FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Madison College’s President Barhorst announces retirement

MADISON, Wis. (Jan. 8, 2013)—Bettsey Barhorst, president of Madison College, announced her retirement this morning at the College’s Spring Convocation.

Barhorst, who joined Madison College in 2004, hopes to leave sometime before the start of Fall Semester 2013. The search for her replacement will begin immediately.

The 45-year veteran of higher education presided over a period of transformational change at the College. In 2010, Barhorst led the effort to pass a $133.7 million referendum, the largest in Wisconsin history. The referendum, part of the campus’s “Smart Future” building plan, funded renovations and new facilities at Madison College’s four regional campuses in Fort Atkinson, Portage, Reedsburg and Watertown, as well as the school’s main campus in Madison.

“President Barhorst’s lifelong passion for education, her visionary leadership, and her unflagging commitment to making decisions that place the interests of students first are attributes for which she will be long remembered,” says Madison College District Board of Trustees Chairperson Frances Huntley-Cooper. “Thanks to Dr. Barhorst’s steady focus and can-do spirit, the campus is well positioned to provide our students with the skills and knowledge they need to meet the demands of the 21st century workforce.”

Prior to joining Madison College, Barhorst was president at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo, Iowa since 2001 and also served in leadership positions during her 25 years with Illinois Central College in Peoria, Ill., and Webster University in Geneva, Switzerland. She has taught at every level, from primary students through graduate courses. Upon reflection, she says—MORE—
Barhorst Announces Retirement
Add One

her work in community colleges is most rewarding. “I’m so proud of the important work being
done at our two-year colleges. Every day brings reminders of the critical role we play in shaping
the future of our students and the communities we serve.”

Barhorst is a recipient of several national awards in recognition of her leadership in higher
education, including the Shirley P. Gordon Award of Distinction from Phi Theta Kappa, the
Athena Award, induction into the Illinois State University College of Education Alumni Hall of
Fame, the American Association of Women in Community Colleges—Illinois Central Chapter’s
Jewel Award, and the Peoria chapter of Women in Management’s Woman of Achievement
Award. Most recently, Barhorst was named national CEO of the Year by the Association of
Community College Trustees.

A search committee has been formed to hire Barhorst’s replacement. Members include Madison
College District Board of Trustees members Jon Bales, superintendent of Schools for the
DeForest (Wis.) School District; Janice Bultema, senior vice president of human resources at
University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics; and Carolyn Stoner, a retired educational
administrator

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Madison College serves more than 40,000 students throughout a 12-county district in south-
central Wisconsin, offering 144 diverse career programs and certificates in cutting-edge areas
such as biotechnology, digital forensics, mobile application development and advanced
manufacturing. The second-largest institution in the Wisconsin Technical College System, the
College has 134 program-to-program, flexible credit agreements with 30 four-year universities
that grant students full credit toward a bachelor’s degree. More students transfer from Madison
College to the University of Wisconsin-Madison than from any other institution in the state. For
more information, visit www.madisoncollege.edu.