WHEREAS, the 2007-2009 biennium budget is over 110 days late; and

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin System comprises a significant portion of the Wisconsin state budget; and

WHEREAS, the funding of public education should not be a partisan issue; and

WHEREAS, an investment in the UW System is an investment in the future of the state of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, education is a right, not a privilege of the few; and

WHEREAS, the future of the UW System is tied up in the state budget process; and

WHEREAS, thousands of students are without financial aid because there is no state budget; and

WHEREAS, the students of the UW System are facing a nearly $800 tuition surcharge for the spring semester; and
WHEREAS, students have been supporting and organizing for the Wisconsin Needs Higher Education Reinvestment campaign since February, 2007; and

WHEREAS, students have been organizing for write-in campaigns, phone-in campaigns and lobby visits for the state budget; and

WHEREAS, students have recognized the importance of their involvement in the budget process for the future;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate recognizes, appreciates, and supports the efforts of all students, on behalf of students, to ensure a student friendly state budget for the 2007-2009 biennium; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate appreciates the efforts of all those that fight for the rights of students on the state level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate supports and encourages students to attend the statewide "Budget or Bust" rally on Wednesday, October 24 in Madison, Wisconsin; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage President Raymond French transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Steven Tallant, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business & Student Services; Andrew Phillips, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor,
Academic Affairs; Dr. Kimberly Barrett, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Development & Diversity; Senator Kathleen Vinehout; Representative Jeff Smith; Senator Pat Kreitlow; Representative Terry Moulton; Dr. Marty Wood, Chair, University Senate; Mike Rindo, Executive Director, University Communications; and Jesse Dixon, Acting Associate Dean of Student Development, Student Development & Diversity.

Submitted by:
Raymond French, Student Body President
Meghan Charlier, Student Body Vice President
Elizabeth Schinke, United Council Delegation Leader
October 22, 2007