

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

Friday, December 9, 2022  
9:00 a.m.

Gordon Dining & Event Center  
Symphony Room  
770 W. Dayton Street  
Madison, Wisconsin

-President Walsh presiding-

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The recording of this meeting's open session is available at: [December 9, 2022 Webcast](#)

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## **CALLING OF THE ROLL**

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

PRESENT: Regents Angela Adams, Amy Bogost, Héctor Colón, Mike Jones, John Miller, Cris Peterson, Ashok Rai, Jennifer Staton (virtual), Jill Underly (virtual), Dana Wachs, Karen Walsh, and Kyle Weatherly

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Robert Atwell, Scott Beightol, Edmund Manydeeds, and Brianna Tucker

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## **DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS**

Before considering any items on the open session agenda, President Walsh 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 Weatherly recused himself from voting on Resolution 11962, "Authority to Complete Design and Construct the UW Managed WisPIC Parking Lot Reconstruction, UW-Madison," to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

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## **REPORT OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND BUSINESS & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

[\[Recording: 00:01:20\]](#)

President Walsh called upon Regent Miller to present a report of the joint meeting of the Audit Committee and Business & Finance Committee.

Regent Miller reported the Audit Committee and Business & Finance Committee met jointly to receive the UW System Draft Annual Financial Report for 2022, presented by staff from the UW System Office of Financial Administration. The report noted the UW System's total net position stands at \$6.4 billion, an increase of almost \$400 million from the prior year, largely due to investments in capital assets and an increase in projected earnings in the restricted net position asset management by the Department of Employee Trust Funds.

Regent Miller noted the report also showed a \$61 million increase in endowment investments at a value of \$530 million as well as operating revenue increases in areas like auxiliary services and athletics, due to a return of more normal campus activity levels. He said the report shows the UW System continues to prioritize responsible financial stewardship. Regent Miller said the best practices developed during the pandemic and the implementation of the Strategic Plan will further drive operational innovations to address current and new challenges in support of the UW System's mission.

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## **REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

[\[Recording: 00:03:04\]](#)

President Walsh called upon Regent Miller to present a report of the Audit Committee.

Regent Miller reported the Audit Committee heard a report by Chief Audit Executive Lori Stortz of audit progress for the Fiscal Year 2023 Audit Plan. Ms. Stortz said her office was making solid progress on the plan with the number audits currently in progress and that she expects to bring a number of reports to the Audit Committee when they meet again in February 2023. Regent Miller reported Ms. Stortz then provided a high-level summary of the results of audits recently issued by the Office of Internal Audit, including the NCAA Compliance Audit for UW-Madison, the Executive Summaries for the Payroll Continuous Audit, and the Purchasing Card Continuous Audit. Ms. Stortz reported the NCAA Audit of UW-Madison was successful, and the Payroll Continuous Audit results were very good. The Purchasing Card Continuous Audit revealed some room for improvement, but Ms. Stortz said she felt the report results were solid.

Regent Miller said the UW-Madison Police Department Chief of Police, Kristen Roman, and Director of Emergency Management, Suzanne Brandt, presented an update on UW System Emergency Management. The presentation outlined upcoming steps of the program and Ms. Brandt reported steps are being taken to put in service a crisis call center to provide support across the UW System.

Regent Miller reported Brent Tilton, Director of Procurement at UW-Shared Services, provided an update on Shop UW+ Internal Controls and Hazardous Materials Management. Mr. Tilton reported that Shop UW+ had transformed the purchasing and accounts payable systems and has been proven to help the processes all across the System. Mr. Tilton said an inventory tracking tool, Chem Manager Plus, is currently in place at several campuses and full deployment is expected through 2023.

Regent Miller said Regent Weatherly requested a postmortem be held once Shop UW+ has been completed, to confirm if expectations have been met and to evaluate whether fair and equitable pricing is being provided from vendors.

