

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW WISYS TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – ARJUN SANGA**

BACKGROUND

At its June 6, 2013 meeting, the REDI Committee passed a resolution reaffirming the UW System Board of Regents' support of WiSys as the sole technology transfer mechanism for research, innovation, and technology transfer on UW System two-year and four-year comprehensive campuses, and of further development of policies and practices that support and encourage faculty and undergraduate research, technology transfer, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

REQUESTED ACTION

Information only.

DISCUSSION

In mid-2013, a national search was launched to seek a new executive director for WiSys. In January, 2014, Arjun Sanga was named to the position. He has a strong background in technology transfer, business startups, and intellectual property management.

Director Sanga comes to WiSys from San Antonio, where he served in dual roles as assistant vice president for technology transfer at the University of Texas (UT) Health Science Center San Antonio and as executive director of UT South Texas Technology Management, a regional technology transfer office serving UT Brownsville, UTSA, TSU San Marcos, and Stephen F. Austin University. He previously served as associate vice chancellor for technology transfer at University of Texas System and as corporate counsel for University of Kansas Center for Research.

A registered patent attorney, his experience includes structuring contracts with technology startups that help the companies get off the ground, yet ultimately deliver value back to the university and society. In one example, Director Sanga worked with a struggling medical device startup to restructure its obligations in a way that allowed for adequate cash flow while an initial product underwent review by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Director Sanga is a member of the Association of University Technology Managers, the National Association of College and University Attorneys, and the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities. He received his law degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and his bachelor's degree, with an emphasis in chemistry and computer science, from the University of Washington.

REDI Chair Higgins will introduce new WiSys Executive Director Arjun Sanga. Brief remarks regarding the evolution of WiSys and its priorities and goals for 2014 and beyond will be made by Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) Managing Director Carl Gulbrandsen, and by WiSys board member and UW-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen.

RELATED REGENT POLICIES

Not applicable.