For more than 150 years, the University of Wisconsin-Madison has had a significant positive impact on the culture and economy in Wisconsin. While UW-Madison is a global leader among public research universities, it faces major financial challenges, including a proposed $125 million reduction in state tax support over the next two years.

In response to continued reductions of state funding for UW-Madison, Chancellor Martin has advanced the New Badger Partnership, a proposal that develops a new business model for UW-Madison. We applaud Chancellor Martin for her bold vision and the courage to promote this needed change.

The Governor’s proposed budget bill, currently under consideration by the legislature, includes the creation of a new public authority for UW-Madison that would enable UW-Madison to achieve the flexibilities articulated in the New Badger Partnership.

UW-Madison is in competition with other top academic institutions for the best and brightest faculty, staff, and students. Decreasing state support puts the university at a competitive disadvantage in this regard. The New Badger Partnership gives UW-Madison the flexibility to invest available resources where they are most needed, reducing constraints that currently keep us from responding quickly to emerging opportunities.

We believe a healthy UW-Madison leads to a healthy state of Wisconsin. As such, the Board of Visitors of the School of Pharmacy expresses its unanimous support for the New Badger Partnership and the establishment of a new public authority for UW-Madison.

*Resolved, April 29, 2011*