Finally, Regent Miller said Paige Smith, Chief Compliance Officer, presented the annual report of Regent Policy Document 4-21, "Commitment to Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression." Ms. Smith said RPD 4-21 is presented to new students and staff, and is promoted around the campus. Regent Miller said free speech remains central to the UW System's higher education mission and the Regents thank the participants for all they are doing for the institutions and UW System.

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

[\[Recording: 00:06:38\]](#)

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

Regent Jones reported the Business & Finance Committee approved UW-Madison's proposal to adjust tuition rates for the next two academic years for certain graduate and professional degree programs, including business masters, law, doctor of medicine, health professional program, and doctor of veterinary medicine. In addition, the Business & Finance Committee also approved the School of Pharmacy's tuition model change, which will now charge a flat rate across all four program years. Regent Jones said these changes either reduce existing gaps or maintain price competitiveness with peer institutions.

Regent Jones reported that the Business & Finance Committee approved the creation of a new Nonresident Midwest Tuition Rate for both undergraduate and graduate students, beginning with the 2023-24 academic year. This action will allow UW System institutions the option of utilizing a lower tuition rate to attract nonresident students to their universities.

Regent Jones reported the Business & Finance Committee approved a UW System purchase of software and services that will allow for rapid and consistent testing of the Workday software associated with the Administrative Transformation Program. He said the five-year agreement with Kainos WorkSmart comes at a total cost of \$2.3 million.

Regent Jones said the committee approved an addition to the UW System Strategic IT Plan. He said the project will establish a system-wide identity and access management platform that simplifies access for campus users for system-level applications, streamlines the flow of identity information between the UW System and universities, and improves the campus-level identity management practices. Regent Jones said the project is estimated to cost \$5.5 million over three years.

Regent Jones reported the Business & Finance Committee approved two collective bargaining agreements between the Building and Construction Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin with UW System and UW-Madison. Both included a 4.7% increase in base wages, effective January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023.

Regent Jones reported that the Business & Finance Committee approved proposed adjustments to the salary ranges of certain senior executive positions throughout the System, effective for the biennium, beginning July 1, 2023. He said the recommendations were based on pure salary data and as a result of the analysis, the midpoint of the salary ranges increased from between zero percent to 7.7 percent. Regent Jones clarified that the adjustments impact only salary ranges, not the actual compensation provided to those in the positions.

Regent Jones said the committee received the Annual Report on Faculty Turnover, which provided a summary of faculty departures attributed to retirement, resignation, and non-renewed contracts over the previous year. He said the report showed the 296 faculty who left the UW System in Fiscal Year 2022 represent 5.4% of all faculty in the UW System, the lowest percentage of departures in the last five years. Of those departures, 55% retired, 40% resigned, and the percentage of those citing a “salary related job change” as their reason for departure increased from about 3% in FY21 to 7% in FY22.

Regent Jones said the committee received the Annual Report on Faculty and Staff Base Salary Adjustments and Additional Compensation Agreements. He said the report included high-level summary comparisons for the last five fiscal years and FY2022 data shows significant increases in the percentage of all staff receiving base salary adjustments and

one-time compensation payments. Regent Jones said this largely reflected targeted efforts by institutions to offer post-pandemic merit payments or elevated minimum pay.

Lastly, Regent Jones said the Business & Finance Committee heard from Chuck Saunders, Trust Funds Executive Director, on the quarterly investment report for the period ending September 30, 2022. Mr. Saunders reported, as of that date, UW System Trust Fund assets totaled \$525.8 million, comprised of \$485.7 million in the Long Term Fund and \$40.1 million in the Income Cash Fund. He said the Long Term Fund decreased in value by 5.9% for the quarter, while the Income Cash Fund gained 0.51% for the period.

Regent Jones moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11949, 11950, 11951, 11952, 11953, and 11954. The motion was seconded by Regent Miller and approved on a voice vote.

