

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EXTENSION
FACULTY SENATE AND THE ACADEMIC STAFF COUNCIL**

**JOINT RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
“WISCONSIN IDEA PARTNERSHIP”**

WHEREAS the budget bill provides for major cuts to all institutions in the UW System, but allows for increased management flexibilities only for UW-Madison, and further separates UW-Madison from all other UW System institutions through the creation of a new UW-Madison public authority; and

WHEREAS UW-Extension is tied closely not only with UW-Madison, but with all the two- and four-year institutions around the state; and

WHEREAS the Wisconsin Idea Partnership keeps the current UW System together and focuses on Access, Affordability, and Accountability; and

WHEREAS fragmentation of the UW System will diminish UW-Extension’s ability to make available to every corner of the state the vast stores of knowledge and expertise possessed by UW System faculty and staff through UW-Extension’s partnerships with 26 UW System campuses, 72 Wisconsin counties, three tribal governments, and other public and private organizations; and

WHEREAS fragmentation of the UW System will jeopardize the shared research and outreach activities between UW-Madison and UW-Extension and will eliminate a shared set of policies and procedures that aid research and teaching collaborations between the institutions that make it easier for information and research to be disseminated and partnerships to take hold;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate and Academic Staff Council of UW-Extension believe that any action that would break up the UW System puts at risk a proven and successful approach for delivering quality and effective services throughout the state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate and Academic Staff Council of UW-Extension believe that all UW System institutions working together through a carefully planned structure are necessary to continue to improve the fiscal and social well-being of the citizens of Wisconsin; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate and Academic Staff Council of UW-Extension strongly support the Wisconsin Idea Partnership as proposed by the UW System and its Board of Regents.

Approved at the March 11, 2011 Joint Meeting of University of Wisconsin-Extension Faculty Senate and the Academic Staff Council

