

MINUTES OF MEETING  
WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD  
MARCH 24, 2015  
WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM  
4622 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53705

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**Tuesday, March 24, 2015**

Members Present: Phil Baranowski, Jonathan Barry, Stan Davis, Becky Levzow, Terrance McGowan, Drew Petersen, Susan Schaumburg, John Schwantes, S. Mark Tyler, José Vásquez, Sharon Wendt, Stephen Willett

Members Absent: Mary Cuene

System Office Staff Present: Kathleen Cullen, Morna Foy, Emily Gleason, Layla Merrifield, Jeff Minter, Willa Panzer, Dan Scanlon, Sandra Schmit, Conor Smyth, Jim Zylstra

District/Others Present: Russell Moyer, Paul Gabriel, District Boards Association; Ed Robinson, Blackhawk Technical College; Bruce Barker, Chippewa Valley Technical College; Mike Lanser, Lakeshore Technical College; Jack Daniels, Jimmy DeGidio, Mark Thomas, Madison Area Technical College; Duane Ford, Southwest Wisconsin Technical College; Bonnie Baerwald, Moraine Park Technical College; Kenneth Urban, Nicolet College; Chet Lamers, Pamela Phillips, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, John Will, Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College; Lee Rasch, Western Technical College; Joseph Dolzani, Chris Villarreal

Board President Petersen called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Emily Gleason read the open meeting statement and roll call indicated that a quorum was present.

**ITEM A: Approval of the Minutes from the January 27, 2015 Meeting**

**It was moved by Board Member Tyler, seconded by Board Member Schwantes that the January 27, 2015, Board minutes be approved. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ITEM B: Report of the Board President**

Board President Petersen reported that budget discussions have focused on the proposed outcomes-based funding cap, shared services pilot program and the tuition freeze of high-demand fields.

The Strategic Directions Working Group, comprised of board members Baranowski, Levzow and Willett, will begin work in April. Board members Baranowski, Levzow, Schaumburg and Tyler are serving on the Tuition Working Group, which held its first meeting in early March and will hold a second meeting in late March. The tuition recommendation will come before the Board at the May meeting.

Board President Petersen recognized Board Member Susan Schaumburg for her service as the student board member and presented her with a Certificate of Commendation.

### **ITEM C: Report of the System President**

President Foy reported that February was Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month. Madison College kicked off CTE Month with an event showcasing their Health Immersions Program, which offers high-quality, hands-on career exploration for high school students. As part of CTE Month, President Foy also visited Seymour and Brillion high schools with Superintendent Tony Evers and Secretary Reggie Newson.

Technical college students shared their service learning project with legislators, staff, and others at the February Student Showcase in the Capitol Rotunda. Lieutenant Governor Kleefisch joined the event, visiting with students and faculty from all 16 technical colleges.

The Wisconsin Student Government (WSG) and the Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education (WACTE) held legislative seminars in February. President Foy shared the WSG position paper noting the student opposition to a tuition freeze.

President Foy highlighted several upcoming events. Northcentral Technical College will celebrate National Ag Day on March 25 as part of the *Technical College Effect* series. Board Member Levzow and Secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Ben Brancel will be featured speakers at the event.

The International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) Conference, hosted by Gateway Technical College, is March 25-28 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee. The conference will bring in K-12 educators from throughout the U.S and 10 other nations. President Foy is the honorary chair of the event.

The annual WTCS State Ambassador Banquet will celebrate student successes from each of the technical colleges on April 15 in Madison. The Ambassador Program is supported by Robert W. Baird & Co. A representative from Baird and board members Baranowski, Levzow and Barry will be in attendance.

On May 6, as part of the *Technical College Effect* series, Fox Valley Technical College will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Public Safety Training Center in Appleton.

President Foy shared an article by Kurt Bauer, Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce (WMC) President and CEO, that highlights a 26 percent increase in manufacturing-related program enrollments since 2012.

WMC selected Universal Acoustic & Emission Technologies (Universal AET) as a 2014 Manufacturer of the Year in the Employee Development and Commitment category. President Foy congratulated Southwest Wisconsin Technical College for partnering with Universal AET through a Department of Workforce Development Fast Forward Grant to create a customized Quality and Supervisory Management training program to educate more than 50 supervisors.

President Foy shared a letter from Lieutenant Governor Kleefisch thanking the technical colleges for focusing on veteran students by hosting an inaugural Veteran Services Summit on March 5 at Fox Valley Technical College.

Board President Petersen thanked President Foy for the report and noted that events such as Ag Day and the Public Safety Training Center ribbon cutting showcase the technical colleges' influence and community engagement.

#### **ITEM D: Wisconsin Technical College District Boards Association Report**

Russ Moyer, President of the Association, announced that the spring meeting will be held at Mid-State Technical College in Stevens Point, April 17-18, 2015. Members will elect new officers and an in-service presentation by Department of Workforce Development Economist Dennis Winters will focus on jobs of the future.

