April 28, 2011

To: Chancellor Biddy Martin, University of Wisconsin-Madison

From: Members, School of Human Ecology Board of Visitors

Re: Support for New Badger Partnership and Public Authority Status

We the undersigned members of the School of Human Ecology Board of Visitors, strongly support the New Badger Partnership and fully endorse the concept of public-authority status for the University of Wisconsin-Madison, because:

- The existing partner relationship between the UW-Madison and the University of Wisconsin System will not be impacted.
- Public-authority status will free UW-Madison from burdensome state bureaucracy and enable it to respond faster and smarter to Wisconsin’s challenges.
- Public authority status will allow UW-Madison to better compete in the global higher education marketplace.
- It will help UW-Madison to more rapidly expand its $12.4 billion impact on Wisconsin’s economy and help create more jobs — currently totaling 128,000.
- Public authority status will also allow UW-Madison to fulfill its century-old commitment to the Wisconsin Idea, while relying less on taxpayer support.

The innovative New Badger Partnership and public authority status will provide the UW-Madison with the flexibility in budgeting, human resources, capital planning, purchasing, and financial management needed to remain effective in this global century. The New Badger Partnership, beginning with public authority status, will preserve and protect a state resource for generations to come.