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## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** September 2013

**To:** Deans, Directors, Department Chairs, and Faculty

**From:** Rebecca Blank, Chancellor 

**Re:** *Supporting Shared Governance*

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I write to ask you as a dean, director, department chair, or supervisor, to support academic staff participation in governance activities, regardless of the percentage of appointment. Participation in shared governance by academic staff is authorized by Wisconsin Statute [Section 36.09 (4m)] and has direct benefits for your unit. Additionally, both the Academic Staff Articles of Organization and a Faculty Senate Resolution (March 2, 1987) support and encourage academic staff participation. **These documents direct units and supervisors to provide flexibility in work scheduling so that academic staff may serve on appropriate committees or on campus level governance bodies**, such as the Academic Staff Executive Committee (ASEC) and the Academic Staff Assembly, as well as on the Committees on Academic Staff Issues (CASIs) active in many schools, colleges and divisions. All employees should be supported and encouraged to participate in shared governance in order to help our institution make major decisions through shared and inclusive processes.

Academic staff who are supported solely by sponsored projects may participate in governance activity without any change in funding if the activity involves one percent or less of their total UW effort. If their governance activities exceed one percent of their total UW effort, a small percentage of non-sponsored funding will be needed to allow them to participate, and I encourage you to make every effort to provide funding.

Thank you for continued support of the shared governance at UW-Madison.

For further information on academic staff governance please see the academic staff website (<http://acstaff.wisc.edu>).

cc: Academic Staff