

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

Thursday, February 6, 2025
1:00 p.m.

Varsity Hall II, 2nd Floor
UW-Madison Union South
1308 W. Dayton St
Madison, Wisconsin
& via Zoom Videoconference

-President Bogost presiding-

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The recording of this meeting's open session is available at: [February 6, 2025 Webcast](#)

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CALLING OF THE ROLL

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

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

UNABLE TO ATTEND: None

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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."

No conflicts were declared.

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APPROVAL OF THE RECORDS OF THE JANUARY 7, 2025, AND JANUARY 25, 2025, SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE UW SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS

[\[Recording: 00:01:39\]](#)

The records of the January 7, 2025, and January 25, 2025, special meetings of the UW System Board of Regents were approved as distributed.

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UPDATES AND INTRODUCTIONS

[\[Recording: 00:01:57\]](#)

President Rothman invited UW-Platteville Chancellor Tammy Evetovich and UW-Oshkosh Chancellor Andy Leavitt to introduce new colleagues.

Chancellor Evetovich introduced Jana Steinmetz who started at UW-Platteville as the new Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance on November 11, 2024.

Chancellor Leavitt thanked Bob Roberts for his work as Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration and introduced Corey Finkelmeyer, who became the acting Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration on February 1, 2025. He noted that Bob Roberts took on a new role as special assistant to the Chancellor.

President Bogost said the Board would recognize Regent Emeritus Bob Atwell with a resolution of appreciation at the meeting the following day.

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REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

[\[Recording: 00:06:15\]](#)

Report(s) of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board

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

Chancellor Search Updates

President Bogost reported semi-finalist candidates for the UW-Milwaukee Chancellor search had been identified by the Search & Screen Committee, and indicated that semifinalist interviews would be conducted later in February 2025. President Bogost said

the public announcement for finalists in the UW-Milwaukee Chancellor search would be announced mid-March 2025.

Regent Prince, Chair of the Special Regent Committee for the UW-Milwaukee Chancellor Search, said the committee is excited about the semi-finalists.

President Bogost reported that the UW-Oshkosh Chancellor Search & Screen Committee was currently reviewing applications to determine semifinalists. She said that semi-finalists would be interviewed in March of 2025, with an announcement of the finalist candidates to be made by early April 2025 and onsite interviews to be held at UW-Oshkosh the week of April 7, 2025.

To accommodate the many upcoming search activities, President Bogost said the April 10-11, 2025, meeting of the UW System Board of Regents would be cancelled. She said that instead there would be a virtual meeting of the Board taking place on April 15-16, 2025.

President Bogost also announced that the meeting schedule for the upcoming year would be shifting to quarterly in-person meetings, with monthly virtual meetings in between, and that more information on the updated schedule would be released at a later date.

Regents Business Partnership Awards

President Bogost reported Regent Business Partnership Awards were presented to the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce and UW-Eau Claire on January 30, 2025 and that the presentation of Regent Business Partnership Awards to American Family Insurance and UW-Madison would take place at the meeting the following day.

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REPORT OF THE SYSTEM PRESIDENT

[\[Recording: 00:11:28\]](#)

Outreach Initiatives

President Rothman reported on the UWs' recent outreach initiatives including meetings with the Madison Rotary Club, the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Hoan Group to help build support for the biennial budget request. Additionally, President Rothman said he attended a recent Milwaukee Business Journal Power Breakfast to continue advocating for investments in the UWs.

President Rothman shared a video previewing the new “Mascots on Main” initiative launching soon to showcase chancellors, joined by their UW mascot, visiting local businesses to celebrate the mutual support between universities and the business community.

State, Federal, and Other Updates

President Rothman reported Governor Evers’ budget address would take place on February 18, 2025, with the operating budget and capital budget to be introduced in the days following the request. He said the Joint Finance Committee would then begin its budget deliberations.

President Rothman reported that a newly created Assembly Committee on Government Operations, Accountability, and Transparency, to be known as the GOAT Committee, will be chaired by Representative Amanda Nedweski and is expected to review the efficiency of the Universities of Wisconsin, as well as other state operations.

President Rothman reported a Federal Updates Working Group was formed in order to facilitate timely communications and provide rapid response support and guidance for the UWs. He said the working group is coordinating unified responses on a proactive basis to matters ranging from anticipated and proposed federal legislative actions to regulatory changes and presidential executive orders and that each UW university has a liaison between the working group and their university’s leadership team.

Strategic Plan Update

President Rothman reported that the 2024 UW Innovation Grant recipients are: Steven N. Girard, UW-Whitewater; Charlotte Sortedahl of UW-Eau Claire and Dr. Min DeGruson of UW-Stout; and Anja Blecking, Anna Benko, and Alexander Arnold of UW-Milwaukee.

President Rothman highlighted the recently announced dual degree program involving UW-La Crosse and UW-Platteville, which offers students a seamless pathway to earn a Bachelor of Science in physics from UW-La Crosse and a Bachelor of Science in a number of engineering fields from UW-Platteville.

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HOST-CAMPUS PRESENTATION BY UW-MADISON CHANCELLOR JENNIFER MNOOKIN: "GROWING UW-MADISON'S FUTURE"

[\[Recording: 00:32:31\]](#)

President Bogost invited Jennifer Mnookin, Chancellor of UW-Madison, to present to the Board.

Chancellor Mnookin said UW-Madison has had a year with an enormous number of achievements that build on the University's excellence. She noted UW-Madison's jump in the National Science Foundation's HERD rankings from 8th to 6th in research expenditures. Chancellor Mnookin said the RISE initiative, announced in 2024, was encouraging collaborations among faculty who may not have worked together in the past. Additionally, she said UW-Madison has been focusing on modernizing facilities on campus.

The Board recessed from 2:07 p.m. to 2:29 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

[\[Recording: 01:06:47\]](#)

President Bogost called upon Vice President Weatherly to read the motion to move into closed session. The motion was seconded by Regent Colón and adopted on a roll call vote with Regents Adams, Adongo, Bogost, 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 12294 That the Board of Regents move into closed session to a) consider personnel evaluations of chancellors, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats.; and b) confer with legal counsel regarding potential or pending litigation (Gow v. Board of Regents of the Univ. of Wis. Sys., et al., W.D. Wis., 25-cv-59) as permitted by s. 19.85 (1)(g), Wis. Stats.

The Board recessed from 4:07 p.m. to 4:17 p.m.

Regent Rai left the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

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The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 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