

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

B1A/B1B Lowell Center
Thursday, December 4, 2003
10:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Regent Connolly-Keesler (presiding) , Chancellors Keating, Reilly and Wiley, Regent Emeritus Lyon, Academic Staff Representative Hank, Faculty Representative Erdman, WARF Managing Director Gulbrandsen, Vice President Weimer, Assistant Vice President Andrews, and Executive Assistant to the UW-Extension Chancellor Sears.

Regent Connolly-Keesler convened the committee at 10:40 a.m. The minutes of the November 6 meeting were approved.

Chancellor Keating and Regent Connolly-Keesler reported on the Milwaukee and Superior business and community leader breakfast discussion meetings (minutes of those meetings are attached).

Vice President Weimer previewed the federal recommendations being considered by the Revenue Authority Work Group specifically related to UW System institutional cooperation and incentives to reward collaboration in seeking grants and funding. She also discussed the recommendation to create a state of Wisconsin opportunity grants fund to help with seed money for faculty and to foster interdisciplinary research, as well as to be used as matching funds at the federal level. This fund would be targeted toward needs of the state.

Carl Gulbrandsen indicated that WiSYS, a subsidiary of WARF, is partnering with SBDC on each campus and that the research there is more applied and more useful to economic development in the regions. However, there is difficulty in identifying institutional expertise and economic development needs in the community.

To create interaction among faculty, institutions, and external partners, Jackie Hank recommended establishing a one-day retreat which would include organizations such as WiSYS, Wisconsin Technology Council, and UW-Extension, all entities with a statewide reach. The purpose of this retreat would be to establish and strengthen networks.

The committee discussed preliminary recommendations incorporating the following themes: communications, liberal arts and creating a more diverse work force, and enhancing research. Staff members offered to draft preliminary recommendations and to submit them for consideration by the Work Group by December 9th.

The Work Group will meet via teleconference call on January 7 at 10:00 a.m. Connolly-Keesler adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.