

Passed 27-1-1
10/20/08

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

STUDENT SENATE

CLASSIFICATION IN SUPPORT OF THE HOBBS ICE ARENA RENOVATION AND
EXPANSION

NUMBER 52-B-3 DATE October 13, 2008

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS HOLTAN, FINANCE COMMISSION DIRECTOR AND
FINANCE COMMISSION

1 WHEREAS, the Hobbs Ice Arena has served the ice skating needs of the
2 community of Eau Claire since 1975; and

3 WHEREAS, the Hobbs Ice Arena is home to the University of Wisconsin-
4 Eau Claire Blugold Men's and Women's Hockey teams, the Eau Claire Memorial
5 and North High School Hockey teams, the Eau Claire Figure Skating Club and the
6 Eau Claire Youth Hockey Association; and

7 WHEREAS, the Hobbs Ice Arena currently serves more than 250,000
8 visitors annually; and

9 WHEREAS, the Hobbs Ice Arena fills to capacity at numerous events; and

10 WHEREAS, the Hobbs Ice Arena is currently too small to host NCAA
11 events; and

12 **WHEREAS, a larger facility with our name prominent would encourage**
13 **prospective students to attend UWEC; and**

14 **WHEREAS, any visitor to Hobbs Ice Arena thinks, from its outside**
15 **appearance, that the building is a warehouse; and**

16 **WHEREAS, there is not an adequate entrance for community members,**
17 **students, or our guests; and**

18 **WHEREAS, the facilities are not adequate for our student users; and**

19 **WHEREAS, a major liability of the facility is the location of the locker rooms**
20 **to the team locker rooms; and**

21 **WHEREAS, as the hockey teams have their lockers and changing rooms**
22 **upstairs and their shower facilities downstairs; and**

23 **WHEREAS, this creates a tricky situation in terms of changing and cleaning**
24 **up after games; and**

25 **WHEREAS, it is not uncommon to see a line of players traipsing up and**
26 **down the stairs in their robes before and after practices; and**

27 **WHEREAS, the current facility is a deterrent when prospective students**
28 **investigate UWEC Blugold Hockey; and**

29 **WHEREAS, a goal in the Strategic Plan is to foster and develop**
30 **relationships with the city on capital expense projects; and**

31 **WHEREAS, the Student Senate has collaborated successfully with the City**
32 **of Eau Claire on previous occasions including the Carson Park Project, and**
33 **public transit; and**

34 WHEREAS, as one of Wisconsin's premier undergraduate universities, the
35 quality of our facilities should reflect how we value our students; and

36 WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate donated \$250,000 in the
37 spring of 2008; and

38 WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Foundation matched the amount; and

39 WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Foundation is coming to the students to
40 seek additional \$50,000 because they are hoping to cover at least half of the cost
41 of the Blugold addition through university-related sources; and

42 WHEREAS, the total project cost of the Blugold locker room addition is
43 more than \$1,000,000; and

44 WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Foundation has agreed to match an
45 additional commitment of the UW-Eau Claire students up to \$50,000; and

46 WHEREAS, the collective sum of all of our donations would be a positive
47 stepping stone for the community while fundraising to collect the rest; and

48 WHEREAS, an additional donation would ensure the naming rights of the
49 facility; and

50 WHEREAS, the Hobbs Ice Arena project is a model project for future
51 community collaborations; and

52 WHEREAS, by supporting an additional contribution, the community would
53 see that students want collaborations to occur; and

54 WHEREAS, without the additional student contribution, the renovation may
55 not occur; and

56 **WHEREAS, without the renovation, Hobbs Ice Arena may be closing,**
57 **leaving few options available for student users;**

58 **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Student Senate supports the future**
59 **dedicated area of the expansion that would include: men’s and women’s locker**
60 **rooms, offices, training room, weight room, entrance area, and additional seating;**
61 **and**

62 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Student Senate supports the future**
63 **observation area on the second floor, used to promote the hockey program and**
64 **the University; and**

65 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Student Senate supports the University’s**
66 **name and emblem to be promoted throughout the renovation; and**

67 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Student Senate supports the additional**
68 **donation of \$50,000 to the Hobbs Ice Arena; and**

69 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate plans to fund the**
70 **additional \$50,000 following the alternate 10 plan (attachment A); and**

71 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Lauer transmit a**
72 **copy of this bill to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Marty Wood,**
73 **Interim Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. V. Thomas Dock, Acting Vice Chancellor for**
74 **Administration, Facilities & Finance; Dave Gessner, Director, Business Services;**
75 **Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; Kimera Way, UWEC**
76 **Foundation; Scott Kilgallon, Director, Athletics; and Jodi Thesing-Ritter,**
77 **Associate Dean of Students, Dean of Students Office.**