December 12, 2013

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

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

Re: UWRF Faculty Senate Motion 2013-14/30

At the December 11, 2013 meeting of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Faculty Senate, motion 2013-14/30 was passed and is effective immediately. The motion is forwarded to you for your action.

Administrative officers and employees shall not directly contact members of the faculty and instructional academic staff to require them to perform ad hoc work duties, unless and until they have consulted with the UWRF Faculty Senate and obtained appropriate concurrence to do.

Approved

* Disapproved ✓ (see below)

** Dean Van Galen, Chancellor

Date
Jan. 3, 2014

*I understand the concerns that led to the development of this Faculty Senate motion, and understand the need for improved communication and a sensitivity with respect to the impact of requests on faculty and instructional academic staff.

However, there are occasions when academic or classified staff have legal, fiduciary, or other responsibilities (even mandated by federal or state law or agencies) for which the response and/or action of faculty is essential. I am concerned that approval of a broad and sweeping motion such as this one may, in some cases, make it difficult or impossible for UWRF to comply with mandated or critical tasks that need the involvement of faculty. Also, approval of the motion may have the unintended consequence of asking staff to discern what is an "ad hoc work duty" versus routine activities in which diverse members of our university workforce engage in a collaborative manner. That said, as a matter of course and whenever practical, there should be consultation with Faculty Senate, routinely through the Provost, on significant faculty tasks.