

# UW-Green Bay Political Activities

September 4, 2012



UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN  
**GREEN BAY**  
360° OF LEARNING

# Background

- State laws surrounding political activities at work
- Recent open records requests from the public and legislators resulted in release of employee e-mails and records
- Employees subject to discipline for misuse of University equipment



# Reminder

- It is a violation of Administrative Code and Statutes for UW employees to:
  - Engage in political activities at work
  - Use UW-Green Bay facilities or resources for political activities or purposes



# Interpreted to Include

- Work on or assist with political campaign
- Display signs, items or materials supporting a partisan political candidate in the workplace
- Use of campus equipment such as mail, e-mail, telephones, supplies and equipment for political activities
- Social media



# Recommendations

- Unless expert providing political commentary:
- Strongly encourage employees not to say or do anything to give impression political position is affiliated with UW-Green Bay
- Do not use tag lines associated with UW-Green Bay
- Be cognizant your activity may subject you to open records request



# Political Contributions

- Violation of state law to ask employees for political contribution while working
- Includes requests via mail, e-mail
- Violation of state law to enter a state building or facility to ask for a political contribution or help with a political campaign (exception for residence halls)



# Exceptions

- Hosting non-partisan events to encourage voter education and participation
  - Forums
  - Voter registration efforts
  - Speeches
  - Q&A sessions
  - Debates
- Electronic resources may be used for non-partisan activities



# Follow-Up

- E-mail will be sent to all employees this week
- Supervisors and division heads disseminate and communicate this information in your areas
- Specific information available at <https://www.wisconsin.edu/ohrwd/hr/emplrel/poactivity/>

