

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

Thursday, June 6, 2024
1:00 p.m.

Wisconsin Room, 2nd Floor
UW-Milwaukee Student Union
2200 E. Kenwood Boulevard
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

-President Walsh presiding-

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The recording of this meeting's open session is available at: [June 6, 2024 Webcast](#)

CALLING OF THE ROLL

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

PRESENT: Regents Angela Adams, Desmond Adongo, Amy Bogost, Evan Brenkus, Héctor Colón, Haben Goitom, James Kreuser, Edmund Manydeeds, Timothy Nixon, Cris Peterson, Joan Prince, Ashok Rai, Jack Salzwedel, Amy Traynor, Mark Tyler, Jill Underly, Karen Walsh, and Kyle Weatherly

UNABLE TO ATTEND: None

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

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

No conflicts were declared.

MINUTES AND REPORTS

[\[Recording: 00:01:29\]](#)

Approval of the records of the April 4-5, 2024 regular meeting and the April 29, 2024 and May 31, 2024 special meetings of the UW System Board of Regents

The records of the April 4-5, 2024 regular meeting and the April 29, 2024 and May 31, 2024 special meetings of the UW System Board of Regents were approved as distributed.

Report of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board

The May 2024 report of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board had been provided. There were no comments or questions.

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INTRODUCTION OF NEWLY-APPOINTED REGENTS

[\[Recording: 00:02:17\]](#)

President Walsh formally introduced newly appointed Regents Haben Goitom, Amy Traynor, Tim Nixon, Jack Salzwedel, and Desmond Adongo, each of whom shared brief remarks.

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OTHER UPDATES AND INTRODUCTIONS

President Rothman welcomed and introduced Laura Reynolds, UW-Platteville Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs; Melissa Nash, UW-Green Bay interim Vice Chancellor for Business & Finance; and Philip Hirsh, UW-Parkside Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration.

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RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR UW-LA CROSSE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION BOB HETZEL'S SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITIES OF WISCONSIN

[\[Recording: 00:12:52\]](#)

President Walsh called upon Regent Manydeeds to read the Resolution of Appreciation for UW-La Crosse Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration Bob Hetzel's Service to the Universities of Wisconsin, which was adopted by acclamation.

Resolution of Appreciation for UW-La Crosse Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration Bob Hetzel's Service to the Universities of Wisconsin

Resolution 12182 WHEREAS, Robert "Bob" Hetzel has provided exemplary service to the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse for nearly 17 years as Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance; and

WHEREAS, through careful, targeted financial planning, Bob closed an inherited operating budget deficit within one year of starting at UWL in 2007, stabilizing the budgeting process for decades to come to direct financial resources toward strategic initiatives that strengthened academic and student life programs; and

WHEREAS, Bob helped UWL establish the Growth, Quality, and Access program in 2008, which increased undergraduate enrollment and permitted the hiring of 119 faculty and 25 staff, lowering the student-to-faculty ratio and contributing to UWL's high retention and graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, Bob served as Interim Vice Chancellor for University Advancement from 2009 through 2010 and previously served in senior leadership positions at the University of Northern Colorado, where he earned his doctorate; and

WHEREAS, Bob, a native of Hartford, Wis., has soared as both a UWL Eagle and as a Warhawk, having earned his M.B.A., M.S., and B.B.A. degrees from UW-Whitewater; and

WHEREAS, Bob generously shared his expertise, teaching University Finance and Governance as well as Legal Aspects of Student Affairs at UWL, along with many courses at UW-Fond du Lac, and was recognized as a collaborative partner for strong planning and stewardship by the city of La Crosse; partners such as Mayo Clinic;

and colleagues, governance groups, and student groups within UWL and across the UW universities; and

WHEREAS, Bob's strong fiscal management and eye toward the future of UWL contributed to a successful "shovel-ready" approach to design projects, leading to multiple completed projects that include the Veterans Memorial Field Sports Complex, Centennial Hall, Eagle Hall Residence, Student Union, Prairie Springs Science Center (Phase I), Wittich Hall (College of Business), and the new fieldhouse for indoor track and field competitions and student recreation, with the notable achievement of both the men's and women's track and field teams winning the Division III NCAA title since its opening;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System hereby offers thanks and commendation to Robert Hetzel upon his retirement for his unwavering service to UW-La Crosse and the citizens of Wisconsin as a dedicated leader, educator, and mentor.

