APPENDIX C
Role of the University of Wisconsin-Extension
Faculty Senate in Faculty Governance

What is the Senate?

The members of the Senate consist of the elected representatives from each of the electoral districts and the members of the University Committee ex officio. The Wisconsin Legislature in providing for shared faculty governance specified that the faculty of each institution shall have the right to determine their own faculty organizational structure and to select representatives to participate in institutional governance. University of Wisconsin-Extension faculty governance legislation delegates much of the authority of the University faculty to the Faculty Senate.

Responsibilities of the Senate

The Senate is empowered to develop faculty policies and procedures concerning faculty personnel matters, academic and educational activities. Examples of formal faculty documents include criteria for rank and tenure decisions and procedures for faculty hearings and appeals. In addition, informal statements are prepared interpreting shared faculty governance.

The Senate enables the faculty to arrive at positions and to interact with faculties from other campuses, administrators, and others. The Senate provides a forum for two-way communication between administration and faculty.

Expectations of Senators

Senators are expected to:

- Attend as many Senate meetings as possible. If persons cannot attend, they are expected to notify their alternative.

- Retain good communications within their districts. Communicate frequently with constituents, reporting results of previous Senate meetings and obtaining guidance about proposed agenda items.

- Familiarize themselves with faculty documents and procedures of faculty governance.

- Familiarize themselves with issues that come before the Senate.

- Speak out on behalf of their constituents providing input for policy decisions.