



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.

UW System President Ray Cross to Retire

University of Wisconsin System President Ray Cross announced last month he would retire after his successor is named by the UW System Board of Regents. Cross has served as president since 2014. He came to Wisconsin in 2011 when he was named chancellor University of Wisconsin Colleges and University of Wisconsin–Extension.

Regent President Andrew Petersen named the search committee last week. Chancellor Rebecca Blank will serve on the committee to be chaired by Regent Vice President Michael Grebe. The committee does not include any faculty or staff, but according to a press release, “faculty, staff, students, and other stakeholders will have several public opportunities to provide input on the qualities sought in the next UW System president.” The previous presidential search committee included two faculty members and two staff members.

PROFS Meeting with Governor Tony Evers

Members of the PROFS Board and Steering Committee will meet with Governor Tony Evers later this week. PROFS will share serious concerns about campus speech rules, the importance of faculty and staff involvement in chancellor and presidential searches, and pending legislation, including the Mark Cook Bill. PROFS will also encourage the governor to utilize faculty expertise whenever possible.

Mark Cook Bills, legislation to streamline the 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, continues to move through the legislature. AB 38 is on tomorrow’s State Senate calendar. 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 recently hosted a campus forum on college affordability. PROFS Steering Committee member **Nicholas Hillman** moderated. William & Mary economics professor **David Feldman**, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration **Laurent Heller** and Regent **Tracey Klein** were panelists. A recording of the forum will be posted to the PROFS website soon.

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) _____

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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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