

**UW System Board of Regents
Education Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 30, 2023**

Proceedings of the Education Committee Meeting. The Education Committee convened in person from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Committee members in attendance were: Regents Weatherly, Prince, Manydeeds, Adams, Underly, Pasch and Tucker. No Regent declared a conflict of interest regarding any of the items listed on the meeting agenda. Regent Weatherly also acknowledged in attendance the College of Menominee Nation's President Chris Caldwell.

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 agenda reflected the following seven items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of the February 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes of the Education Committee
2. UW-Madison: Approval of a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Chicana/o Latina/o Studies
3. UW-Madison: Approval of a Master of Science in Business: Data, Insights, and Analytics
4. UW Oshkosh: Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering
5. UW-Stevens Point: Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Conservation and Community Planning
6. UW-Stevens Point: Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Education and Interpretation

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

Item D. Host Presentation by UW-Stout: Addressing Employer Needs for Talent and the Needs of the State through the Championing of Student Success

Provost Glendalí Rodríguez and Dean of Students Sandi Scott delivered the presentation. They emphasized UW-Stout's commitment to student success, with a focus on mental health and overall student well-being, within the context of UW-Stout's polytechnic mission to provide applied learning, career-focused and collaborative education. In response to the presentation, Regent Pasch acknowledged UW-Stout for having won the Baldrige Award. Regent Prince asked about further needs to increase mental health support for students and staff. The presenters stated that using student surveys and exit surveys for employees will help in a continuous process for improving community programming and support.

Item E. Academic Program Planning in the Context of the UW System Strategic Plan

The discussion explained the current process for academic degree program planning at the: 1) UW System, led by Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Johannes Britz and Dr. Tracy Davidson, Associate Vice President, UW System Office of Academic Affairs; and 2) campus level by a provost panel facilitated by Dr. Kate Burns, UW-Green Bay. The panel included Dr. Scott Gronert, UW-Milwaukee, Dr. Glendalí Rodríguez, UW-Stout, and Dr. Maria Cuzzo, UW-Superior. The presenters discussed how campuses identify new program areas that sustain access for students to majors and careers while efficiently managing resources to align with UW System Strategic Plans goals to increase enrollment, meet workforce needs, and innovate with accountability. Provost Cuzzo described the program oversight process on her campus, and Provost Rodríguez explained how program development incorporates employer feedback and how programs evolve. UW-Parkside Provost Rob Ducoffe also provided a written statement regarding collaborative programs, and Provost Gronert explained discussions focused on potential modifications to the UW System program planning policy (Sys. 102).

In response to the panel, Regent Weatherly thanked provosts for explaining how programs evolve, and asked about other policies that could change or needed improvements. Regent Prince thanked provosts for bringing issues pro-actively to the Committee, and acknowledged a balance between Regent oversight and involvement in campus-level decisions. Regent Pasch asked how programs respond to industry needs. Regent Manydeeds asked about ways to incentivize collaboration and Regent Adams asked where student interest data comes into the planning process.

Provost Rodríguez explained challenges to collaborative programs, citing technology, and coordination of student services. She also described how student input committees and formal survey data of current students and alumni impact planning. UW-Platteville Associate Provost Carolyn Keller and UW-Whitewater Provost John Chenoweth explained how student stories are helpful to explain career pathways, and that concentrations or other sub-major programs can also meet employer needs. Provost Scholz described that soft skills and analytical thinking are important for employers across programs including in liberal arts majors. Provost Morgan noted that students have individual preferences that do not always align directly with a career, and acknowledged the work of academic advisors to help students identify a program fit.

Regent Weatherly thanked Regent Tucker for her service on the Committee in anticipation of her graduation. He also congratulated UW-Madison Provost Karl Scholz on his departure for the University of Oregon. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.