

04/06/09
Passed 28-1-1

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

STUDENT SENATE

CLASSIFICATION SPECIAL ALLOCATION TO THE STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

NUMBER 52-B-24 DATE March 30, 2009

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS HOLTAN, FINANCE COMMISSION DIRECTOR AND
FINANCE COMMISSION

1 WHEREAS, the Student Health Services has worked collaboratively with
2 the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Director of Counseling Services to
3 maintain the present level of mental health services (particularly counseling) to
4 students during the budget crisis; and

5 WHEREAS, the rising demand of mental health services on college
6 campuses has been well documented over the past several years; and

7 WHEREAS, a positive correlation exists between students who seek mental
8 health services and academic retention and success; and

9 WHEREAS, twenty five percent of the student population has used the
10 counseling service before the time they graduate; and

11 WHEREAS, the country has seen a national increase with suicide and
12 depression, and an increase in numbers that commit suicide; and

13 WHEREAS, other institutions with 10,500 students typically have six
14 counseling staff; and

15 WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire currently employs 4.19 counseling staff; and

16 WHEREAS, a study showed that campuses should have one counselor for
17 1,500 students; and

18 WHEREAS, because of the budget crisis the campus is at risk to lose two
19 positions that equate to 1.74 FTE; and

20 WHEREAS, these two positions run help groups and outreaches; and

21 WHEREAS, these two positions account for approximately 450 session by
22 220 individual students per year; and

23 WHEREAS, the specialty areas for the counselors include alcohol and
24 other drug issues, women's health and eating disorders; and

25 WHEREAS, without these positions the ability to help students would
26 greatly diminish; and

27 WHEREAS, the Student Health Services requests \$156,300 to fund two
28 counseling positions that equate to 1.74 FTE; and

29 WHEREAS, the Finance Commission voted 9-0-1 in favor of supporting the
30 request; and

31 WHEREAS, the Finance Commission voted 9-0-1 in favor of raising
32 segregated fees \$16.00;

33 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate supports the
34 counseling services on this university; and

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate allocates \$156,300 to
36 Student Health Services to fund two counseling positions; and

37 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that upon passage, President Lauer transmit a
38 copy of this bill to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Marty Wood,
39 Interim Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student
40 Affairs; Dr. P.J. Kennedy, Director, Counseling Services; and Jodi Thesing-Ritter,
41 Associate Dean of Students, Dean of Students Office.