

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

Thursday, September 18, 2025
1:00 p.m.

Symphony Room, 2nd Floor
Gordon Dining & Event Center
770 W. Dayton Street
Madison, Wisconsin
& via Zoom Videoconference

-President Bogost presiding-

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The recording of this meeting's open session is available at: [September 18, 2025 Webcast](#)

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CALLING OF THE ROLL

[\[Recording: 00:00:35\]](#)

PRESENT: Regents Angela Adams, Amy Bogost, Noah Fritz, Haben Goitom, James Kreuser, Edmund Manydeeds, Timothy Nixon, Tom Palzewicz, Joan Prince, Ashok Rai, Sara Rogers, Jack Salzwedel, Linda Terwilliger, and Kyle Weatherly

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regents Desmond Adongo, Amy Traynor, Jill Underly, and Karen Walsh

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DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

Before considering any items on the open session agenda, President Bogost 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."

To avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, Regent Ashok Rai stated that he would recuse from voting on Resolution 12396, "Authority to Increase the Budget of the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research (WIMR) East Wedge Cyclotron and Expansion, UW-Madison."

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APPROVAL OF THE RECORD OF THE AUGUST 5, 2025 MEETING OF THE UW SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS

[\[Recording: 00:02:34\]](#)

The record of the August 5, 2025, meeting of the UW System Board of Regents was approved as distributed.

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UPDATES AND INTRODUCTIONS

[\[Recording: 00:02:47\]](#)

President Rothman welcomed Mike Carney as the interim Chancellor of UW-Eau Claire and Manohar Singh as the new Chancellor at UW-Oshkosh. He said they both began their roles on July 1, 2025.

President Rothman introduced Pratima Gandhi as the interim Chancellor of UW-Stevens Point and recognized Thomas Gibson as the new Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee. He also welcomed John Zumbrunnen as the interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UW-Madison, and Mary Hoffman as the interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UW-Eau Claire.

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RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR REGENT EMERITA CRIS PETERSON'S SERVICE ON THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS

[\[Recording: 0:08:29\]](#)

President Bogost called upon Regent Rai to read the Resolution of Appreciation for Regent Emerita Cris Peterson's service on the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, which was adopted by acclamation. Regent Emerita Peterson then shared her farewell remarks with the Board.

Resolution of Appreciation for Regent Emerita Cris Peterson's Service on the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents

Resolution 12385 WHEREAS, Christine "Cris" Peterson has served the citizens of Wisconsin with distinguished leadership during her seven years as a Regent of the Universities of Wisconsin from 2018 through 2025; and

WHEREAS, Cris served on the Research, Economic Development, and Innovation Committee for four years, including three years as vice chair, highlighting groundbreaking and outstanding work throughout the Universities of Wisconsin, which embody the Wisconsin Idea and improve the livelihood of the people of Wisconsin and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Cris served on many of the Board's standing committees, including six years on the Business & Finance Committee, three years on the Capital Planning & Budget Committee, one year on the Education Committee, and one year on the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Cris was enthusiastic in her support of the incredible faculty, staff, and campus communities throughout the UWs, serving one year on the Academic Staff Excellence Awards Committee, two years on the Diversity Awards Committee, and chairing the Teaching Excellence Awards Committee for four years; and

WHEREAS, Cris supported robust and thorough accountability mechanisms throughout her term, serving on the Committee for Student Discipline and Other Student Appeals, including one and a half years as chair, and as a member of the Special Regent Committee on Governance Issues; and

WHEREAS, Cris helped to ensure strong leadership throughout the Universities of Wisconsin, serving on Special Regent Committees for the UW-Stout Chancellor Search, UW-Stevens Point Chancellor Search, and Universities of Wisconsin Presidential Search, and chairing the committee for the UW-Platteville Chancellor Search; and

WHEREAS, Cris's leadership at Four Cubs Farm in Grantsburg earned her the prestigious title of National Dairy Woman of the Year in 2004, which alongside her service on Wisconsin's Dairy 2020 Council, the Wisconsin Dairy Business Association Board, and the International Dairy Foods Association Advisory Board, and her authorship of agriculture-minded children's books, has further accentuated Wisconsin's reputation as "America's Dairyland;"

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System hereby offers heartfelt thanks and commendation to Cris Peterson for her dedicated service to the State of Wisconsin and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

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WISCONSIN TRIBAL COLLEGES: COLLEGE OF MENOMINEE NATION AND LAC COURTE OREILLES OJIBWE UNIVERSITY

[\[Recording: 00:26:30\]](#)

President Bogost welcomed Dr. Chris Caldwell, President of the College of Menominee Nation, and Karen Breit, Interim President of the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe University, to provide the Board with an overview of their institutions and experiences working in partnership with UW universities.

