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2012 COMMISSION ON FINANCIAL AID CONSOLIDATION AND MODERNIZATION

Summary of Meeting – Friday, June 27, 2012

At the June 27, 2012 meeting, the Commission reviewed the work of the 2010 Legislative Council Special Committee on Review of Higher Education Financial Aid Programs, which gave rise to the creation of the present Commission. The Commission was briefed on the work of the 2010 Special Committee by staff of the Wisconsin Legislative Council, Scott Grosz and Anna Henning, who prepared a memorandum for the Commission.

The Commission discussed its charge and work plan, which included a review of all input received from Commission members regarding proposals for the work of the Commission.

The Commission agreed that its remaining work would be completed as follows:

- On Tuesday, July 24 the Commission would meet to discuss issues of funding the HEAB grant programs, including funding levels generally (but not specific dollar amounts); the possibility of recommending a statutory link between funding levels for HEAB grants and UW tuition levels; and recommendations for allowing part-time students to have increased opportunities to receive HEAB grants.
- On Tuesday, August 7 the Commission would meet to discuss issues of potential consolidation of the HEAB grant programs, which could include the Academic Excellence Scholarship program and the various loan-forgiveness programs. The Commission will also discuss possible administrative changes to Wisconsin Covenant pending its scheduled sunset.
- On Wednesday, August 29 the Commission would meet to discuss “modernization” of the grant programs, including technical and administrative changes to how grant funds are handled (for WHEG, WTG and Covenant); and a review of the academic progress requirements now in place for the grant programs. The Commission will also receive an update on the Talent Incentive Program (TIP).

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