

MINUTES OF THE RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE WORK GROUP OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

353 Friedrich Center
Thursday, March 4, 2004
10:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Regents Davis (presiding) and Connolly-Keesler, Chancellors Keating, Reilly, and Wiley, Academic Staff Representative Hank, Faculty Representatives Erdman and Wood, Student Representatives Amys and Byrne, WARF Managing Director Gulbrandsen, Professor Dombeck, Vice President Weimer, Assistant Vice President Andrews, and Executive Assistant to the UW-Extension Chancellor Sears.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. The minutes of the February 20 teleconference were approved.

In response to the March 5 memo to the UW Board of Regents from Nino Amato, President of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board, the Work Group discussed and considered the concerns expressed by the WTCS Board about the proposals to create a Center for Adult Access and UW-Stout's expansion of bachelor degree options for students. The Work Group reiterated its commitment to work in partnership with the WTCS to enhance access for underserved Wisconsin residents in order to move a larger number of students to a four-year degree.

The Work Group discussed preliminary recommendations including budget implications. The revised recommendations, along with budgets, are attached.

Research Recommendation

The Work Group recommended including the loss of faculty statistics in the preamble. The Work Group revised certain parts of the language to include separation of funding to retain top researchers and incorporating release time for faculty and summer salaries with training. With regard to the creation of a Wisconsin Research Opportunities Fund, the Work Group acknowledged the existence of the Industrial Economic Development Research Fund which provides for economic development activities. The Work Group asked that the recommendation be amended to reflect that this is a model that could be used for creating a Wisconsin Research Opportunities Fund.

Public Service Recommendation

Communication: The Work Group recommended that the first bullet be changed to read: In response to the Work Group's interviews with business leaders across the state, the University find more effective ways to inform and assist local businesses in accessing faculty and staff expertise wherever it exists. Further, the Work Group recommended that the second bullet should be incorporate that a liberal arts education is a benefit. The

word “campaign” (buzz word) in the second and third bullets should be changed to “effort.” The second to the last bullet of the communications recommendation was removed.

Community and Civic Engagement: The Work Group approved as written.

Diversity: The Work Group recognized that diversity is an important issue that transcends all areas of higher education from the perspective of students, faculty, curriculum and the business community that needs a diverse pool of workers. Therefore, the Work Group will forward a comprehensive recommendation to Chairman Gottschalk for consideration. The Work Group will also forward a diversity component as part of its public service recommendation. The recommendation should be amended to indicate that UW institutions have been compelled to reassign funds for things such as fire alarm systems to fund student financial aid due to state budget cuts.

Brain Gain and Economic Development: The Work Group approved as written.

These revisions, with budget implications, will be forwarded to Chairman Gottschalk. The Work Group will not plan to meet in April unless notified otherwise.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.