

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COURSE MATERIALS
AS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

WHEREAS requests have been made nationwide to institutions of higher education, including an open records request to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, for wholesale access to course syllabi; and

WHEREAS course materials created by University of Wisconsin-Madison faculty and academic staff specifically or expressly designed for a particular course—including syllabi, class or lecture notes, PowerPoint presentations, examinations, handouts, review questions, and other material of a similar nature—entail the exercise of editorial judgment and creative and intellectual expression on the part of the instructor;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is the sense of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Faculty Senate, which is the representational organization of the university faculty, that such material is the valuable intellectual property of its creator and subject to the protections of copyright law.