Barker is a graduate student, pursuing an M.S. in Athletic Training. Havliah Vang is an undergraduate student pursuing a B.M. in Music Education. Graeme Gross is an undergraduate student pursuing a B.A. degree in German and International Studies.

In response to the presentation, Regent Bogost asked Mr. Barker about any changes he has seen as a mentor to other students during the pandemic. Mr. Barker responded that it has been a shift as more in-person activities and opportunities on campus have returned. Regent Grebe then asked Ms. Vang about

how she chose her path at UW-Stevens point, to which she responded that her early involvement in the Suzuki Music Center and the inspiration from faculty helped her see how music education would be right for her.

Agenda Item E. Student Needs and the Impact of COVID-19: A Panel Discussion with Senior Student Affairs Officers and Students.

Regent Tucker introduced the panel discussion, which included Sandi Scott, the Dean of Students, UW-Stout, Tammy McGuckin, Vice Provost of Student Affairs and Enrollment Services, UW-Parkside, Harry Anderson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, UW-Superior, Artanya Wesley, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, UW-Whitewater, Leah Shibilski, Student, UW-Stout, and Bridget Kauzlaric, Student, UW-Stevens Point. The panelists presented on how staff and students navigated some of the challenges presented by the pandemic, in particular the student athlete experience, student leader experience, and the behavioral and mental health of staff and students.

Regent Bogost thanked the presenters, especially the studnets, and asked what it might mean to return to “normal” following the pandemic. In response, Ms. Wesley talked about student resilience and the disparate impacts of the pandemic.

Agenda Item F. Report of the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Vice President Anny Morrobel-Sosa introduced Dr. John Achter, UW System Interim Associate Vice President for Student Success and Student Behavioral Health Coordinator, to provide an update on student telehealth services support. Dr. Achter reported that the UW System had received a \$5 million investment from Governor Evers as part of the American Recovery Plan funds, which will be used in a competitive bid process to procure telehealth services that will fill gaps in currently available on-campus services. Regent Colón asked about sustainability for the initiative beyond the initial investment. In response, Dr. Achter stated that the funding should last for 2-3 years, after which the UW would seek legislative funding. Regent Colón asked if a specific provider had been identified, and Regent Petersen asked if it was a challenge to recruit professionals. Dr. Achter responded that there will be an RFP for a provider that should identify one by September.

Vice President Morrobel-Sosa, then asked Dr. Ben Passmore, UW System Associate Vice President for Policy Analysis and Research to present preliminary data based on the ACT/SAT waiver. Dr. Passmore stated there were additional variables impacting application data given that 10 UW institutions have waived application fees, the change to the UW electronic application to make it easier to apply to multiple institutions, and the changes in student recruitment due to the pandemic. He referenced the report that was included in the Board materials and emphasized that the data was preliminary and primarily focused on UW-Madison. Dr. Passmore reported that so far the profile of students who applied has not changed significantly, the students who do submit test scores tend to be from higher income groups and less likely to be female, first-generation students, or students of color. He also stated a one-point increase in ACT score was associated with a 2% increase in freshman GPA and a 1% increase in freshman retention.

Regent Pasch noted that test data is used for some scholarships and financial aid. Regent Grebe stated his understanding is that while the initial justification presented for suspending the test requirements were due to accessibility during COVID-19, the justification at this point has changed to allow for the three-year study of its impact without the board voting to approve. Vice President Morrobel-Sosa responded that this waiver policy is also in the context of national trends, noting the California System

has gone entirely test-optional, and considering whether institutions are selective. UW-Parkside Chancellor Deborah Ford stated that the study data should also reflect campuses outside of UW-Madison, especially those like UW-Parkside with a higher proportion of first-generation college students. Regent Petersen expressed a goal for the study to consider the impact of the waiver on behavior of current high school students deciding whether to take admissions tests.

Regent Bogost then acknowledged that this was the final meeting for Regents Saffold, Petersen, and Grebe, along with Vice President Morrobel-Sosa. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.