

Passed 14-13-3
11/17/08

52-R-10

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF CREATING A VOLUNTARY ENVIRONMENTAL AND
SOCIALY CONSCIOUS GRADUATION PLEDGE

1 WHEREAS, there is currently no graduation pledge for
2 students to partake in during the graduation ceremony; and

3 WHEREAS, the inclusion would provide students with the
4 option of pledging to be more environmentally and socially
5 conscious in any organization they associate themselves with in
6 the future; and

7 WHEREAS, this action would be a progressive step within the
8 University, the Eau Claire Community, the University of
9 Wisconsin System, and the State of Wisconsin towards becoming
10 more conscious of our actions and behaviors' effects; and

11 WHEREAS, this would allow the University to be the first
12 institution in the state of Wisconsin that has incorporated an
13 environmental and socially conscious graduation pledge into the
14 graduation ceremony; and

15 WHEREAS, enacting this resolution would be in the spirit of
16 the University's sustainability initiatives;

17 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate supports a
18 voluntary environmental and socially conscious graduation
19 pledge; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate leadership
21 will work together with the University's administration and the
22 supporters of this pledge's inclusion to ensure its placement in
23 the graduation ceremony; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate encourages
25 students to partake in the pledge; and

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate will support
27 finding means of funding the necessary supplies for the
28 graduation pledge; and

29 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage President Tim
30 Lauer transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-
31 Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Marty Wood, Interim Provost/Vice
32 Chancellor; Dr. V. Thomas Dock, Acting Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth
33 Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs; The Spectator;
34 Jennifer Brockpahler, Commencement Coordinator; and Jodi
35 Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Students, Dean of Students
36 Office.

SUBMITTED BY:
Dylan Jambrek, Off-Campus Senator
November 17, 2008

ATTACHMENT "A"

The Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility states:

"I pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organization for which I work."

Students may define for themselves what it means to be "socially and environmentally responsible."

Instituting the Pledge gets at the heart of a good education and a good educational institution. It can benefit society as a whole. Not only does it remind students of the ethical implications of the knowledge and training they received, but it can help lead to a socially conscious citizenry and a better world. In a sense then, the Pledge operates at three levels: students making choices about their employment; schools educating about values and citizenship, rather than only knowledge and skills; and the workplace and society being concerned about more than just the bottom line.

Soon to be graduates receive an explanatory letter and a wallet-size card that states the Pledge. Typically, 50 percent of students make the commitment, and they and supportive faculty wear green ribbons during commencement, and the Pledge appears in the printed program.