President Caldwell said the focus at College of Menominee Nation is to make sure students are educated according to the Menominee way of learning, which is learning by doing, connecting classroom concepts, theory, and understanding with practical applications and experiences. He said the tribal colleges were created to help to build up their people, maintaining family and cultural connections as students pursue their academic journeys.

President Breit said the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe University's mission is to provide post-secondary education while also advancing the language, culture and history of the Ojibwe. She said the university also hopes to help students who have become separated from who they are as Ojibwe people and reconnect them with their history, language, and culture.

During discussion, Regent Manydeeds said it is important the Universities of Wisconsin learn from the tribal colleges about how the UWs can help their students succeed, graduate, and be successful for the community.

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REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

[\[Recording: 00:55:07\]](#)

Report(s) of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board

The September 2025 report of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board had been provided. There were no comments or questions.

Chancellor Search Updates

In a brief update, President Bogost said members of the UW-Stevens Point chancellor search are expected to be announced in the coming weeks, and that the UW-Eau Claire chancellor search is anticipated to be launched later in the fall of 2025.

President Bogost shared her experience participating in the “Topping Off” ceremony at UW-Eau Claire for the new Health Science Building, which is scheduled to be completed by 2027.

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REPORT OF THE SYSTEM PRESIDENT

[\[Recording: 00:57:00\]](#)

State, Federal, and Other Updates

President Rothman reported that since the 2025-27 biennial budget was signed in July as Wisconsin Act 15, the UWs have focused on developing credit transfer, teaching workload, and market pay proposals as required by statute. He said working groups have been established with UW leadership and other internal stakeholders from across all 13 UWs to develop policies that will be presented for the Board’s approval and then forwarded to the Joint Committee on Employment Relations later this year. President Rothman said the UWs also are working with legislators to expand dual enrollment opportunities for high school students.

President Rothman reported that the UWs continue to be engaged actively with Wisconsin’s Congressional delegation and national associations on the importance of funding the government and ensuring funding of the UWs’ priorities.

President Rothman said the UWs are closely following two issues: a Presidential Memorandum dealing with transparency in higher education admissions, specifically the use of race-based preferencing, and a new Department of Homeland Security rule related to “duration of status” for international students.

President Rothman reported that new freshman enrollment numbers are up 3%, almost 900 students, with eight universities showing new freshman enrollment increases of 5% or more. He noted a significant decline in international students, which contributed to overall enrollment not increasing. President Rothman added that early indications are that Direct Admit Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Tuition Promise are having a favorable impact.

Outreach Initiatives

President Rothman shared a video as part of the “Mascots on Main” initiative, which included the chancellors from UW-River Falls and UW-Superior, along with their mascots, visiting businesses in their communities.

President Rothman congratulated the UWs’ Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin for its recently announced commitment to invest more than \$4.2 million over the next two years to support water education and water research programs. The funding is part of a statewide initiative backed by the Wisconsin State Legislature and Governor Tony Evers.

President Rothman reiterated the foundational importance of the First Amendment to American democracy and the UWs. He noted that while peaceful protest is protected speech and a vital part of democratic tradition, boundaries also must be recognized, and that when expression crosses the line into vandalism, disruption, intimidation, or violence, it ceases to be protected. President Rothman said the UWs, and all universities, must be places where ideas are tested, where disagreement is welcomed, and where students learn to engage with complexity, not retreat from it.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE AUDIT, RISK, AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 01:24:20\]](#)

President Bogost called upon Regent Adams to present a report from the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee.