#### UW-Madison Graduate and Professional School Tuition Proposals

Resolution 11949     That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents approves the proposed graduate and professional school tuition increases for UW-Madison.

#### Request for Nonresident Midwest Tuition Rate

Resolution 11950     That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System and the UW System Chancellors, the UW System Board of Regents approves a new nonresident tuition rate for residents of Midwest states. UW System institutions would have the option of offering the rate for the 2023-2024 and subsequent academic years.

#### UW System Software as a Service Agreement with Kainos Worksmart, Inc.

Resolution 11951     That, upon recommendation of 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 Administration, and Kainos WorkSmart, Inc. for a 5-year term.

#### Amendment to UW System Report on Strategic Plans for Major Information Technology Projects

Resolution 11952 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the Board of Regents approves the amendment to the UW System Report on Strategic Plans for Major Information Technology Projects.

UW System Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Building and Construction Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin

Resolution 11953 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the collective bargaining agreement between the Board of Regents and the Building and Construction Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin (BTC).

UW-Madison Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Building and Construction Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin

Resolution 11954 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 collective bargaining agreement between the Board of Regents and the Building and Construction Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin (BTC).

Regent Jones moved for the adoption of Resolution 11955. The motion was seconded by Regent Bogost and approved on a roll call vote, with Regents Adams, Bogost, Colón, Jones, Miller, Peterson, Rai, Underly, Wachs, Walsh, and Weatherly all voting in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes or abstentions. Regent Staton was online during the vote, but unable to vote due to technology issues.

University of Wisconsin System Approval of Salary Ranges for Senior Executives

Resolution 11955 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents adopts the attached salary ranges for senior executives effective July 1, 2023 to continue through the 2023-25 biennium.

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**REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

[\[Recording: 00:14:22\]](#)



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

Regent Weatherly reported that the Education Committee approved two UW-Milwaukee academic degree programs and one UW-River Falls academic unit realignment.

Regent Weatherly reported the Education Committee approved appointments to the Oversight and Advisory Committee (OAC) of the Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP). The approved appointments include Sue Smith, one of four public members, and Dr. Elizabeth Felton, Dr. Amy Kind, and Dr. Richard Moss as three of four UW School of Medicine and Public Health representatives.

Regent Weatherly said that the Education Committee also heard the Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP) Annual Report from Robert N. Golden, Dean of the UW School of Medicine and Public Health. Dean Golden reported the WPP awarded 41 new grants totaling \$18.5 million to support 124 active projects and initiatives in research, education, and community partnerships.

Regent Weatherly said the Education Committee was joined by State Senator Mary Felzkowski and State Representative Dave Murphy for discussions on credit for prior learning and dual enrollment.

Regent Weatherly said the Education Committee heard a presentation on, "Credit for Prior Learning to (Re)Engage New Traditional Learners." He said the presentation took the committee through the experiences of returning adult learners and how they interact with UW institutions across their lifespan.

Regent Weatherly reported the Education committee also heard a presentation on, "Dual Enrollment: Landscape, Lessons, and Opportunities to Grow the Student Pipeline." The presentation showed participation in dual enrollment programs has grown significantly over the last decade. Regent Weatherly noted dual enrollment has bipartisan support.

Presenters from the Department of Public Instruction explained the dual enrollment program options, structure, and differences in student participation. The presentation also included information on overall data and demographics of high school students participating in dual enrollment, and how funding and other differences can impact student participation rates. Representatives from UW-Green Bay, UW Oshkosh, and UW-Superior shared their experiences with dual enrollment and offered their recommendations on how to expand access. Regent Weatherly said he was encouraged by the legislators' feedback and eagerness to help dual enrollment be successful.

Regent Weatherly said credit for prior learning and direct admissions can help the UW System meet the needs of both the next generation of Wisconsin students and, more broadly, the state of Wisconsin.

Regent Weatherly moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11956, 11957, 11958, and 11959. The motion was seconded by Regent Jones.

