CHARTER
of the
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN FACULTY COUNCIL

I

The University of Wisconsin System Faculty Council (hereinafter, "Council") is an association formed by official faculty governance structures of the institutions of the UW System to provide a mechanism that is duly authorized by said governance structures to speak and act on behalf of faculties of the UW System. Subject to the limitations and procedures stated below, the Council has authority to: (a) discuss matters of concern to UW System faculty with, and present faculty positions and proposals concerning such matters to, the UW Central Administration, the Regents, and representatives of State Government; (b) issue public statements on matters of concern common to the UW System faculty; (c) disseminate to System faculty information that may be useful in making decisions on matters of faculty concern; (d) otherwise pursue and protect the system-wide interests of the UW System faculty. The Council may not act in matters that are of internal concern to one institution unless so requested by the official faculty governance structure of that institution.

II

Each institution of the UW System is eligible for membership in the Council and shall become a member when the official faculty governance body of the institution—i.e., the faculty senate, or if there is no senate, its functional equivalent—
votes to subscribe to the provisions of this charter and join the Council. For purposes of this Charter, the "institutions" of the UW System are: UW Extension, UW Center System, UW-Eau Claire, UW-Green Bay, UW-La Crosse, UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Parkside, UW - Platteville, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, UW-Superior, and UW-Whitewater.

III

The Council shall be composed of one Delegate and one Alternate Delegate from each member institution. Both the Delegate and the Alternate shall be entitled to attend Council meetings, but only the Delegate shall be entitled to vote. In the absence of a Delegate, the Alternate shall be entitled to vote. Delegates and alternates shall be elected by the faculties of their respective institutions. The faculty senate of each member institution (or, if there is no senate, its functional equivalent) shall determine whether the election shall be by the faculty at large, or by the senate, or by the executive committee of the senate (or the functional equivalent of the senate or its executive committee where there is no senate).

IV

Each member institution shall be entitled to one vote on the Council for every 500 full-time equivalent faculty members or major fraction thereof, provided that each member institution shall have at least one vote, and provided further that no institution shall have more than four votes. For purposes of this Charter, a "faculty member" is a person holding an appointment as instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor.

V

When the issue before the Council is whether to adopt a policy or proposal on a matter of faculty concern, whether the policy or proposal is to be stated publicly or not, action may be taken only by a vote of at least two-thirds of the votes represented by the Delegates present at the Council meeting.
Except as provided in VIII and X below, the election of a chairperson and other matters not involving the adoption of a policy or proposal on a matter of faculty concern shall be decided by a majority vote of the votes represented by the Delegates present at the Council meeting.

VI

In May, the Council shall elect a Chairperson and such other officers as the Council shall deem appropriate. The term of office of the Chairperson and such other officers as may be elected shall be from September 1 through August 31.

VII

The Council shall maintain its headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin.

VIII

The Council, by a two-thirds vote of the votes represented by the Delegates present, shall adopt by-laws to govern its operations. Such by-laws shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter. Insofar as they are not inconsistent with such by-laws or the provisions of this Charter, the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern Council proceedings.

IX

The Council shall hold regular meetings in conjunction with meetings of the Board of Regents. The by-laws shall provide procedures for the calling of special meetings.

X

An amendment to this Charter may be considered by the Council only if written notice that the amendment is to be considered, including a copy of the proposed amendment, has been given at least two weeks prior to the Council meeting in question. To be adopted, an amendment must be approved both by (a) a two-thirds vote of the votes represented by the Delegates present at the Council meeting and (b) the senates, or the functional equivalent if there is no senate, of two-thirds of the member institutions of the Council.