MOTION:

That the Faculty Senate endorse the action of the Nominations Committee in (1) requesting that nominees for the University Committee be afforded the opportunity to provide an optional one-half page statement which will include academic credentials, relevant experience at UWM, and the nominee's views on university issues; and (2) requesting that the Secretary of the University attach the above statement to the primary and final ballots distributed to faculty beginning this Spring and annually thereafter.

RATIONALE:

Previous practice of inclusion in ballots of nominees' experience in faculty governance has been useful in illuminating their commitment to campus service in the past. However, their colleagues at large have not been provided with equally useful information on nominees' commitment to other components of the campus mission, teaching and research, nor have the ballots included even more useful information on nominees' views on the present and future of UWM -- its problems and potential -- which propelled or persuaded them to seek service.

In the case of the University Committee, specifically: To best exercise our right to select our leaders, it is best to know where they would lead us. Therefore, and with apologies to Abigail Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison, respectively (and respectfully):

As the good sense of the faculty in general directs them right, where they can see and judge for themselves,

And as more information will illuminate, as far as practicable, the minds of the faculty at large, so that they may be enabled to know ambition under all its shapes and prompt to exert their natural powers,

And as knowledge will forever govern ignorance,

The good sense and purpose of this motion is to arm the people who mean to be their own governors with the power which knowledge gives.

Faculty Senator Genevieve McBride