Regent Wachs said he was impressed with the presence of the Sen. Felzkowski and Rep. Murphy. He said it is helpful to bring legislators in so they understand more details of the process and where they can be helpful.

Resolutions 11956, 11957, 11958, and 11959 were approved on a voice vote.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Science in American Sign Language/English Interpreting UW-Milwaukee

Resolution 11956      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science in American Sign Language/English Interpreting program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Master of Science in Digital Supply Chain Management UW-Milwaukee

Resolution 11957      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Master of Science in Digital Supply Chain Management program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Academic Unit Realignment Proposal, UW-River Falls

Resolution 11958      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-River Falls and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents authorizes the University of Wisconsin-River Falls to establish the College of Education, Business, and Allied Health, the School of Education, the School of Business and Economics, and the School of Allied Health and Social Work at UW-River Falls.

Appointments to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Oversight and Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Partnership Program

Resolution 11959 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: 1) reappointment of Dr. Amy Kind, Dr. Richard Moss, and Sue Smith to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Oversight and Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Partnership Program for four-year terms effective immediately through October 31, 2026; and 2) appointment of Dr. Elizabeth Felton to fill an unexpired term on the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Oversight and Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Partnership Program effective immediately through October 31, 2024.

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

[\[Recording: 00:22:02\]](#)

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

Regent Rai reported that the Capital Planning & Budget Committee approved UW-Madison's requests for authority to: complete design and construct the UW-managed law school 4<sup>th</sup> floor renovation, complete design and demolish the UW-managed materials science engineering building 1974 and 1967 additions project, and complete design and construct the UW-managed WisPIC parking lot reconstruction project.

Regent Rai said the Capital Planning & Budget Committee approved UW System's request for authority to construct various All Agency maintenance and repair projects, at an estimated cost of \$19,090,300. The approval includes projects at UW-Green Bay, UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, UW Oshkosh, UW-Parkside, and UW-Stout.

Regent Rai said the Capital Planning & Budget Committee also approved UW System's request for authority to construct various Minor Facilities renewal projects at an estimated total cost of \$7,049,000. Projects to be constructed include UW-Superior's Sports and Activity Fields Redevelopment and UW Oshkosh's Multi-Building Historic Homes Renovations (Multicultural Center, Oviatt House, and Pollack House).

Regent Rai said the Capital Planning & Budget Committee also approved UW-Madison's request for authority to purchase a 5.92-acre parcel of land and improvements at 3500 University Avenue as well as UW-Madison's request for authority to complete design and construct the UW Managed Grainger Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floor renovations.

Regent Rai reported the Capital Planning & Budget Committee also approved UW-Madison's request for authority to increase the budget for the Computer, Data, and Information Sciences Building project by \$37,200,000, for an estimated total cost of \$267,200,000 Gift/Grant Funds.

Regent Rai reported the Capital Planning & Budget Committee approved UW-Stevens Point's request for authority to construct the Albertson Replacement Building at an estimated cost of \$90,671,000 GFSB.

Regen Rai reported the Capital Planning & Budget Committee heard from Senior Associate Vice President for Capital Planning, Alex Roe, on the Semi-Annual Status Report on Leasing Activity. Vice President Roe reported on leasing activity from June 1, 2022 through November 30, 2022. She said only one lease for new space was executed in the last six months and eleven leases were either amended, renewed, or terminated.

Regent Rai reported the Capital Planning & Budget Committee heard a status report on the UW-Managed capital projects from June 1, 2022 through December 1, 2022 by Patrick Rebholz, Design & Construction Project Delivery Director. Mr. Rebholz said the program had reached an overall value of nearly \$530 million.

