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Media Contact:

Michael Horecki

Badgers United

608-556-6999

mhorecki@evokebrands.com

Badgers United Congratulates Ed Manydeeds As Newly Elected President Of UW Board of Regents

Board Of Regents Have An Opportunity To Solidify Foundation For UW-Madison's Future

MADISON, WI (June 9, 2021) — [Badgers United](#), a 501(c)(3) that operates independently from UW-Madison, congratulates [Ed Manydeeds](#) as the newly elected President of the Board of Regents and looks forward to his dedication and input to maintaining and improving Wisconsin's higher education landscape.

Manydeeds takes the helm of The Board Of Regents and will have to face several challenges pertaining to UW-Madison immediately. For decades, the future of higher education in Wisconsin, and our world-class flagship university, has been challenged by budget cuts and frozen revenues — harming the economic impact higher education generates for our state. Badgers United looks forward to the efforts of Manydeeds and the entire board as they work together to solve critical issues plaguing our flagship university.

As the board tackles the pressing challenges facing our land grant university, we urge them to proceed with fact-based solutions. The data highlights the following solutions that will greatly aid UW-Madison and the state of Wisconsin:

- **Advocate For Increased State Support**
 - In 1974, 43% of funding came from the state – now, it is less than 16%. As state support continues to decrease while University costs continue to increase, UW-Madison's national standing and official rankings are sliding.



- **Work With Legislators To Thaw The Tuition Freeze**
 - The in-state undergraduate tuition freeze restricts a vital funding stream, depriving the university of desperately needed funding, [all while not serving as an effective mechanism to address student debt](#).
 - Once the freeze ends, we would also urge the Board of Regents to consider a reasonable and predictable tuition rate increase each year - ensuring fairness and stability to Wisconsin families and UW-Madison.
- **Fight For University Access To Credit Markets**
 - Unlike peer institutions, UW-Madison cannot access credit markets to secure the necessary financial resources to mitigate the ongoing revenue crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, handicapping the institution's ability to remain agile in a volatile economic environment.

UW-Madison is an incredible resource for our state's economy - serving as one of Wisconsin's primary economic engines. Bold action by our higher education leaders can offer aid in the short term, ensuring UW-Madison's powerful economic impact is in place to drive the state's recovery forward, while also providing the long-term stability to maintain UW-Madison's positive statewide economic impact and world-class research programs for generations to come.

Those interested in learning more about Badger United's goals for the state and university, as well as the role UW-Madison plays in Wisconsin's economic success, should visit www.badgersunited.org. Media interested in interviewing experts from Badgers United should contact Michael Horecki (mhorecki@evokebrands.com).

About Badgers United

Badgers United was formed in 2018 by Wisconsin residents who recognize the University of Wisconsin-Madison's sizable economic impact on our state, as well as the challenges it must overcome to continue delivering powerful results. It is a 501(c)(3) organization that operates separately from UW-Madison. For more information about Badgers United, visit www.badgersunited.org and facebook.com/badgersunited. You can also follow us on Twitter: [@badgers_united](https://twitter.com/badgers_united).