



*Representing UW-Madison Faculty.
Strengthening Wisconsin.*

PROFS Statement on Faculty Senate Resolution to Express No Confidence in the Regents and the President

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PROFS -- the Public Representation Organization of the Faculty Senate -- represents the UW-Madison faculty. PROFS is linked to the governance structure at the university, with the University Committee, the executive committee of the Faculty Senate, serving as our Board of Directors.

The Faculty Senate has on its Monday agenda a proposed resolution that responds to recent actions of UW System President Ray Cross and the Board of Regents. The Senate may choose to support the resolution as drafted, amend it, or oppose it.

Whether this resolution is adopted or not, one thing is clear: other universities across the nation and world are watching Wisconsin closely. They know that the Regents and System administration, in concert with state government, have weakened our ability to serve the people of Wisconsin. These universities are aggressively recruiting our faculty. The number of outside offers to faculty has doubled this academic year relative to previous years.

Many faculty members chose to stay at UW-Madison, often despite much lower pay than their peers, because of our strong history of shared governance and academic freedom. This combination has made UW-Madison one of the world's powerhouses in higher education, a premier research and education institution.

Here are some facts to demonstrate why the people of Wisconsin should care about keeping top faculty at the UW. UW-Madison consistently ranks among the top five universities nationally in securing federal funds. The university's annual impact on the state is \$12.4 billion. In a single fiscal year, the cutting-edge research being done at UW-Madison produced 372 invention disclosures, 204 international issued patents, and 151 issued U.S. patents.

When Wisconsinites travel anywhere in the nation or the world, they talk to people who are familiar with the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The university is one of the things that make our state special.

No one should take for granted the high quality we have come to expect from UW-Madison. Continuing to adopt policies that encourage faculty to go elsewhere will further harm our ability to serve the students and people of Wisconsin.

Questions should be directed to Jack O'Meara, PROFS Legislative Representative, at 608-444-3727.