



Office of the President

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TO: The Honorable Tony Evers, Governor
Joel Brennan, Secretary, Department of Administration
Michael J. Queensland, Chief Clerk, Wisconsin State Senate
Edward A. Blazel, Chief Clerk, Wisconsin State Assembly

FROM: Tommy G. Thompson, Interim President, University of Wisconsin System

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tommy G. Thompson', written over the printed name.

DATE: October 15, 2021

RE: 2019-21 Biennial Report required under s. 15.04 Wisconsin Statutes

In accordance with Section 15.04(1)(d), Wisconsin Statutes, the University of Wisconsin System is pleased to present you with its annual accountability information to fulfill its 2019-21 Biennial Report requirement.

The UW System's legislated accountability information has been developed based upon requirements in Chapter 36.65. This information is currently delivered via the UW System Accountability Dashboard, found at <https://www.wisconsin.edu/accountability/>. This website also contains supplemental materials on accountability measures not suitable to the dashboard format. Together with the dashboard, a wealth of information is available about our academic and operational performance.

In addition to the Accountability Dashboard, the UW System has initiated several reforms that have increased our efficiency. Under my tenure, we have streamlined our payroll process. This has allowed us to gain efficiencies and cost savings. We have also revamped the purchasing process that allows us to take advantage of bulk discounts. Lastly, we have implemented a number of IT upgrades and changes that will better align us as a whole and enable us to have a clearer picture on the operations across the entire system.

We are making tremendous progress on making it easier for students to transfer between our institutions and other centers of post-secondary education. We recently signed an agreement with the Wisconsin Technical College System that will enable the transfer of up to 72 credits between the two systems. This allows students to earn their bachelor's degrees at a lower cost and in a faster timeframe.

Finally, the UW System has done everything possible to keep our students and faculty safe and our campuses open during the COVID pandemic. This has included centralizing operations, providing testing for our campuses and surrounding communities, and working with local health departments. In addition, we have cut administrative costs across system through various methods to ensure the future financial stability of our institutions. It has not been easy, but we are proud of what our communities have accomplished.

I hope that this information is useful. Please contact me with any questions or comments.