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Senators: Chair – David Rainville, Vice Chair – Dennis Cooper, Secretary – Kris Hiney, Executive Committee – John Heppen, Todd Savage

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

From: David Rainville, Chair  
Faculty Senate  
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

June 9, 2009

RE: UW-RF Faculty Senate Motion 2009/2010/2

At the May 15, 2009 meeting of Wisconsin-River Falls Faculty senate, motion 2009-2010/2 was passed and is effective immediately. This motion is forwarded for your action.

Fully cognizant of the extreme financial challenges facing the State of Wisconsin,

Guided by the long-term interests of students, staff, faculty, and citizens of the State of Wisconsin,

Recognizing that the UW-System is a necessary engine of growth for the Wisconsin economy, deserving of investment, rather than disinvestment,

Noting that faculty and staff at the UW-River Falls (and other UW institutions) have borne a significant share of the State's cutbacks and financial pain in multiple, consecutive biennial budget periods,

Fully aware that the UWRF has taken steps during each of the previous economic crises to minimize the impacts upon students,

Expressing its concern that Wisconsin residents do not understand the full magnitude of budget cuts on staff and faculty, and the subsequent impacts those have on the State, itself, over the long-term,

Further concerned that faculty and staff will be forced to shoulder the full impact of the proposed cuts and furloughs in a way that will again prevent Wisconsin residents from understanding and appreciating the devastating nature of the cuts,

Deeply disturbed that decision makers in Madison continue to assume erroneously that the UWRF and its sister institutions can continue to make multi-year, substantial cuts in staff, salaries, benefits, and budgets without suffering reductions in educational quality,

Considering that faculty and staff are expected to engage in service, advise students and organizations, complete research and scholarly activities, and prepare adequately for courses, in addition to teaching the latter,

Emphasizing that promotion, retention, and other career opportunities are determined by an array of work responsibilities and performance levels in each of the aforementioned categories,

Understanding that many issues remain undefined, such as the way employees who are part-time versus full-time, salary versus hourly, and nine-month versus twelve-month, will be treated,

Aware that Governor Doyle's Budget Director, Dave Schmiedicke, was quoted on May 9, 2009, "Agencies will have to decide obviously at the workplace level how to implement the furloughs,"

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Faculty Senate hereby **moves** that, subject to appropriate state laws,

1. any required faculty furloughs, if such furloughs are mandated, be developed, using a process approved through formal Faculty Senate participation, and;
2. furlough days must not be defined in a manner that disproportionately impairs some areas of professional responsibilities (e.g. if no teaching days are included in furlough days, responsibilities in areas such as research and preparation would be disproportionately impacted).

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved

✓  
\_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved

  
Dean Van Galen, Chancellor

6/23/09  
Date