A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE LOYALTY OATH PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE SCHOLARSHIP ACT

WHEREAS the National Defense Education Act of 1958 requires any individual receiving payments under the act to sign an affirmative oath of loyalty to the United States and an affidavit of disclaimer and

WHEREAS loyalty oaths have been proven completely ineffective in the combating of actual subversion and the prevention of treasonable acts, and

WHEREAS such oaths tend to discourage independent beliefs and opinions which are specifically protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, and

WHEREAS those oaths are used to frighten people into a political conformity incompatible with the democratic necessity of continual, open and public debate, and

WHEREAS loyalty oaths, thus are in fact subversive of the American tradition, and have generally been recognized as incompatible with the requirements of academic freedom, and

WHEREAS the Regents, Administration, and Faculty of the University of Wisconsin, on numerous occasions in the past and in recent years, have taken a forthright stand against any interference with academic and general political freedom, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that this faculty go on record as supporting the position taken by the Board of Regents at their December 2, 1959 meeting, protesting the above mentioned oath and affidavit, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW--M faculty petition of the Congress of the U.S. to change the relevant sections of the law accordingly, and instruct the Secretary of the Faculty to forward this resolution to the appropriate committee of the Congress and all Wisconsin members of both houses of Congress

L. Barker J. Phelan
A. Becker A. Rezny
E. Bellis I. Rinder
M. Cohnstaedt E. Schenker
H. Engelmann A. Schoeller
C. Goff G. Shipman
R. Notestein J. Silverberg
P. Perlson J. Teter