

Passed 24-0-0  
2-11-08  
51-R-23

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE  
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 252 WHEG EDUCATION  
GRANT INCREASE

1 WHEREAS, tuition has increased 70% over the last six years;

2 and

3 WHEREAS, student financial aid has not increased  
4 proportionately to tuition increases; and

5 WHEREAS, currently, approximately 31,000 students in the  
6 University of Wisconsin System receive the Wisconsin Higher  
7 Education Grant (WHEG); and

8 WHEREAS, in 2006, the National Center for Public Policy and  
9 Higher Education gave the State of Wisconsin an "F" in  
10 affordability saying, "The State's investment in need-based  
11 financial aid is very low when compared with top-performing  
12 states;" and

13 WHEREAS, over 60% of the UW resident undergraduates  
14 graduate with debt; and

15 WHEREAS, in the last thirty years, grants have made up 75%  
16 of a student's financial aid packet and loans made up the  
17 remaining 25%; currently, this proportion has reversed; and

18           WHEREAS, the statistics and facts listed above illustrate  
19 the need for an increase in WHEG in proportion to tuition  
20 increases to provide affordable education;

21           BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student  
22 Senate supports the Assembly Bill 252 WHEG Education Grant  
23 Increase; and

24           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student  
25 Senate encourages the Joint Finance Committee to commit to  
26 funding and increasing the WHEG at an equivalent percentage to  
27 tuition increases; and

28           BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage President Raymond  
29 French transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-  
30 Stankevich, Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business &  
31 Student Services; Members of the Joint Finance Committee; Board  
32 of Regents; Four Year Student Government Presidents; United  
33 Council; Mark Schaff, Editor in Chief, Spectator; Aaron  
34 Brewster, Editor in Chief, Flipside; State Representative Jeff  
35 Smith; State Senator Kathleen Vinehout; Ann Lapp, Interim  
36 Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Development & Diversity; and  
37 Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Student Development,  
38 Student Development & Diversity.

Submitted by:  
Amber Bretl, United Council Delegation Leader  
& Off-Campus Senator  
Emily Mattheisen, Student Life & Diversity Commission  
Director & Off-Campus Senator  
Raymond French, Student Body President  
February 11, 2008