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TO: Higher Learning Commission

FROM: Ray Cross, President 

DATE: January 13, 2018

RE: University of Wisconsin System Institutional Change Request

Dear Higher Learning Commission:

The University of Wisconsin System respectfully submits this change of control and structure application to integrate UW Colleges with UW four-year comprehensive and research institutions, as well as restructure UW-Extension. The University of Wisconsin System's Board of Regents approved the proposal to restructure UW Colleges and UW-Extension on November 9, 2017.

Currently, the UW System is comprised of 13 four-year universities, 13 freshman-sophomore UW Colleges, and the statewide UW-Extension, which has a presence in all 72 counties. As will be further detailed in this change request, each of the freshman-sophomore UW Colleges will become a branch campus of one of the four-year institutions.

The primary objectives of integrating UW Colleges with four-year comprehensive and research institutions include:

- Expanding access to higher education by offering more courses at the two-year campuses
- Maintaining affordability by continuing existing tuition levels post-integration for courses currently offered at the two-year institutions
- Identifying and reducing barriers to transferring credits within the UW System
- Further standardizing and regionalizing administrative operations and services to more efficiently use resources
- Leveraging resources and shared talent at our institutions to get more students into and through the educational pipeline successfully, better aligning the university to meet Wisconsin's projected workforce needs

Additionally, UW-Extension will become part of UW-Madison and UW System Administration in order to more fully recognize and develop Extension's statewide role.

Enclosed in this submission are further details of this change request including the restructure resolution and goals, UW System and institution statements, enrollment projections, pro-forma budgets, transactional documents, and expected outcomes. These documents were prepared using current planning assumptions. Please contact Dr. Carleen Vande Zande, Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Programs and Educational Information, at [cvandezande@uwsa.edu](mailto:cvandezande@uwsa.edu) or (608) 262-5089 for further clarification or details regarding the submission.

On behalf of University of Wisconsin System, I am excited to present this restructuring proposal to increase access to higher education and promote educational attainment in the state. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this change request application.