

Resolution in Recognition of Rebecca Blank

(1) Whereas, Chancellor Rebecca Blank has been a staunch advocate for the University of Wisconsin-Madison since her appointment in 2013 and is the second-longest serving Chancellor in the Big 10;

(2) Whereas, she has strived to sustain and build UW-Madison's stature as a global research university, top public university, and key driver of Wisconsin's economy, before and during the global COVID-19 pandemic;

(3) Whereas, she led the All Ways Forward campaign, raising \$4.2 billion to support UW-Madison's continuing excellence, with outcomes including more than 4,620 new student scholarships, an increase of nearly 300% in endowed funding for world class faculty and staff, and strategic investments of \$336 million to support groundbreaking research and \$367.2 million to modernize facilities;

(4) Whereas, she has committed to advancing environmental and social sustainability efforts, including UW-Madison's development of a Climate Action & Adaptation Plan, embarking on a Zero Waste initiative, achieving a silver STARS ranking, joining the Midwest Climate Collaborative as a founding member, and being designated a Fair Trade University;

(5) Whereas she strongly supported the integration of UW Cooperative Extension and Wisconsin Public Media with UW-Madison;

(6) Whereas, she championed the creation of Bucky's Tuition Promise and the Badger Promise, dramatically increasing access and student financial aid for Wisconsin students;

(7) Whereas, during her tenure, undergraduate applications and enrollment have increased significantly, with a 45% growth in enrollment of underrepresented students of color;

(8) Whereas, key measures of student success have improved during her time at the university, with UW-Madison's six-year graduation rate reaching 89%, undergraduate time-to-degree decreasing to 3.89 years, and first-year retention rates for underrepresented students and Pell grant students climbing to 95.9%;

(9) Whereas, her administration created the Discretionary Compensation Fund and the Performance Bonus Fund programs as a strategy to improve faculty and staff salaries;

(10) Whereas, she has regularly expressed her commitment to shared governance for the institution, including through annual communication encouraging participation in shared governance activities;

(11) Therefore, be it resolved that the University of Wisconsin-Madison Academic Staff Assembly recognizes and thanks Chancellor Blank for her leadership of and advocacy for the University of Wisconsin-Madison.