Lastly, Regent Rai said Senior Associate Vice President Roe provided an update on the 2023-25 Capital Budget projects. Vice President Roe reported the Department of Administration has allowed an opportunity to update its 2023-25 Biennial Capital Budget Request to reflect recent changes in inflation and updated cost estimates since the Board of Regents approved the UW System's budget request in August 2022. Senior Associate Vice President Roe said the newly revised capital budget request total is \$2.435 billion, a change of about \$38 million downwards, due to longer project schedules pushing out bid dates.

Regent Rai moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11960, 11961, 11962, 11963, 11964, 11965, 11966, 11967, and 11968. The motion was seconded by Regent Wachs and approved on a voice vote.

To avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, Regent Weatherly abstained from voting on Resolution 11962.

Authority to Complete Design and Construct the UW Managed Law School 4th Floor Renovation, UW-Madison

Resolution 11960      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 UW Managed Law School 4th Floor Renovation project for estimated total project cost of \$1,260,000 Gift/Grant Funds.

Authority to Complete Design and Demolish the UW Managed Materials Science Engineering Building 1974 and 1967 Additions, UW-Madison

Resolution 11961      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 demolition of the UW Managed Materials Science Engineering Building 1974 And 1967 Additions project for an estimated total project cost of \$1,935,595 Gift/Grant Funds.

Authority to Complete Design and Construct the UW Managed WisPIC Parking Lot Reconstruction, UW-Madison

Resolution 11962      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 UW Managed WisPIC Parking Lot Reconstruction project for estimated total project cost of \$1,735,000 Gift/Grant Funds.

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

Resolution 11963      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 \$19,090,300 (\$3,448,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing; \$10,789,800 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing; and \$4,852,500 Cash).

Authority to Construct Minor Facilities Renewal Projects, UW System

Resolution 11964      That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents grants authority to construct various minor facilities renewal projects at an estimated total cost of \$7,049,000 (\$6,508,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing and \$541,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing).

Authority to Purchase 5.92 Acres of Land and Building, UW-Madison

Resolution 11965      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents grants authority to purchase an approximately 5.92-acre parcel of land and improvements located at 3500 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin.

Authority to Complete, Design, and Construct the UW Managed Grainger Hall 2nd and 5th Floor Renovation, UW-Madison

Resolution 11966      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 UW Managed Grainger Hall 2nd and 5th Floor Renovation project for estimated total project cost of \$10,400,000 Gift/Grant Funds.

Authority to Increase the Budget for UW Managed Computer, Data and Information Sciences Building, UW-Madison

Resolution 11967      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes an increase in the budget for the Computer, Data and Information Sciences Building project by \$37,200,000 for an estimated total cost of \$267,200,000 Gift/Grant Funds.

Authority to Construct the Albertson Hall Replacement Building, UW-Stevens Point

Resolution 11968      That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Stevens Point and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of

Regents authorizes the construction of the Albertson Hall Replacement Building project for an estimated cost of \$90,671,000 GFSB.

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## **PANEL DISCUSSION: DAIRY INNOVATION HUB RESEARCH AND PARTNERSHIPS**

[\[Recording: 00:27:18\]](#)

President Walsh provided some background information on the Dairy Innovation Hub, saying it was created in 2017 following the Dairy Summit hosted by the UW System. She said the Dairy Innovation Hub receives \$7.8 million in state funding annually and does research and development at UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, and UW-River Falls to help keep Wisconsin's \$45.6 billion dairy community at the global forefront.

President Walsh invited Heather White, a professor in the Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences at UW-Madison and faculty director of the Dairy Innovation Hub, to expand more on the work of the Dairy Innovation Hub as the moderator for the upcoming panel discussion.

Ms. White provided a few statistics on the dairy industry in Wisconsin. She said as of September 1, 2022 there are 6,275 dairy farms in Wisconsin, 157,000 jobs in the state are dairy farming or process related, 31.7 billion pounds of milk are produced from Wisconsin dairy farms annually, and the dairy industry brings \$45.6 billion in economic activity to the state of Wisconsin.

