Successes and Accomplishments

PROFS has worked vigorously over the past three decades and has accomplished a great deal for UW–Madison faculty, including the following.

PROFS successfully lobbied for a state-funded competitive compensation fund for faculty salaries in the last three state budgets. PROFS continues to advocate for levels of compensation that allow UW–Madison to retain and recruit the best faculty.

After many years of hard work, UW–Madison faculty are now eligible for domestic partner benefits. Countless faculty contacted their state legislators over the years in support of this much-needed legislation.

During the 2007–2009 state budget debate, PROFS helped defeat a proposal that would have required faculty to pay 5% of their salaries to the Wisconsin Retirement System contribution (an effective 5% pay cut).

PROFS also fought off proposals that would have gutted the current sabbatical program, reduced sick leave, and required faculty to pay a minimum of 10% of total health care.

Faculty today enjoy employer-paid health insurance when they are hired, thanks in large part to PROFS. Previously, faculty had to wait six months for employer-paid coverage.
What is PROFS?

PROFS is a voluntary, non-profit organization funded entirely by faculty dues. It was created in 1977 by the Faculty Senate to give a voice to UW–Madison faculty, allowing them to communicate their concerns and reactions to matters, including legislation, which directly affect the university and its faculty.

The University Committee, the executive committee of the Faculty Senate, serves as the PROFS Board of Directors. The PROFS Steering Committee includes past presidents of PROFS, members of the Faculty Senate, the University Committee, and the Commission on Faculty Compensation and Economic Benefits.

How PROFS Works

The faculty’s support of PROFS allows the organization to hire a half-time legislative representative, Jack O’Meara. Jack monitors legislation and communicates with legislators, the governor, members of Congress and the Board of Regents. PROFS is also staffed by a half-time administrative assistant, Michelle Felber.

PROFS communicates regularly with all faculty through e-mail messages and newsletters, which are posted on the PROFS website, www.profs.wisc.edu. Every two years, PROFS compiles and distributes a legislative directory of all state and federal elected officials in Wisconsin.

PROFS’ dues support the organization. Dues are voluntary and are .1% of a nine-month salary, deducted monthly.

Contact Information:
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Join PROFS

PROFS provides a voice to UW–Madison faculty when working with the Legislature, state officials, federal officials, and the general public. We count nearly 1,000 faculty as members and need the support of the entire faculty to have the greatest impact.

Please complete and return this form to PROFS, Room 258 Bascom Hall, to join.

Name __________________________

Department _______________________

In order to activate your deduction, the payroll department requires the following:

• The last four digits of your Social Security number __________________

• Your date of birth ______________________

I hereby authorize the University of Wisconsin to deduct from my salary each month of the academic year (September through May) a voluntary contribution to PROFS, Inc. of .1% of my gross salary for that month. This authorization will remain in effect each year until a notice of cancellation is received by PROFS and forwarded to the UW–Madison Payroll Office.

__________________________________
Signature