UW System Board of Regents
Education Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 4, 2025

Education Committee

The Education Committee convened at 8:45 a.m. in person and via Zoom videoconference. Committee members in attendance were Regents Prince (Chair), Adams, Adongo, Manydeeds, and Underly in person, and Regents Terwilliger and Traynor (Vice Chair) via Zoom. Regent Rogers arrived after the calling of the roll. No Regent declared a conflict of interest regarding any of the items on the meeting agenda.

Item C. Proposed Consent Agenda

Given the number of agenda items to be covered during the meeting, the Chair recommended that the committee consider the following routine, non-controversial items on 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 eight (8) items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the September 18, 2025 Meeting of the Education Committee
2. UW-Madison: Approval of Master of Science in Applied and Computational Mathematics
3. UW-Milwaukee: Approval of Doctorate of Social Work
4. UW-Stevens Point: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Sport Business
5. UW-Superior: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science
6. UW-Superior: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Sport and Recreation Management
7. UW-Whitewater: Approval of Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence
8. Approval of UW-Stout Faculty Policies and Procedures relating to Post-Tenure Review

All items remained on the consent agenda. Senior Vice President Johannes Britz provided an overview of Items C.2. to C.8. Regent Prince noted the value of this overview and highlighted the market demand and partnerships associated with the programs. A motion to approve Item C was made by Regent Adams and seconded by Regent Adongo. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Item D. Approval of the UW-Madison New College of Computing and Artificial Intelligence

Interim Provost John Zumbrunnen, joined by Vice Provost Allison La Tarte and Remzi Arpaci-Susseau, Director of the School of Computer, Data & Information Sciences, provided an overview of UW–Madison's proposal to realign three academic units within CDIS and the College of Letters & Science to form a new College of Computing and Artificial Intelligence. The proposed college would elevate visibility, leverage CDIS's rapid growth, and strengthen UW–Madison's national leadership in computing, AI research, and workforce development without affecting existing programs or accreditations.

Interim Provost Zumbrunnen emphasized that the college is intended to function as a hub, rather than a silo, supporting partnerships across industry, healthcare, K–12, and other sectors to advance AI literacy statewide and serve as a resource for disseminating AI knowledge. The new college will be supported through existing College of Letters & Science funding and anticipated philanthropic contributions.

Regent Adams asked about training opportunities for the current workforce. Interim Provost Zumbrunnen noted that workshops and related offerings will be available through the new college. Regent Prince highlighted the importance of expanding into the K-12 pipeline, and UW–Madison confirmed ongoing plans to collaborate with educators to enhance AI literacy. Regent Adongo expressed interest in receiving future updates on the college's community connections and engagement with other UW universities.

A motion to approve Item D was made by Regent Adams and seconded by Regent Adongo. The motion carried on a voice vote. Regent Prince thanked Interim Provost Zumbrunnen and his team for their presentation and work.

Item E. University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health: The Wisconsin Partnership Program Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report

The Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP) presented its annual report. In fiscal year 2025, WPP awarded 56 new grants totaling $20.4 million and supported 48 active and 32 concluding projects. As part of its 20th anniversary, WPP launched two new funding opportunities: the 20th Anniversary Postdoctoral Research Grant

Program and the Community Capacity Grant Program, which will now be offered annually due to strong interest.
The presentation highlighted selected grantee projects across WPP's pillars of community partnerships, education, and research, including initiatives to promote health in tribal communities, support youth aging out of foster care, and advance cancer treatment.

Regent Manydeeds expressed appreciation for WPP's contributions and noted the importance of celebrating its impact as well as other outstanding contributions by the Universities of Wisconsin. Regent Rogers acknowledged and appreciated WPP's support for a community grant assisting formerly incarcerated individuals with reentry and employment. Regent Underly commended the work to support youths aging out of foster care and encouraged advocacy to support the further efforts to support this demographic. Regent Prince highlighted the breadth and depth of WPP's projects and its collaborations across the state. She encouraged attendees to review the annual report and thanked the WPP team for their continued impactful work.

Item F. 2025 Program Elimination Taskforce Report

Members of the Program Elimination Taskforce, including UW-La Crosse Provost Betsy Morgan, UW-Stout's Faculty Senate Chair and Professor of Mathematics Nelu Ghenciu, and Jonah Ralston UW-Whitewater's Faculty Representative and Professor of Politics, Government, and Law, provided an overview of the efforts and recommendations made by the taskforce that looked at criteria for program suspension and elimination as well as opportunities for collaboration.

Using UW-La Crosse's French program as an illustrative example, the presentation highlighted an example of what steps a university may take to support low-enrolled programs. Strategies to support a program prior to elimination may include reducing instructional lines and exploring options such as promoting specialized certificates, offering retroactive credit opportunities, shifting to a minor-only structure, collaborating with other UW campuses for upper-division courses, and developing faculty expertise to meet broader institutional needs. The presenters also noted rationale and provided an example for why a university may permit a resource neutral, low-enrolled program to continue as is rather than suspending or eliminating it.

The taskforce also recommended adopting a new systemwide metric for identifying low-enrolled undergraduate programs: using enrollment of juniors and seniors declared for the major over a three-year rolling period rather than the current metric of degrees awarded over five years.

Additional recommendations included: 1) incorporating standardized components into all campus low-enrollment policies; 2) increasing reporting to the Board of Regents on program enrollment trends; 3) establishing more standardized academic term calendars and start dates; and 4) accelerating efforts to improve mechanisms for sharing courses and programs across UW universities.

Regent Prince thanked the group and acknowledged the level of complexity surrounding the taskforce's efforts. She also highlighted the distinctions between suspension versus elimination of programs, highlighted resource neutral offerings and resource management, and emphasized collaboration as well as the need for a shared academic calendar. Regent Manydeeds also supported a standard calendar and emphasized its importance. Updates were requested on progress toward the establishment of a standard calendar that notes those universities who support or oppose and why. Regent Underly posed the question of "What do we value?" in the context of languages and humanities offerings and noted the paradox of reduced language instruction in high schools – questioning whether it's due to lack of resources or lack of college-level training. Regent Prince closed by thanking the group for their work and emphasizing that there will be continued updates related to the implementation of the taskforce's recommendations.

Item G. UW-Whitewater Host Campus Presentation "Deepening a Culture of Collaboration to Fuel Student Success"

UW-Whitewater provided an overview of its student success initiatives, highlighting a university wide, research-informed Student Success Framework developed through extensive collaboration across academic, student affairs, university relations, and administrative units. The framework defines student success as achieving academic and co-curricular goals, building social connections, and transitioning effectively to career pathways. The presentation emphasized deepening partnerships with industry and community organizations to meet regional workforce needs. Mercyhealth was featured as a key partner, supporting clinical placements, athletics, and a new Medical Sciences Hub. The university recently launched a B.S. in Medical Science with emphases in diagnostic medical

sonography and radiologic technology, designed in alignment with Mercyhealth pathways. UW-Whitewater also outlined its collaborative work with the Wisconsin Technical College System to create a K-9 teacher licensure pathway, addressing critical statewide teacher shortages and increasing access to the university's largest licensure program.

Regent Prince celebrated their framework for student success, noting that they "have the framework correct!"

Item H. Ongoing Academic and Student Affairs Updates

Regent Prince noted that Senior VP Britz will provide a written report to share an update on Teaching Workload and Core General Education Credit Transfer. Also noted that updates will be provided to the Education Committee at each future meeting in the new year.

The Education Committee meeting was adjourned by Regent Prince at 10:18 a.m.