



Representing UW-Madison Faculty.
Strengthening Wisconsin.

Legislative Update

PROFS, the Public Representation Organization of the Faculty Senate, is a non-profit advocacy organization of UW-Madison faculty. Formed by the Faculty Senate and governed by the University Committee, PROFS provides a voice to faculty, allowing them to communicate directly with the governor, legislators and members of Congress.

Mark Cook Bill Signed Into Law

Governor Tony Evers signed Assembly Bill 38 into law November 21. The legislation, named after the late UW-Madison Animal Science professor Mark Cook, streamlines the process by which University of Wisconsin faculty members can enter into research contracts involving the university and an organization with which the same faculty members are connected.

This bipartisan legislation was a top priority for PROFS and was the result of the work of the PROFS Entrepreneurial Work Group, which was led by Cook before his untimely passing. PROFS Steering Committee member Judith Burstyn and PROFS Legislative Representative Jack O’Meara joined UW System President Ray Cross, UW-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank, members of Cook’s family and others from the university community at the bill signing.

UW System President Search Committee

PROFS is deeply concerned that the committee recently named by UW System Board of Regents President Andrew Petersen does not include faculty and staff representation. PROFS sent a letter to Petersen urging him to include governance groups on the committee. The committee is chaired by Regent Vice President Michael Grebe and includes Chancellor Blank as well as a former Regent President Regina Millner, four current Regents, the UW-La Crosse provost, and the UW-Superior chancellor.

PROFS Meeting with Governor Tony Evers

Members of the PROFS Board and Steering Committee met with Governor Tony Evers last month. The meeting was very productive and included conversations about the Mark Cook bill (which was later signed into law), campus speech rules, and the importance of faculty and staff involvement in chancellor and presidential searches. PROFS also urged the governor to utilize faculty expertise whenever possible.

Join PROFS!

PROFS is funded entirely by voluntary monthly contributions and needs the support of all faculty to be most successful. Please consider joining PROFS today. Complete and return to PROFS, Room 258 Bascom Hall.

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