

**SABBATICAL GUIDELINES  
FOR ACADEMIC YEARS 2016-18  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM**

**BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the UW System Faculty Sabbatical Program is to provide in-depth study opportunities for faculty members. Sabbaticals offer opportunities for faculty in all disciplines to acquire and/or develop new knowledge in their fields and incorporate them into their classroom activities. Section 36.11(17) (c), Wis. Stats., describes the purposes for granting a sabbatical as follows:

*(c) Sabbatical leave shall be granted for the purposes of enhancing teaching, course and curriculum development or conducting research or any other scholarly activities related to instructional programs within the field of expertise of the faculty member taking such leave.*

In 2012-13, 4.1% and in 2013-14, 3.9% of the UW System faculty received sabbaticals. At its December 4, 2012, meeting, the Education Committee last reviewed the Sabbatical Guidelines but did not instruct UW System Administration to change the guidelines. Therefore the recommendations from the 2012-14 guidelines were retained.

In preparation for the February meeting of the Education Committee, Regents and Provosts were invited to share their recommendations and updates for the 2016-18 Sabbatical Guidelines. The purpose of reviewing the guidelines is to enable the Board to issue guidance to institutions without continually revising the sabbatical policy contained in Academic Planning Statement #3.3 (ACPS 3.3), *The Faculty Sabbatical Program*.

On December 17, 2014, the Senior Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs forwarded to the Board of Regents the Sabbatical assignments for 2015-16 as submitted by the Chancellors to UW System Administration. Of the 292 assigned sabbaticals 128 were assigned in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) area.

Engineering	20
Chemistry	10
Mathematics	19
Biological Sciences	15
Natural and Applied Sciences	2
Technology	4
Computer Sciences	5
Physics	6
<u>Medical Sciences and Other Sciences</u>	<u>26</u>
Total	128

## **REQUESTED ACTION**

Review of the Sabbatical Guidelines.

## **SABBATICAL GUIDELINES**

For Sabbaticals covering the years 2016-18, the Board of Regents issues the following guidance to UW institutions:

- UW institutions should continue to give consideration to sabbatical projects that support the mission of the institution and faculty members' research and teaching expertise.
- The following areas of emphasis may help faculty to prepare sabbatical proposals that serve their own professional development as well as progress towards institutional and UW System strategic goals in the following areas: Diversity and Inclusive Excellence; Interdisciplinary activities; The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL); Collaborative program activities; International education Curricular reform related to the UW System Shared Learning Goals (available at: <https://www.wisconsin.edu/liberal-education/systemwide-leap-work/>); The Application of instructional technologies; and scholarship and research on economic and workforce development and technology transfer.

### **Accountability**

- The Provost at each institution takes responsibility for ensuring that the guidelines are observed as part of the institutional approval process, while also supporting the efforts of faculty members to pursue and develop their individual areas of research and teaching expertise.
- The Provost develops procedures by which it is determined that the goals and outcomes of the sabbatical leave were met.

## **RELATED REGENT POLICIES**

University of Wisconsin System Academic Planning Statement #3.3: *The Faculty Sabbatical Program*.