Regent Adams reported that the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee approved the Office of Internal Audit: Fiscal Year 2026 Audit Plan Progress Report, as well as the Results of Reports Recently Issued by utilizing a consent agenda and that there were no comments.

Regent Adams reported that the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee heard a progress report on the Student Safety and Emergency Preparedness Audit, and on the UW System Administrative Policy 625 Youth Protection Audit.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 01:25:37\]](#)

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

Regent Prince reported that the Education Committee approved UW-La Crosse's request to implement a new degree program for a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Criminology.

Regent Prince reported that the Education Committee heard an update from Johannes Britz, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, on the UWs progress towards complying with 2025 Wisconsin Act 15.

Regent Prince said the Education Committee heard from a panel on the Hessen Wisconsin Partnership Incentive Grants as part of the Hessen, Germany – Wisconsin Partnership. She said the committee also heard from a panel who introduced the UWs Fostering Success Programs, which operate on 11 UW campuses.

Regent Prince moved for the adoption of Resolution 12386. The motion was seconded by Regent Rogers and approved on a voice vote.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Criminology at University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

Resolution 12386 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Criminology program at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

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

[\[Recording: 01:29:50\]](#)

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

Regent Rai reported that the Business & Finance Committee approved a UW-Madison master clinical trial agreement Janssen Research & Development, a pharmaceutical, medical device, and healthcare company. He said the committee received the Q2 investment report and heard a presentation from Marquette Associates, the investment consultant for the Intermediate Term Fund.

Regent Rai reported that the Business & Finance Committee approved revisions to the Trust Funds Investment Policy Statement, which primarily affect provisions governing a fund managed by students in the Applied Security Analysis Program at the UW-Madison School of Business.

Regent Rai said the Business & Finance Committee received a presentation on UW Shared Services, in both administrative and IT functions, which provided an update on progress made in response to the recommendations and observations found in the Deloitte assessment of UW Administration.

Regent Rai moved for the adoption of Resolutions 12387 and 12388. The motion was seconded by Regent Kreuser and approved on a voice vote.

Approval of UW-Madison Master Agreement with Janssen Research & Development, LLC.

Resolution 12387 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 contractual agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and Janssen Research & Development, LLC.

Universities of Wisconsin Office of Trust Funds Approval of Revision to Investment Policy Statement for the ASAP Regentfund

Resolution 12388 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the revisions to the University of Wisconsin System Trust Funds Investment Policy Statement.

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

[\[Recording: 01:32:51\]](#)

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

Regent Kreuser reported that the Capital Planning & Budget Committee approved a UW-Green Bay request to lease vacant land and allow third-party construction of a cell tower; approved UW System's request to construct All Agency maintenance and repair projects at

UW-Green Bay, UW-Madison, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, and UW-Stevens Point; and approved UW System's request to construct minor facilities renewal projects at UW-Madison, UW-Parkside, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Whitewater.

Regent Kreuser reported that the Capital Planning & Budget Committee also approved a UW-La Crosse request to construct the Prairie Springs Science Center completion project, a UW-Milwaukee request to construct the Health Sciences Renovation project, a UW-Stout request to construct the Recreation Complex addition and renovation project, a UW-Stevens Point request to construct the Sentry Hall (formerly the Communication Arts Center) addition and renovation project, and a UW-Madison request to increase the budget of the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research (WIMR) East Wedge Cyclotron and expansion.

Regent Kreuser reported that the Capital Planning & Budget Committee heard a report from Senior Associate Vice President DeeJ Lundgren.

Regent Kreuser moved for the adoption of Resolutions 12389, 12390, 12391, 12392, 12393, 12394, and 12395. The motion was seconded by Regent Rai and approved on a voice vote.

Authority to Lease Vacant Land and Allow Third-Party Construction of a Cell Tower, UW-Green Bay

Resolution 12389 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System and the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes a thirty-year ground lease of 5,625 square feet of vacant land for the construction of a cellular tower on the campus of UW-Green Bay, Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin.

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

Resolution 12390 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 \$20,909,900 (\$6,839,800 Segregated Revenues; \$7,400,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing; \$6,170,100 Cash; and \$500,000 Gifts/Grants).

