

**University of Wisconsin-Stout Senate of Academic Staff Resolution Opposing
the Collective Bargaining Enabling Language in the Governor's Budget Bill***

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Stout Senate of Academic Staff feels that our shared governance rights detailed in Wisconsin State Statute 36.09(4m) already provides academic staff employees the opportunity have a voice in determining polices, including personnel policy, on campus; and

WHEREAS, some would argue that if afforded the opportunity for Academic Staff to organize into collective bargaining units that there might not be the continued need for the 36.09(4m) shared governance rights we now enjoy; and

WHEREAS, we feel that the UW-Stout administration continues to include representation from all three senates in virtually all major campus decisions; and

WHEREAS, Section 2681 of LRB-1716/1, the language in Governor Doyle's budget bill to establish faculty and academic staff collective bargaining rights, is a policy item not a budget item and sneaking it into a budget bill where it cannot get a fair hearing on its own merits is wrong; and

WHEREAS, the Section 2681 language would place faculty and academic staff into separate bargaining units that by law could not be combined; and

WHEREAS, Section 2681 initially creates 14 separate bargaining units, one each for faculty on each of the 13 campuses, and one for academic staff system wide, placing the faculty at Madison and Milwaukee in the best position to demand and receive an unfair part of any compensation package approved by the legislature, while faculty at the comprehensive campuses would be in the next best position to compete for the remaining limited resources, leaving academic staff at UW-Stout and the other campuses left with little or nothing; and

WHEREAS, the UW-Stout Senate of Academic Staff has long opposed the decoupling of faculty and academic staff benefits and compensation plans; and

WHEREAS, Section 2681 removes the right to strike of collective bargaining units, effectively eliminating any bargaining power those units might have; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of Academic Staff at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, strongly opposes Section 2681 of the Governor's 2007 budget bill as currently written; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that while we are not saying that we would oppose all enabling legislation bills, let it be known that this senate will continue to oppose any attempt to separate faculty and academic staff pay and benefit plans.

**Approved on a unanimous vote during the March 20, 2007 meeting of the University of Wisconsin-Stout Senate of Academic Staff*