



Representing UW-Madison Faculty.
Strengthening Wisconsin.

December 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 almost 50 years ago, PROFS provides a voice to faculty, allowing them to communicate directly with the governor, legislators, and members of Congress.

Board of Regents Action on a Revised Faculty Workload Policy and the Creation of a General Education Requirements Policy

The Board of Regents [met](#) on November 20 and [approved](#) draft policies relating to a minimum teaching load and Systemwide general education requirements. While Regents invited feedback on the draft policies, the faculty workload policy was approved without changes. PROFS lobbied against the policy when it was [proposed](#) in the budget and communicated our concerns with the workgroup that developed the draft policy.

Both policies must be reviewed by the Legislature's Joint Committee on Employment Relations (JCOER), and the minimum teaching load policy must also be approved by the committee before January 30. As written, the workload policy, to go into effect next September, will require UW-Madison faculty to teach a minimum of 12 credit hours per academic year, with an additional 3 credit summer minimum for those on 12-month appointments. The policy includes "buy outs" for some teaching time, lower minimums for department chairs and other unit leaders, and some equivalencies to traditional classroom teaching.

The teaching workload policy is [here](#) and the core general education requirements policy is [here](#).

Legislation

PROFS is actively lobbying on the following bills:

- Campus speech bills ([AB 501/SB 498](#)), registered against
- MIA Recovery Project ([AB 428/SB 411](#)), registered in favor
- Spinal cord research ([AB 92/SB 99](#)), registered in favor
- UW start date (LRB-2533/1), in favor
- Limiting tuition to CPI ([AB 406/SB 399](#)), registered against
- Guns on campus ([AB 427/SB 429](#)), registered in favor.
- Definition of Antisemitism ([AB 446/SB 445](#)), registered against. Our testimony is [here](#).
- Returning shared governance to state statutes bills ([AB 586/SB 581](#)), registered in favor
- Returning faculty tenure protections to state statutes bills ([AB 600/SB 590](#)), registered in favor

Faculty Survey on Federal Issues

Earlier this fall, PROFS (Public Representation Organization of the Faculty Senate), invited its members to complete to a brief survey on how federal executive actions taken since President Donald Trump took office have impacted their teaching and research. About 15 percent of the membership responded to all or part of the survey. A summary of the survey results is on the [here](#).

Join PROFS!

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



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December 1, 2025

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