

Passed 26-1-2
10-29-07
51-R-16

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF GENDER-NEUTRAL BATHROOMS ON THE UW-EC CAMPUS

1 WHEREAS, currently the only gender-neutral bathrooms on the
2 UW-EC campus are in Phillips Science Hall; and

3 WHEREAS, persons who would benefit from these facilities
4 are not always in Phillips Science Hall; and

5 WHEREAS, the label of "unisex" on these bathrooms is
6 offensive to some individuals; and

7 WHEREAS, transgender, genderqueer, and other non-gender-
8 conforming individuals (see Attachment "C") often report
9 abstaining from bathroom use in public, leading to various
10 health problems; and

11 WHEREAS, gender-neutral bathrooms are safer and more
12 comfortable for transgender, genderqueer, and other non-gender-
13 conforming individuals; and

14 WHEREAS, parents and guardians of young children cannot
15 accompany their different-gendered children to bathrooms that
16 are gender-specific; and

17 WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities needing assistance
18 from a guardian or caretaker cannot currently do so if their
19 caretaker is different-gendered; and

20 WHEREAS, the Office of Services for Students with
21 Disabilities has proposed plans for the inclusion of gender-
22 neutral accessible bathrooms in Hibbard Humanities Hall and the
23 Human Sciences and Services building (see attachments "A" and
24 "B"); and

25 WHEREAS, numerous colleges across the country, including
26 the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, have gender-neutral
27 bathrooms available on their campuses; and

28 WHEREAS, the UW-EC's Policy on Non-Discriminatory Conduct
29 states that, "The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire is
30 committed to providing a community that respects the dignity and
31 worth of all members;"

32 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student
33 Senate affirms the right of all UW-Eau Claire students, staff,
34 and visitors a safe and accessible bathroom facilities for
35 themselves and their dependents, regardless of gender identity,
36 disability status, or status as a parent; and

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student
38 Senate support the conversion of existing unisex bathrooms into
39 gender-neutral bathrooms; and

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student
41 Senate support the conversion of existing unisex bathrooms in
42 Phillips Science Hall into gender-neutral bathrooms; and

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student
44 Senate supports the plans for gender-neutral accessible
45 bathrooms in Hibbard Humanities Hall and the Human Science and
46 Services building proposed by the Office of Services for
47 Students with Disabilities; and

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student
49 Senate fully supports the incorporation of gender-neutral and
50 accessible bathrooms in the UW-Eau Claire facilities where
51 possible; and

52 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage President Raymond
53 French transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-
54 Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Steven Tallant, Provost/Vice
55 Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business & Student
56 Services; Dr. Kimberly Barrett, Associate Vice Chancellor,
57 Student Development & Diversity; Charles Farrell, Director,
58 University Centers; All UW System Student Governments; Terry
59 Classen, Director, Facilities Planning; Dr. Marty Wood, Chair,
60 University Senate; and Jesse Dixon, Acting Associate Dean of
61 Student Development, Student Development & Diversity.

Submitted by:
Elizabeth Lorenz, Student Services Commission Director

Emily Mattheisen, Student Life & Diversity Commission
Director, Students with Disabilities Chairperson
and Off-Campus Senator
October 29, 2007