Authority to Construct Minor Facilities Renewal Projects, UW System

Resolution 12391 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 \$38,026,000 (\$30,691,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing;

\$6,488,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing; and \$847,000 Cash).

Authority to Construct the Prairie Springs Science Center Completion Project, UW-La Crosse

Resolution 12392 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-La Crosse and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes construction of the Prairie Springs Science Center Completion Project at an estimated total cost of \$194,466,000 (\$194,466,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing).

Authority to Construct the Health Sciences Renovation Project, UW-Milwaukee

Resolution 12393 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes construction of the Health Sciences Renovation project at an estimated total project cost of \$189,325,000 (\$181,825,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing; \$2,500,000 Cash and \$5,000,000 Segregated Revenue).

Authority to Construct the Recreation Complex Addition and Renovation Project, UW-Stout

Resolution 12394 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Stout and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes construction of the Recreation Complex Addition and Renovation project at an estimated total cost of \$31,728,000 (\$26,728,000 Program Revenue Supported Borrowing and \$5,000,000 Cash).

Authority to Construct the Sentry Hall Addition and Renovation Project, UW-Stevens Point

Resolution 12395 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 construction of the Sentry Hall Addition and Renovation project at an estimated total cost of \$98,098,000 (\$91,098,000 General Fund Supported Borrowing and \$7,000,000 Gifts).

Regent Kreuser separately moved for the adoption of Resolution 12396. The motion was seconded by Regent Fritz and approved on a voice vote, with Regent Rai abstaining to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Authority to Increase the Budget of the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research (WIMR)
East Wedge Cyclotron and Expansion, UW-Madison

Resolution 12396 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 delivery of the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research East Wedge Cyclotron and Expansion project under the UW-Managed program; and authorizes the increase in the project budget by \$13,500,000 Gift/Grant funds for an estimated total project cost of \$62,000,000 Gift/Grant Funds.

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The Board recessed from 2:39 p.m. to 2:55 p.m.

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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE 2023-2028 UNIVERSITIES OF WISCONSIN STRATEGIC PLAN

[\[Recording: 01:39:20\]](#)

President Rothman, Senior Vice President Britz, interim Vice President Gordon, interim Vice President Patton, Associate Vice President Jablonski, and Associate Vice President Passmore provided the Board with a comprehensive update on the implementation of the 2023-2028 Strategic Plan. President Rothman highlighted the tripartite mission of the UWs: to provide exceptional educational opportunities for students to address Wisconsin's workforce needs and support society more generally; to conduct world-class research; and to serve the public.

President Rothman said the plan is moving the UWs forward with respect to the goals of the tripartite mission while also positioning the UWs to address a number of challenges, including declining enrollments, demographic changes, reductions in state funding, and changing public perceptions of higher education's value. Senior Vice President Britz, Vice President Gordon, Vice President Patton, Associate Vice President Jablonski, and Associate Vice President Passmore each presented high-level status updates for select tactics assigned to their respective units.

During discussion, Regent Nixon said the impact the UWs have on their communities should be emphasized more, which would highlight the universities' value to all people of Wisconsin, not just those pursuing a degree.

Regent Rogers suggested emphasizing the value of upskilling to help support career advancement.

Regent Terwilliger asked about current branding efforts, to which President Rothman explained that they are meant to showcase the constellation of all 13 UWs and allow each university to distinguish itself in certain areas.

President Bogost asked about future plans to engage with business partners within the community.

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REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND MEMORIALS

There were no communications, petitions, or memorials.

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The Board recessed from 3:54 p.m. to 4:05 p.m.

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CLOSED SESSION

[\[Recording: 02:38:43\]](#)

President Bogost called upon Vice President Weatherly to read the motion to move into closed session. The motion was seconded by Regent Nixon and adopted on a roll call vote with Regents Adams, Bogost, Fritz, Goitom, Kreuser, Manydeeds, Nixon, Palzewicz, Prince, Rai, Rogers, Salzwedel, Terwilliger, and Weatherly voting in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes and no abstentions.

Closed Session Resolution

Resolution 12397 That the Board of Regents move into closed session to consider personnel evaluations of System President and chancellors, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.

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Regent Goitom left the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

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The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

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Submitted by:

/s/_____

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