

# WISCONSIN HIGHLIGHTS

## 2023-2024

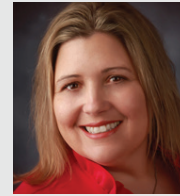
### OVERVIEW

Wisconsin enacted authorizing legislation in 1994 to join the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC). Over the past 31 years, commissioners, commissioner alternates, and members of advisory committees from Wisconsin have provided and continue to provide important governance and strategic direction for MHEC.

### HOW MHEC BENEFITS WISCONSIN

- ▶ **\$6.12M in total annual savings.** Wisconsin colleges, universities, school districts, state and local governments, and students and their families realized more than \$6.12M in cost and time savings through MHEC’s contracts and programs.
  - » *Technology Contracts.* Wisconsin entities saved \$1.52M through MHEC contracts with Dell, Oracle, CampusGuard, Lenovo, and others.
  - » *Distance Education.* By participating in the Midwestern-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (M-SARA), Wisconsin saved approximately \$2.06M and avoided a costly state-by-state, institution-by-institution approach.
  - » *Tuition Reciprocity.* Wisconsin students and their families who participated in the Midwest Student Exchange Program saved \$2.55M.
- ▶ **Strong return on investment.** Wisconsin received a 53-fold return on annual compact membership commitment of \$115,000.
- ▶ **Research requests.** MHEC provided research to Wisconsin leaders on topics including approaches to measuring basic needs insecurity among college students.
- ▶ **Open Educational Resources.** MHEC supported Wisconsin with grant funds to organize a statewide strategic planning convening for OER that brought together teams from public and independent Wisconsin institutions.
- ▶ **Professional development and support.** Eight Wisconsin leaders attended MHEC’s FAUSA Summit. Four technology leaders engaged in MHEC’s free professional development and networking.

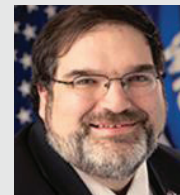
### COMMISSIONERS



**Tammie DeVooght**  
Higher Educational  
Aids Board, Executive  
Secretary



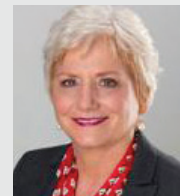
**Eric Fulcomer**  
Wisconsin Association  
of Independent  
Colleges, President



**Andre Jacque**  
Wisconsin State  
Legislature, State  
Senator



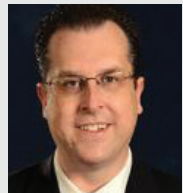
**David Murphy**  
Wisconsin  
Legislature, State  
Representative



**Julie Underwood**  
University of  
Wisconsin-Madison,  
Professor Emeritus



**Layla Merrifield**  
Wisconsin Technical  
College System,  
President (alternate)



**Christopher Patton**  
University of  
Wisconsin System,  
Interim Vice  
President for  
University Relations  
(alternate)



The Midwestern Higher Education Compact seeks to improve individual career readiness and regional economic vitality through collective problem-solving and partnerships that strengthen postsecondary education. To achieve this vision, the Compact focuses its work in three strategic priority areas:

## **INCUBATE**

*Advance innovation, efficiency & effectiveness*

- » Serve as an incubator, studying challenging topics where MHEC can play a valuable role and piloting potential solutions.
- » Lead in expanding use and utility of open educational resources.
- » Respond rapidly to member states' requests for research on pressing topics such as workforce development, loan forgiveness programs, and college affordability.
- » Provide state-by-state data through an interactive dashboard on key performance indicators including preparation, participation, affordability, completion, finance, and workforce.

## **LAUNCH**

*Develop collaborative solutions to regional problems and opportunities*

- » Take on projects, issues and opportunities that are too big for one state to do alone, working jointly to improve higher education and to strengthen the Midwest region.
- » Convene and connect higher education leaders to navigate timely and critical issues facing higher education, such as FAFSA, distance education delivery, and tuition reciprocity.
- » Help Midwestern states navigate accreditation standards to meet the significant increase in demand for dual and concurrent enrollment.

## **SAVE**

*Drive cost savings & business solutions*

- » Leverage the combined technology needs of higher education institutions in member states to reach favorable agreements with technology vendors that result in tremendous time and cost savings.
- » Explore opportunities to serve risk management needs.
- » Offer affordable solutions that improve student well-being.