



Representing UW-Madison Faculty.
Strengthening Wisconsin.

Legislative Update

PROFS, the Public Representation Organization of the Faculty Senate, is a non-profit organization representing UW-Madison faculty. PROFS monitors legislation and lobbies the governor, members of the legislature, and members of Congress. PROFS has a long history of effectiveness over the past 40 years, including leading the fight to ensure retirement contributions are taken pre-tax, saving the average faculty member about \$1,800 per year and successfully lobbying for the new Chemistry Building project.

Assembly Bill 449 and Senate Bill 397, bipartisan legislation that would return strong shared governance to state statutes. PROFS worked with the bills’ authors on this legislation and is registered in support of the bills, which would restore provisions related to shared governance at UW System institutions to the form they existed prior to the passage of the 2015-17 state budget.

Assembly Bill 463 and Senate Bill 417, which would restore strong tenure language to state statutes
PROFS also worked with the bills’ authors and is registered in favor of the bills.

Mark Cook Bills, legislation that would streamline Regent-approval process for businesses in which faculty have a financial interest

Assembly Bill 38 and Senate Bill 42, bipartisan legislation named in honor of the late UW-Madison Animal Science professor Mark Cook, have been moving through the legislative process. Both bills have had public hearings and have been approved by committees. AB 38 has passed the Assembly. These companion bills are a top legislative priority for PROFS and are the result of the work of PROFS’ Entrepreneurial Work Group, which was led by Cook. If passed, this legislation will expedite and strengthen the process for Board of Regent approval of projects that involve companies or non-profit organizations in which faculty or staff have a financial interest. Last session, the legislation failed to pass when the Senate did not take a floor vote before the end of the Legislature adjourned.

Why Does College Cost So Much?

PROFS will host a public forum on the cost of higher education at **4 pm, Thursday, October 24**. The forum will focus on the cost of delivering education, why it rises, and the implication of rising expenses – pressure on the state to subsidize the cost, students to pay higher tuition and the university to raise funds and pursue partnerships.

PROFS Steering Committee member **Nicholas Hillman** (Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis) will moderate. Panelists include William & Mary economics professor **David Feldman**, UW-Madison Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration **Laurent Heller** and UW System Regent **Tracey Klein**. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

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.

Name _____ Department _____

Last 4 digits of your Social Security number (required by payroll to activate your deduction) _____

Date of birth _____ Signature _____

I hereby authorize UW-Madison to deduct from my salary a voluntary contribution to PROFS of one-tenth of one percent of my gross salary for that month. This authorization will remain in effect until PROFS receives a cancellation notice and forwards it to the payroll office.

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Public Representation Organization of the Faculty Senate University of Wisconsin–Madison

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