

**UW System Board of Regents
Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday February 9, 2023**

Proceedings of the Education Committee Meeting. The Education Committee convened in person from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Committee members in attendance were: Regents Weatherly, Colón, Prince, Manydeeds, Adams, Underly, and joined online by Regents Pasch and Tucker. 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 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 seven items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of the December 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes of the Education Committee
2. UW-Green Bay: Approval of a Master of Science in Biodiversity Conservation and Management
3. UW-Madison: Approval of a Bachelor of Science-Education (B.S.E.) in Elementary Education and Special Education
4. UW-Madison: Approval of an Educational Specialist Degree (Ed.S) in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis
5. UW-Milwaukee: Approval of a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Mechanical Engineering
6. UW-Milwaukee: Approval of a Bachelor of Architecture in Architecture
7. UW-River Falls: Approval of a Master of Science in Business Analytics

All items remained on the consent agenda. A motion to approve item was made by Regent Colón and seconded by Regent Adams. The motion passed unanimously.

Item D. Recruiting and Supporting International Students

Dr. Johannes Britz , Interim Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, described how internationalization relates to the UW System strategic plan, and outcomes from a recent summit focused on international education. Dr. Ben Passmore, UW System Associate Vice President for Policy Analysis and Research, presented overall data on international student recruitment, enrollment, and retention across the UW System and in comparison to regional and national universities. Regent Weatherly then asked UW-Superior Provost Dr. Maria Cuzzo to facilitate a discussion about perspectives and experiences from international students and campus professionals.

Dr. Brad Van Den Elzen, Director of International Education, UW-Stevens Point described the campus support provided to international students. Scott Pierson, Office of International Education Director, UW-Stout along with student Sumnima Devkota, and Kari Hill, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Office of Multicultural Affairs, and International Programs Office, UW-Platteville along with students Opeyemi “Solomon” Adedeji and Ahmed Alkaf shared their experiences. Students described a meaningful support they found on campus, what they found challenging, and what they hoped to do in the future.

Regent Colón asked what lessons UW could learn from regional peers with higher international student enrollments. Vice President Britz stated some schools offer discounted tuition, and Ms. Hill stated that larger metro areas of Chicago and Minneapolis are international hubs. UW-River Falls Provost David Travis noted that recruiting international faculty often leads to international student enrollment. Dr. Passmore also noted that comparisons to other systems can be complicated as data is harder to find, and UW-Stevens Point Provost La Vonne Cornell-Swanson noted the Minnesota State System may count students differently given their two systems.

Regent Pasch noted that the two UW-Platteville students both transferred from a technical college, and Regent Weatherly asked if the transfer pathway is typical for more international students. Dr. Van Den Elzen stated this was often the case, and also for international students to first attend a U.S. high school. Mr. Adedeji stated UW-Platteville was a more affordable option for him, had a computer science program he wanted, and offered smaller classes.

Regent Weatherly noted the students’ goal to stay in the U.S., and that it would be an opportunity to advocate for immigration policy changes to allow them to do so. UW-Parkside Provost Rob Ducoffe noted he personally was an international student who stayed in the U.S.

Item E. Host Campus Presentation by UW-Madison: Adapting To Change: AI, ChatGPT And Higher Education

The host presentation was given by UW-Madison Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, John Karl Scholz; Nellie June Gray, Professor of Economic Policy; John Zumbrennen, Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning, Hadley Family Professor for Teaching and Learning Excellence, Professor of Political Science; Morton Ann Gernsbacher, Vilas Research Professor and Sir Frederic C. Bartlett Professor of Psychology; and students Hanna Noughani and Praise Osinloye. The presentation highlighted UW-Madison's adaptations to changes in technology, including increasing student interest in Computer Science and, more recently, the development of new artificial intelligence tools, including ChatGPT, that promise to disrupt discovery, creation and learning.

Item F. Report of the Direct Admissions Task Force

The co-chairs of the UW System Direct Admissions Task Force Jennifer Jones from UW-Green Bay and Corina Diaz Suazo from UW System presented recommendations from their preliminary report. They described the Task Force goals, process, and feasibility issues, along with a timeline for next steps and considerations. Regent Weatherly acknowledged the work involved in the report and stated an appreciation for the practical and tactical next steps. Interim Vice President Johannes Britz stated the next steps would include discussing recommendations with President Rothman, and that chancellors and others would have additional opportunities for feedback before implementation.

Regent Weatherly thanked all presenters and discussion participants, encouraged attendees to complete a survey about future Education Committee meeting topics, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.