



Representing UW-Madison Faculty.
Strengthening Wisconsin.

March 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.

Continuing Federal Actions

Since taking office, President Trump and his administration have implemented an unprecedented number of [executive orders](#) and begun cutting the size and function of government agency by agency. The speed, scale and scope of these changes, many [led](#) by unelected presidential advisor Elon Musk, has led to a tremendous amount of confusion and fear within and outside of the university community. Our statement on our plan of action in response to the federal action is on our [website](#). PROFS also met with Representative Mark Pocan last month to discuss how the President's actions have already harmed the university, and have been in communication with Senator Baldwin and other members of the congressional delegation. Please refer to PROFS social sites below and the UW-Madison has a federal relations update [webpage](#) for the latest federal news.

2025-27 State Budget

Governor Tony Evers [introduced](#) his 2025-27 state budget proposal last month. His budget includes middle class tax cuts coupled with increased taxes for the state's wealthiest citizens, along with investments in education. The governor [supported](#) the UW Board of Regents budget request of \$856 million, which includes the following:

- \$308 million, expansion of dual enrollment, direct admission and transfers programs
- \$128 million, financial aid
- \$104 million, technology investments
- \$56 million, recruitment and retention of educators and staff
- \$22 million, mental health services

The budget also includes \$166 million for [employee raises](#) and eight weeks paid family leave for state employees, including faculty. The governor's proposal also requires local governments and private companies with 50 or more employees in Wisconsin to offer eight weeks paid family leave.

Republican leaders were quick to criticize Evers' budget and [said](#) the governor's budget is "dead on arrival." PROFS has already begun meeting with legislators and is advocating for the best possible budget for UW-Madison.

Proposed Changes to Universities of Wisconsin Policy on Copyright

Late last year, PROFS learned that Universities of Wisconsin was revising its policy on copyright. We [shared](#) our concerns with President Rothman and Regent President Amy Bogost and were pleased to learn that an ad hoc governance committee will meet later this year to draft a policy that meets the needs of faculty and staff. Members of the university community will also have the opportunity to review the draft before a Regent vote.

Town Hall

The University Committee (PROFS Board of Directors) will [host](#) a town hall about shared governance 3:30 pm, Tuesday, March 11 in Lathrop Hall's Virginia Harrison Parlor. The town hall will provide an opportunity for faculty to share their priorities with members of the University Committee and learn how shared governance functions at the campus level.

Join PROFS!

PROFS is funded entirely through modest monthly contributions from faculty and needs the support of all faculty to be most successful. Please use this [membership form](#) to join. New members will receive a PROFS mug as a thank you.



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