

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE  
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF A FOUR DAY BREAK SURROUNDING EASTER

1           WHEREAS, the Friday before Easter, popularly known as "Good  
2 Friday," and Easter itself, are celebrated by large numbers of  
3 students, even though they lack legal recognition; and

4           WHEREAS, during the 2005-2006 academic year students were  
5 granted a four day break, a tradition which students have come to  
6 expect; and

7           WHEREAS, during the 2006-2007 and 2008-2009 academic years,  
8 classes are scheduled on the Monday immediately following Easter  
9 Sunday; and

10          WHEREAS, for many students, it is an imperative tradition  
11 that these holidays, which commemorate the Passion and  
12 Resurrection of Jesus Christ and comprise the holiest days of the  
13 liturgical year, be spent at home with family; and

14          WHEREAS, regardless of religious belief, or lack thereof,  
15 this is traditionally a time for students to spend with their  
16 families; and

17           WHEREAS, having class on a day immediately following a major  
18 holiday creates gross inconvenience regarding travel, and  
19 restricts valuable time spent with family; and

20           WHEREAS, a greater window of travel time will allow students  
21 to make travel decisions based on their personal safety and  
22 convenience; and

23           WHEREAS, scheduling classes on the Monday following Easter  
24 requires many students to return to campus on the evening of  
25 Easter or early Monday morning, leaving little leeway for  
26 variations in travel plans, weather and/or traffic conditions;  
27 and

28           WHEREAS, this requirement infringes upon many students'  
29 ability to celebrate Easter with their families; and

30           WHEREAS, when surveyed, a resounding majority of students  
31 expressed support of having the Monday following Easter off,  
32 explicitly due to the fact that they intended to return home for  
33 the holiday; and

34           WHEREAS, the possibility of future academic calendars in  
35 which students are not granted any days off for the Easter  
36 holiday would severely curtail students' ability to celebrate the  
37 holiday as they wish;

38           BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that in future years, when the  
39 academic calendar is being constructed, due consideration be  
40 given to the above clauses, and serious thought be given to a  
41 calendar which has no classes scheduled for the Friday preceding

42 Easter or the Monday following it, conceding that it is a  
43 necessary travel day for students wishing to celebrate Easter at  
44 home who may live a great distance from the university; and

45 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage President Raymond  
46 French transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-  
47 Stankevich, Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business  
48 and Student Services; Dr. Steve Tallant, Interim Provost/Vice  
49 Chancellor; Jan Morse, Administrative Officer, Academic Affairs;  
50 Board of Regents; Dr. Kimberly Barrett, Associate Vice  
51 Chancellor, Student Development & Diversity; and Jodi Thesing-  
52 Ritter, Associate Dean of Student Development, Student  
53 Development & Diversity.

Submitted by:

Robert Hamill, Intergovernmental Affairs Commission Director  
and On-Campus Senator

Daniel James Schauer, Off-Campus Senator

Isaac Orr, On-Campus Senator

April 9, 2007