Ms. White said the key focuses of the Dairy Innovation Hub are stewarding land and water resources, enriching human health and nutrition, ensuring animal health and welfare, and growing farm businesses and communities. She said the research is both short-term, to help answer pressing questions, but also has a long-term vision which helps to attract top talent to Wisconsin. Ms. White said there have been more than 130 projects funded and 421 students involved in Dairy Innovation Hub research and infrastructure. The Dairy Innovation Hub gives students the opportunity to be involved in high impact practices relevant to their field of study.

Ms. White introduced the panelists Andy Buttles, a farmer from Stone-Front Farm in Lancaster, WI; Paul Bauer, CEO of Ellsworth Cheese Cooperative in Ellsworth, WI; Kaylee Reisgraf, a masters student in Dairy Science at UW-Madison; and Luis Peña-Lévano, a Dairy Innovation Hub funded faculty member in Agricultural Economics at UW-River Falls.

Ms. White asked Mr. Buttles about the collaboration seen across UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, and UW-River Falls. Mr. Buttles said it is very exciting and encouraging to see the collaboration that takes place. He added that each campus has their own unique abilities, and the Dairy Innovation Hub helps to bring them together.

Ms. Reisgraf, a grad student collaboratively funded by UW-Madison and UW-River Falls, spoke more about her experience and the opportunities she has been afforded being a part of the Dairy Innovation Hub. She said the collaboration between her and her six mentors has continued to grow, and she has seen the research opportunities expand for undergraduate students.

Dr. Peña-Lévano said he was able to connect with different professors who mentored and encouraged him to create project proposals. Because of the collaborations within the UW System and across the country, Dr. Peña-Lévano said he is overseeing six projects which students have had the opportunity to work on throughout their undergraduate studies and continue to work on during their graduate studies. He said that unique opportunity has made students consider and enroll in graduate school, in order to keep working on the research they were involved in while in undergraduate school.

Ms. White asked Mr. Bauer about what the pipeline of well-trained students means to his company, Ellsworth Cheese Cooperative. Mr. Bauer said they work closely with the UW-River Falls dairy coordinator to help identify students that will be a good fit for the company. He said the well-trained, knowledgeable staff has helped increase dairy product exports for Ellsworth Cheese Cooperative. Mr. Bauer emphasized the importance of the UW System investing in the dairy industry and keeping Wisconsin viable in the global dairy market.

President Walsh asked what challenges the panelists could foresee in the dairy industry in the next ten years, and how they could progress and anticipate those issues. Mr. Bauer said a key area of focus would be reducing the environmental impact of dairy farming, and that it is already a large topic in much of the research being done. Ms. Reisgraf agreed that reducing the environmental impact is very important, and said she believes there will be an economic benefit to realizing carbon neutral credits.

President Walsh asked Ms. Reisgraf what her plans were post-graduation. Ms. Reisgraf said she would like to join the industry as a dairy nutrition consultant. She said the knowledge and experience she gained as part of the Dairy Innovation Hub has provided her with a wide variety of skillsets, preparing her for getting out into the industry post-graduation.



Regent Peterson said presently, the cows in Wisconsin are producing 3-4 times more milk than they did 50 years ago. She asked about the collaboration within the industry to ensure the continued success of the Wisconsin dairy industry. Dr. Peña-Lévano said dairy farmers from other states will collaborate on projects in order to provide another perspective and additional input. Ms. White said, "Across disciplines, our industry recognizes we are a source of unbiased knowledge and students," and added that companies come to the Dairy Innovation Hub for information and to recruit students. She also noted that many federal grants have stakeholder investment requirements. Mr. Butties said in order to keep Wisconsin as a main resource for dairy innovation and production, it is important to retain the top talent in the industry.

Regent Bogost asked how the Dairy Innovation Hub can help to support and keep dairy farms flourishing. Mr. Butties said Wisconsin's rural economy is stronger than in other states and focusing research on small and middle-sized farms could be beneficial. Mr. Bauer said smaller farms can help increase the quality of the product exported.

