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

From: Wes Chapin, Chair  
   Faculty Senate  
   University of Wisconsin-River Falls  

September 16, 2012  

RE: UWR Faculty Senate Resolution 2012-13/1  

At the September 12, 2012 meeting of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Faculty Senate, Resolution 2012-13/1 was passed and is being forwarded to you.

Resolution from the Executive Committee (Wes Chapin, Chair) regarding Collective Bargaining

Resolution on Collective Bargaining Rights at UW-River Falls

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin – River Falls Faculty Senate has repeatedly endorsed the concept of collective bargaining rights for both classified and unclassified staff (see resolutions 2006-07/7, 2007-08/37, 2008-09/1, 2010-11/4, and 2011-12/3, among others); and

WHEREAS, an overwhelming majority of UWR faculty voted in favor of forming a union for the purposes of collective bargaining on this campus; and

WHEREAS, 2011 Wisconsin Act 10, passed by the Wisconsin legislature and signed into law by Governor Scott Walker, essentially eliminated the collective bargaining rights of classified employees and completely removed them from faculty and instructional staff; and

WHEREAS, in this environment, every possible group should be mobilized to advocate on behalf of UWR and its faculty and staff; and

WHEREAS, the bodies of shared governance on the campus of UWR are limited in their capacity to influence many issues directly affecting faculty and instructional academic staff, among them salary and benefits; and
WHEREAS, at our peer institutions around the country, academic unions and shared governance bodies collaborate on issues of concern to the faculty and academic staff, ensuring a strong culture of faculty and staff involvement in the governance of the institution; and

WHEREAS, no law prohibits the administration of the UWRF from engaging in dialogue with a locally-formed union,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the UWRF Faculty Senate calls on the Governor and the state legislature to restore collective bargaining rights to faculty and academic staff, and to rescind the changes to the collective bargaining rights of classified employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the UWRF Faculty Senate calls on the UWRF administration, which has already recognized the local union for faculty and academic staff by meeting with its leadership, to continue to meet with the union's designated representatives to discuss issues of interest to all.