Executive Director Paul Gabriel announced that he will retire from the Association effective July 1, 2015. The search for a successor is underway. Tom Eckert, Chair of the WTCS Presidents' Association and WTCS President Morna Foy are serving on the search committee.

#### **ITEM E: WTCS Presidents' Association Report**

Sue Budjac, Vice Chair of the WTCS Presidents' Association and President of Mid-State Technical College, shared the Association's recent activities. The presidents have taken a united approach on budget priorities, meeting with legislators in the districts and at the Capitol.

The Association will pursue legislation that would give the technical colleges authority to establish a sworn security force. Districts Mutual Insurance will draft the legislation including language that protects the technical colleges from liability.

#### **ITEM F: Consent Agenda**

Board President Petersen offered the consent agenda items for Board discussion.

Board Member Vásquez asked for clarification regarding the summer session tuition recommendation. President Foy stated that the Board sets tuition starting with the summer session each year, but due to budget uncertainty, she recommends maintaining the current level of tuition into the summer session.

Board Member Willett noted that the new programs being approved by the Board will serve a particular need in each district and stressed the importance of sharing this information. President Foy stated that the *Technical College Effect* series highlight the different program areas. Board Member Levzow remarked that these are good paying jobs that are in demand.

Board President Petersen called for a motion to approve the consent agenda items.

**It was moved by Board Member Baranowski, seconded by Board Member Vásquez, that the Wisconsin Technical College System Board approve the 2015 summer session tuition, program development and facilities requests as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ITEM G: FY 2015-16 General Purpose Revenue, Carl Perkins Act, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, and Indian Gaming Receipts Projects**

WTCS Associate Vice Presidents Sandy Schmit and Willa Panzer provided the Board with an overview of the competitive grant process and highlighted initiatives in each grant category. After Board approval, the technical colleges will receive notification and grant activities will begin July 1, 2015. The System Office will provide ongoing technical assistance and will continue to monitor activities throughout the year.

Board President Petersen asked for an update on the competitive grants process. Ms. Panzer responded that submission is now electronic, each technical college is provided with a targeted overview of the grant guidelines, and tri-annual reporting has been implemented. President Foy added that General Purpose Revenue is now a block grant rather than line item appropriated.

**It was moved by Board Member Schwantes, seconded by Board Member Willett that the Wisconsin Technical College System Board approves funding for the FY 2015-16 General Purpose Revenue, Carl Perkins Act, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act and Indian Gaming Receipts Projects as presented.**

**ITEM H: Financial Aid for WTCS Students**

Board President Petersen stated that Board Member Willett is a member of the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) and asked him to introduce the topic. Mr. Willett introduced HEAB Executive Secretary John Reinemann and Grant Specialist Peter Zammuto and informed board members that HEAB is the state agency that administers aid for public and private non-profit higher educational institutions, awarding \$140 million each year, the majority of which is need-based.

Mr. Reinemann and Mr. Zammuto provided board members with an overview of the 2013-14 Wisconsin State Student Financial Aid Data (WISSIS) report highlighting the breakdown of need-based and non-need-based financial assistance awarded to Wisconsin technical college students.

Mr. Reinemann reported that the new Technical Excellence Scholarship (TES) program will award \$2,200 to select high school students who demonstrate the highest level of technical achievement. Technical colleges will fund half of each award. The first scholarships will be awarded this fall.

Board President Petersen recognized Wisconsin Student Government (WSG) President Joseph Dolzani and thanked him for his service on the WTCS Budget Workgroup. Board President Petersen also recognized Chris Villarreal, a WSG representative from Mid-State Technical College.

#### **ITEM I: Futuremakers Partner – Great Lakes Higher Education**

The Board awarded its “Futuremakers Partner” award to Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation. The award recognizes the unique and dynamic partnerships between Wisconsin’s technical colleges and their partners. Great Lakes has a long-standing partnership with WTCS, providing more than \$9.4 million in grants and scholarships over the past several years to benefit technical college students throughout Wisconsin. Great Lakes President and CEO Richard D. George accepted the award and provided the Board with an overview of his organization’s philanthropy strategy.

#### **ITEM J: Legislative Update**

WTCS Executive Vice President Jim Zylstra was joined by District Boards Association Executive Director Paul Gabriel to provide the Board with an update on key legislative issues affecting the System. The primary focus is the Biennial Budget, which is expected to include a provision for the technical colleges to allow risk-sharing for health insurance plans and a provision for credit for prior learning expanded to all technical college students.

The budget also includes a shared services consolidation provision. The provision would imperil the System’s flexibility and responsiveness by limiting its ability to work with the colleges in areas such as program development and grant management.

#### **ITEM K: Announcements/Adjourn**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on May 5-6, 2015, at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay.

**It was moved by Board Member McGowan, seconded by Board Member Baranowski to adjourn the March 24, 2015, Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Gleason  
Recording Secretary