Regent Jones asked about the economic viability of the state and how the dairy industry contributes to that. Mr. Bauer said dairy industry farms are largely family owned and operated and added that the two largest corporate dairy farms are organic. He said while some farms are corporations, this is mainly done for transfer of assets.

Regent Miller said the work being done in the Dairy Innovation Hub is necessary, but the expansion of the employment it creates by having a strong dairy industry is vital to Wisconsin's economy, especially in the more rural areas.

Mr. Bauer said the UW System bringing knowledge and information to farmers is a key asset to the growth of farms and helps them adapt to the changes within the industry.

Regent Peterson emphasized the growth of the dairy industry in Wisconsin and stressed its importance to the state.

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## **APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

[\[Recording: 01:12:16\]](#)

President Walsh said the Regents would be considering proposed changes to the Bylaws of the Board of Regents, which were discussed and approved by the Executive Committee the week prior. She said the review of the Bylaws was done collaboratively by the Office of the Board of Regents and the Office of General Counsel. President Walsh said the proposed

changes include reorganizing the document, standardizing terms, and removing duplicative language for greater clarity and conciseness, as well as adding some language to codify current practices.

President Walsh said the proposal would also raise the threshold needed to amend the Bylaws from a simple majority to a two-thirds majority, which would be consistent with the current threshold needed to approve a one-time suspension of the Bylaws. She also noted the proposal includes a new requirement that each standing committee should have a charter approved by the Board.

President Walsh also highlighted that the proposal removes the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation (REDI) Committee. She said the REDI Committee was established ten years ago with the original purpose of highlighting the role of the universities through research and economic development activities. The Executive Committee discussed alternatives for achieving that objective, including elevating those topics to the full Board to allow for all Regents to have an opportunity to hear from key stakeholders and participate in discussions.

Regent Weatherly moved for the adoption of Resolution 11969. The motion was seconded by Regent Wachs.

President Walsh noted the importance of the updates and thanked the Executive Committee for their time. She also thanked the Office of General Counsel and the Office of the Board of Regents for their help on the project. President Walsh recognized Regent Emeritus Olivia Woodmansee for the time and hard work she devoted to this effort.

Resolution 11969 was approved on a voice vote.

#### Amendments to the Bylaws of the Board of Regents

Resolution 11969	That, upon the recommendation of the President of the Board and the Executive Committee, the UW System Board of Regents approves the attached amendments to the Bylaws of the Board of Regents.
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## **REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND MEMORIALS**

[\[Recording: 01:15:00\]](#)

President Walsh extended condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Dr. Larry Schnack, on behalf of the Board of Regents and the UW System. Dr. Schnack served as the Chancellor at UW-Eau Claire from 1984 to 1998.

She quoted current UW-Eau Claire Chancellor Schmidt as noting, "UW-Eau Claire would not be the innovative, rigorous, community-focused institution it is today if not for the visionary leadership of Dr. Schnack."

Dr. Schnack was part of the UW-Eau Claire campus community for 32 years, including 19 years of teaching and administrative work before becoming chancellor. His academic area of focus was general and organic chemistry in addition to developing computer applications for chemistry. Dr. Schnack worked to strengthen ties between the university and the Eau Claire community.

President Walsh also recognized Senator Alberta Darling for her service to the state of Wisconsin following the recent announcement of her retirement. Senator Darling is an alumna of UW-Madison and former teacher, and has been a devoted champion of education in the UW System throughout her 32 years of public service. President Walsh said the Board of Regents would recognize her service more formally at an upcoming meeting.

Lastly, President Walsh thanked students seated in the audience for their civic engagement.

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The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

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Submitted by:

/s/

Megan Wasley  
Executive Director & Corporate Secretary  
Office of the Board of Regents  
University of Wisconsin System