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Chair: James Madsen; Vice Chair: Dawn Hukai; Secretary: Todd A. Savage; Executive Committee: Stephen Reed, Jennifer Willis-Rivera

To: Dean Van Galen, Chancellor
116 North Hall
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

From: James Madsen, Chair 
Faculty Senate
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

November 10, 2010

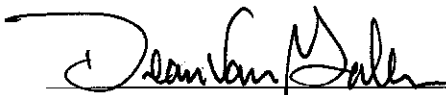
RE: UWRF Faculty Senate Motion 2010-2011/10

At the October 20, 2010 meeting of University of Wisconsin-River Falls Faculty Senate, motion 2010-2011/10 was passed and it is effective immediately. This motion is forwarded to you for your action.

A motion that any master plan put forward to the University of Wisconsin System by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls shall be approved by the Faculty Senate of UWRF, and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee will review ways to involve the Faculty Senate appropriately throughout the process of developing the master plan and it will bring those recommendations to the Faculty Senate for approval.

Approved _____

Disapproved  _____



Dean Van Galen, Chancellor

11/29/10

Date

Please see attached statement.

RECEIVED

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**CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE
UW-RIVER FALLS**

RESPONSE TO FACULTY SENATE MOTION 2010-2011/10

I understand and fully support the need for engagement of key stakeholders, including faculty, in the master planning process. Thus far, the process has been inclusive and provided many opportunities for input and for reacting to ideas and options presented by the master planning consultants.

The request for formal Faculty Senate approval of “any master plan put forward to the University of Wisconsin System” is problematic. It does not reflect the master plan development process and the concomitant shared responsibilities, both on and beyond the campus. The Master Plan is funded primarily (ca. 75%) through Building Trust Funds (not UWRF funding) and about 25% UWRF program revenue funds. Although the campus has an important role, and we will strongly communicate the perspectives of the campus, the master plan is by no means exclusively in the purview of the campus. The buildings on our campus are owned by the UW Board of Regents and managed by the Wisconsin Department of Administration’s Division of State Facilities. As such, and we do not have the legal authority to, independently as a campus, decide on and implement significant construction, demolition, or renovation activities.

Furthermore, a master plan indeed impacts important elements of instruction—and there is a need for strong faculty input—yet it also involves significant elements related to fiscal resources (state, program revenue, and charitable gifts), annual budget, institutional planning, community relations, and UW System analysis and initiatives. Therefore, because of the inclusion of the “formal faculty senate approval” element in the motion, the motion is disapproved. I do, however, strongly reaffirm the importance of faculty engagement and consultation in the master planning process.

In light of the concerns expressed by Faculty Senate through this motion, the administration has offered to arrange for and fund several additional visits to campus (or conference calls) by the master plan consultants from JJR. During these additional visits, informational and feedback sessions will be offered exclusively for Faculty Senate. The administration will consult with Faculty Senate leadership on the details of and follow up from these additional visits.

Respectfully,
Dean Van Galen, Chancellor