TO: Campus Community, Media Outlets
FROM: Amy Jewell, Public Relations Director
DATE: October 9, 2014
SUBJECT: Student Senate’s response to U.S. Supreme Court’s Voter ID law decision

In response to the United States Supreme Court’s decision to block the implementation of Wisconsin’s Voter Identification law in November’s election, the Student Senate issued the following statement:

“The Student Senate is pleased with the Supreme Court’s ruling, and looks forward to a final ruling from the high court at a later date. As we have said from the beginning of this process, our conflict is not necessarily with the Voter ID law itself, but the implementation of such a major shift in voting procedure during the middle of an open registration period. For the time being, we can continue the work of informing the students of UW-Eau Claire about requesting absentee ballots, registering on Election Day, and understanding exactly what documents constitute proof of residency to ensure they can participate in the democratic process.”

Since the implementation of the law, the Student Senate and UW-Eau Claire have made voter ID cards available to students without valid photo identification available for free. The Senate will continue to participate in voter engagement efforts until the November 4 election, and will actively inform students about this new development.

For media comment, contact Student Body Vice President Jake Wrasse at 715-836-4875 or Intergovernmental Affairs Director Rebecca Jewell at jewellrm@uwec.edu.