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REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

[\[Recording: 00:19:17\]](#)

Regents Business Partner Awards

President Walsh shared a video highlighting the impact of the Regents Business Partnership Awards and recognizing the past year's award recipients.

President Walsh reported that in May 2024, UW-La Crosse and the JF Brennan Company were presented with the latest Regent Business Partner Awards in recognition of their collaborations.

Universities of Wisconsin Accomplishments

President Walsh congratulated the Wisconsin Small Business Development Center network (SBDC), one of five programs at the UWs' Institute for Business & Entrepreneurship, for recently being honored with two Small Business Administration awards. She congratulated UW-Stout for being named a national Green Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. President Walsh recognized UW-Superior for their athletic accomplishments in the Division III Upper Midwest Athletic conference throughout the season.

Remarks by Outgoing President

President Rothman expressed his appreciation for the work and dedication President Walsh showed during her two years as Regent President.

President Walsh then shared some remarks as the outgoing Regent President in which she thanked her fellow Regents, President Rothman, Chancellors, Provosts, and shared governance groups for their guidance and passion during her time as Regent President.

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REPORT OF THE SYSTEM PRESIDENT

[\[Recording: 00:26:56\]](#)

Free Speech and Civil Dialogue on Campus

Addressing recent demonstrations on UW campuses as well as nationwide, President Rothman spoke about the UWs' commitment to ensuring free speech and promoting civil dialogue at UW universities.

FAFSA Update

President Rothman provided an update on the impact of the federal FAFSA implementation and acknowledged financial aid officers' commitment to helping students through the financial aid process. He then introduced a video recognizing the work of advisors and their positive impact on students.

Strategic Plan and Other Updates

President Rothman reported that recommendations for compensation increases for Chancellors would be considered at an upcoming Board meeting.

President Rothman addressed some of the current criticism of the value of higher education, noting that individuals with bachelor's degrees tend to have higher employment rates and earn significantly more in their lifetime. President Rothman highlighted the affordable value of four-year state universities.

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HOST-CAMPUS PRESENTATION BY UW-MILWAUKEE CHANCELLOR MARK MONE: "TRANSFORMING FOR TOMORROW TOGETHER"

[\[Recording: 00:49:44\]](#)

President Walsh invited Mark Mone, Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee, to present to the Board.

Chancellor Mone shared an overview of UW-Milwaukee's unique dual mission and the crucial impact of UW-Milwaukee as an urban student, research, and community focused institution. Chancellor Mone was joined by Carla Cross, President and CEO, Cross Management Services, Inc.; Michael Emem, President and CEO, Emem Group; and Jackie Fredrick, retired CEO of Versiti and BloodCenter of Wisconsin.

The Board recessed from 2:40 p.m. to 2:54 p.m.

APPROVAL OF 2024-25 UW SYSTEM ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

[\[Recording: 01:39:07\]](#)

President Rothman gave introductory remarks on the proposed UW System 2024-25 Annual Operation Budget. He noted the continued work of the UWs to eliminate structural deficits by 2028, as dictated by the strategic plan.

President Walsh then called upon Regent Rai, chair of the Business & Finance Committee, to present the committee's recommendation on the 2024-25 Annual Operating Budget brought to the committee earlier in the day.

During his report, Regent Rai noted that UW Oshkosh has exhausted their unrestricted reserve balance and is projected to have a \$7.8 million cash deficit, which will be covered by UW System and to be paid back with interest. He added that Chancellor Leavitt believed the deficit to be projected at less, due to the delayed realization of actions already taken to reduce the deficit. Regent Rai said the Business & Finance Committee will receive an update on UW Oshkosh at the next meeting.

Regent Rai moved for the adoption of Resolution 12183. The motion was seconded by Regent Bogost.

