UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF HIGHER EDUCATION REINVESTMENT (H.E.R.)

1. WHEREAS, tuition has increased 70% over the last six years;
2. and
3. WHEREAS, the state has previously paid two dollars to every
4. student’s one dollar and now the students pay more than the state
5. supplies; and
6. WHEREAS, the state contributes to 45% of the UW System’s
7. cost of instruction while students contribute 55% to the cost of
8. instruction; and
9. WHEREAS, it is recommended by the Board of Regents that the
10. state should provide 65% of the UW System’s cost of instruction;
11. and
12. WHEREAS, over 60% of the UW resident undergraduates graduate
13. with debt; and
14. WHEREAS, in a period of seven years (1992-1999), the number
15. of students that took out loans rose from 42% to 64%; and
WHEREAS, the high number of graduates with debt increases the probability that they will seek higher paying jobs outside of the state after they graduate; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education gave the State of Wisconsin an “F” in affordability saying, “The State’s investment in need-based financial aid is very low when compared with top-performing states;” and

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

WHEREAS, the statistics listed above illustrate the need for Wisconsin’s Higher Education Reinvestment to provide an affordable and valuable education;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate supports the Wisconsin Needs Higher Education Reinvestment campaign; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate encourages other student governments to support the Wisconsin Needs Higher Education Reinvestment campaign; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate encourages the Joint Finance Committee to commit to funding the UW System at a level comparable to a fully funded tuition freeze; and
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage President Raymond French transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business and Student Services; Dr. Steve Tallant, Interim Provost/Vice Chancellor; Members of the Joint Finance Committee; Board of Regents; Four Year Student Government Presidents; United Council; Mark Schaff, Editor in Chief, Spectator; Aaron Brewster, Editor in Chief, Flipside; State Representative Jeff Smith; State Senator Kathleen Vinehout; Dr. Kimberly Barrett, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Development & Diversity; and Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Student Development, Student Development & Diversity.

Submitted by:
Elizabeth Schinke, United Council Delegation Leader
Raymond French, Student Body President
Meghan Charlier, Student Body Vice President
April 9, 2007