



Representing UW-Madison Faculty.
Strengthening Wisconsin.

July 18, 2023

Rep. Robin Vos
Assembly Speaker
Room 211 West
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Senator Chris Kapenga
Senate President
Room 220 South
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

**Request to Convene Joint Committee on Employment Relations (JCOER)
ASAP to Approve 4%/2% UW/State Pay Plan**

Dear Speaker Vos and Senator Kapenga:

On behalf of PROFS, representing the UW-Madison faculty, we would like to thank you for passing a state budget that included funding to provide state employees, including UW faculty and staff, with a 4% pay increase on July 1, 2023, and an additional 2% increase on July 1, 2024. Governor Evers signed the state budget, with the 4%/2% pay plan funding, on July 5, and it was published on July 6.

The pay plan now needs final approval. The Joint Committee on Employment Relations (JCOER), which you co-chair, must approve the pay plan for the raises to take effect.

Like everyone in the state, UW and other state employees have been dealing with significant inflation in recent years. In order to help these loyal employees pay their bills and plan for their futures, they need to be given their pay raises as soon as possible.

The increased compensation will not just benefit employees. The small businesses and local economies that depend on spending from UW and state employees will also benefit from the employees having more money in their pockets.

We strongly encourage you to convene JCOER right away so that the already-funded pay plan can be put into effect as soon as possible. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Michael Bernard-Donals
Professor of English and Jewish Studies
President, PROFS Steering Committee

Susan Thibeault
Professor, Surgery Department
Chair, University Committee and
PROFS Board of Directors