

# **Minutes of the joint meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin and the Board of Visitors: March 7, 1923. 1923**

Madison, Wisconsin: Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, 1923

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JOINT MEETING OF THE REGENTS AND VISITORS

(Held in the S. G. A. Room, Lathrop Hall)

Madison, Wisconsin

March 7, 1923, 1:35 p. m.

*Menu*  
*See McMahon*  
*Report attached*  
*re Exten Div.*

President Kohler presiding.

PRESENT: REGENTS Birge, Butler, Callahan, Casperson, Faast, Gale  
Hirschman, Kohler, Mahoney, Nace, Seaman, Waters.

VISITORS Carpenter, Durand, Hambrecht, H'Doubler, Hesgard,  
McMahon, Patzer.

ABSENT: REGENTS Horlick, Kronshage, Miller

VISITORS Belden, Greene, McCormick, Shrimski, Titus

Chairman Hambrecht of the Board of Visitors addressed the meeting stating that they would present four matters for consideration.

1. Functioning of the University Extension Division.
2. Creation and establishment of a College of Education
3. Dormitories.
4. Student recreation.

Visitor McMahon read the report relating to the University Extension Division and stated that the Visitors favored the bill to appropriate money for an Extension Building in Milwaukee. The report is to be revised and forwarded to the Secretary of the Regents to be mimeographed and mailed to the Regents and Visitors.

President Birge spoke briefly with reference to some of the suggestions made in the University Extension Report.

Visitor Durand presented the tentative views of the Visitors in regard to a College of Education calling attention to the value teachers place on the diplomas issued by colleges of education such as Columbia, Chicago, Iowa State University, etc.

President Birge spoke of the College of Letters and Science representing the big central unit of the University in which our School of Education is administered.

He also spoke of the lack of appropriation for buildings as limiting the development of the School of Education.

Dean Sellery of the College of Letters and Science stated that Professor Henmon, Director of the School of Education, believed that the existing organization was working well. They did not care so much about the title as to whether it was School or College, but they especially wished to enlarge the facilities for

training teachers along all the principal lines.

Visitor Carpenter spoke on the matter of student activities relating especially to women students, and urged the creation of greater interest in group or community singing. She also spoke of the possibility of keeping the ice rink in better condition for skating, and called attention to a change in location of the shelter house to a place not as convenient as the first location.

She stated that the Visitors recommend that the department of Physical Education (Women), be separated from the department of Physical Education (Men).

Visitor H'Doubler spoke about the need for additional dormitories for women, stating that of the 2700 women at the university 275 were housed in dormitories and from 600 to 700 in sororities. She stated that the Alpha Xi Delta house in Sterling Court was for sale and recommended that it be rented or bought for co-operative house.

Chairman Hambrecht said that the Visitors had no further matters to discuss now, but that the formal report would be made to the Regents in June.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p. m.

M. E. McCaffrey

Secretary

THE BOARD OF VISITORS  
of  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

March 7, 1923

To the Board of Regents  
of the University of Wisconsin

Gentlemen:

The Board of Visitors, through its Committee on University Extension, has made a rather extensive and complete tentative study of this department of university work, and the following report submitted by its Committee on University Extension and approved by the Board of Visitors is respectfully submitted for your consideration:

Before submitting the findings and recommendations which I ask you to consider, let us review the steps taken and the methods applied in the securing of information which led to the recommendations of the Committee and the Board of Visitors as a whole.

Reports had come from various sources and to several of the members of the Board of University Visitors that conditions within the Extension Department were not what they should be and also that the prestige of the Extension Division in its relation to the public of Wisconsin was on the decline, rather than the up-grade. In fact, Visitors had secured the impression that the morale of the extension staff has to a considerable extent, especially during the past few years, broken down; that dissatisfaction and dissension had become the rule rather than the exception; and that unless improvement was at an early date applied, it would be difficult if not impossible to secure continuous financial support for existing needs of the department.

With this situation in mind, and the Board of Visitors on its sub-committee desirous of being of sympathetic and constructive assistance, with full realization of the fact that it is easier to make charges and destructive criticism than substitute evidence and make constructive recommendations, undertook to make a more complete study and analysis of the situation than it is customary for the Board of Visitors to attempt.

After a tentative investigation, the sub-committee recommended to the Board of Visitors and secured its approval of a study of the department along the following lines:-

- 1 - In the light of the experience of the Extension Division, since the inception of this department, for what lines of work is there a spontaneous and definite demand, for which sufficient appropriations can be made available to render efficiently the service required?
- 2 - What lines of instruction and service is the Extension Division giving with unquestioned success?

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- 3 - What lines of instruction and service is the Extension Division attempting to give which, for reasons beyond its control, it is unable to successfully conduct?
- 4 - What lines of instruction and service is it failing to give which it can and should be rendering?
- 5 - If, due to its experience, it is impossible to secure larger appropriations, where can curtailment be applied, and on what lines of work should available funds be concentrated?
- 6 - To what extent has the lack of greater achievement been due to weakness of personnel, both in Madison and out in the field?
  - a - Is the stenographic force handling correspondence work inefficient because of lack of sufficient funds to hold experienced stenographers?
  - b - Are the salaries of the women of the department equitable as compared with those of the men? In other words, so far as salaries are concerned, does unfair discrimination exist?
  - c - Are members of the staff at Madison overworked when compared with the work done by others of the extension staff?
  - d - To what extent is there duplication in mailing lists in sending announcements regarding courses and other extension work?
- 7 - Wherein is the Extension Division at a disadvantage, due to competition or duplication with private educational extension companies and other public educational agencies, - especially with regard to the amount of university time and money used in competition with these private agencies in order to secure the interest of the student?
  - a - To what extent would paid advertisements in the public press and trade journals do at least some of the work which is now being done by the field force?

Practically all of the time of one meeting of the Board of Visitors was devoted to a general discussion of these questions. At this meeting the Board of Visitors was favored with the presence of Dean Reber. At the end of the meeting the Board requested Dean Reber to address himself these questions, requesting him to send a copy of his written answers to each member of the Board of Visitors. That meeting was held January 5th, 1923.

On February 13th Dean Reber addressed a copy of the attached letter to each member of the Board of Visitors, and enclosed with it a paper entitled "University Extension - Appropriations in

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Relation to Growth", a copy of the report of the Dean of the University Extension Division to President E. A. Birge of October 30th it being a report for the biennial period ending July 1, 1922, a report prepared by the Dean's office for the Legislative Committee appointed to investigate the necessity of providing a building for the University of Extension Division of the City of Milwaukee, and copy of a letter addressed to Dean Reber by Prof. R. L. Cooley of the Central Continuation School of Milwaukee, setting forth that the Extension Division and the Continuation Schools of Milwaukee are supplementing one another rather than duplicating each other.

With this report of the Sub-Committee on University Extension before it, the meeting of the Board of University Visitors, held March 7th, reached the following preliminary and tentative conclusions and recommendations:-

1. - That the Board of Visitors only report at this time to the Board of University Regents the progress which it, through its Sub-Committee, has made;
2. - That it is necessary to devote additional study before reaching conclusions and making more specific recommendations, and to this end it is the purpose of the Board of Visitors to request that the five members of the University Extension Staff ranking next to the Dean meet with the Board of Visitors at its next meeting; and

Finally,- that a final report would be made by the Board of Visitors to the June joint meeting with the Board of Regents.

Very truly yours,

EMM:FM

E. M. McMahon