President Walsh asked Regent Rai if there were any pieces of the proposed 2024-25 Annual Operating Budget that were of concern. Regent Rai said the Business & Finance Committee would have liked to see more detail regarding expenses, particularly concerning expense benchmarks.

Resolution 12183 was approved on a voice vote, with Regent Nixon recorded as “present”.

Approval of 2024-25 UW System Annual Operating Budget

Resolution 12183 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board approves the 2024-25 operating budget, as attached in the document, “2024-25 Operating Budget, June 2024”.

OVERVIEW OF TITLE IX REQUIREMENTS AND APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY HEARING ON ADMINISTRATIVE CODE SCOPE STATEMENTS FOR CHAPTERS UWS 1, 4, 7, 11, AND 17 EMERGENCY AND PERMANENT RULES

[\[Recording: 01:53:25\]](#)

President Walsh called upon Quinn Williams, General Counsel; Paige Smith, Chief Compliance Officer; and Dany Thompson, Title IX Coordinator, to present to the Board on an overview of new Title IX requirements and approval of a notice of preliminary hearing on Administrative Code and scope statements for chapters UWS 1, 4, 7, 11, and 17 emergency and permanent rules.

Regent Adams moved for the adoption of Resolution 12184. The motion was seconded by Regent Manydeeds.

Following questions to the presenters and discussion by Regents on specific changes in the federal regulations, next steps in the rulemaking process, and staff and other resource needs to maintain compliance under the new rules, Resolution 12184 was approved on a voice vote.

Overview of Title IX Requirements and Approval of Notice of Preliminary Hearing on Administrative Code Scope Statements for Chapters UWS 1, 4, 7, 11, and 17 Emergency and Permanent Rules

Resolution 12184 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the UW System Board of Regents approves the attached Notice of Preliminary Public Hearing on the scope

statements for the revision of Chapters UWS 1, 4, 7, 11, and 17 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

CLOSED SESSION

[\[Recording: 01:32:36\]](#)

President Walsh called upon Vice President Bogost to read the motion to move into closed session. The motion was seconded by Regent Adams and adopted on a roll call vote, with Regents Adams, Adongo, Bogost, Brenkus, Colón, Goitom, Kreuser, Manydeeds, Nixon, Peterson, Prince, Rai, Salzwedel, Traynor, Tyler, Underly, Walsh, and Weatherly voting in the affirmative. There were no dissenting votes and no abstentions.

Closed Session Resolution

Resolution 12185 That the Board of Regents move into closed session to a) consider a student request for review of a UW-Madison disciplinary decision, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(a), (f), and (g), Wis. Stats.; b) consider faculty member requests for review of UW-La Crosse personnel decisions, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), (f), and (g), Wis. Stats.; and c) consider personnel evaluations of chancellors, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.

Before considering items on the closed session agenda, President Walsh 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."

No conflicts were declared.

During the closed session, Regent Bogost moved for the adoption of Resolution 12186. The motion was seconded by Regent Rai and approved on a voice vote.

Student Request for Discretionary Review of a UW-Madison Disciplinary Decision

Resolution 12186 That the Board of Regents adopts Attachment A as the Board's final Decision and Order in the matter of a student request for review of a UW-Madison disciplinary decision.

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During the closed session, Regent Manydeeds moved for the adoption of Resolution 12187. The motion was seconded by Regent Bogost and approved on a voice vote.

Faculty Request for Discretionary Review of a UW-La Crosse Personnel Decision

Resolution 12187 That the Board of Regents adopts Attachment A as the Board's final Decision and Order in the matter of a faculty member's request for review of a UW-La Crosse personnel-related decision.

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During the closed session, Regent Manydeeds moved for the adoption of Resolution 12188. The motion was seconded by Regent Rai and approved on a voice vote.

Faculty Request for Discretionary Review of a UW-La Crosse Personnel Decision

Resolution 12188 That the Board of Regents adopts Attachment B as the Board's final Decision and Order in the matter of a faculty member's request for review of a UW-La Crosse personnel-related decision.

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The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 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