UW-Madison Faculty Senate Resolution on Shared Governance  
Approved March 2, 2015

Whereas shared governance rights for UW System faculty, academic staff, and students are articulated in Chapter 36 of Wisconsin state statutes, and

Whereas shared governance provides wise counsel to university administration and binds the academic community together in its unified mission of advancing knowledge, and

Whereas shared governance creates a collaborative process crucial to the strength and health of UW-Madison and UW System, and

Whereas shared governance is embedded in the culture, organization, and workings of UW-Madison, and

Whereas consultative, inclusive, and transparent processes bring the best ideas forth, increase accountability, and foster rational outcomes and consensus building, and

Whereas shared governance is an inclusive process that is efficient and effective in advancing the university’s educational, research, and outreach missions, and

Whereas the proposal to create a public authority for UW System repeals shared governance language from state statute and gives authority to the Board of Regents,

Be it therefore resolved that the UW-Madison Faculty Senate is opposed to repeal of the shared governance language from state statute and strongly urges that any new statutory language creating a public authority include shared governance rights; and

Be it further resolved that, if shared governance is repealed from state statute and placed in Board of Regent policy, the UW-Madison Faculty Senate has the following expectations:

1) The wording in state statute will be transcribed verbatim into Regent policy;
2) All participants in the shared governance process—administration, faculty, academic staff, classified staff, and students—will be recognized;
3) Shared governance processes and relationships will continue without interruption; and
4) All shared governance partners will be actively involved in any changes to Regent policy on shared governance.