WHEREAS, Chancellor Brian Levin-Stankevich directed the New Student Center Steering Committee to revise the building plans to accommodate the Council Oak Tree and site; and

WHEREAS, Student Senate was not addressed by the Chancellor in regard to revising the building plans; and

WHEREAS, University Senate approved the Chancellor’s decision by acclamation; and

WHEREAS, the original timeline for the new student center called for construction to begin in the spring of 2011; and

WHEREAS, the timeline was adjusted due to the accelerated pace of work of the building committee to break ground on the new Student Center in May 2010; and

WHEREAS, the project is currently one year ahead of its originally-scheduled timeline; and

WHEREAS, the re-design of the new student center will delay the adjusted timeline for breaking ground in May 2010; and

WHEREAS, acting against the Chancellor’s decision may further delay the building plans and therefore increase the cost of redesigning the building; and
WHEREAS, the current building plan was constructed to have
the most favorable effect on parking possible; and
WHEREAS, the redesigned building plan will not have as
favorable of an effect on parking as the current plan; and
WHEREAS, College of Nursing faculty have expressed concern
with the loading dock being too close to the Nursing building;
and
WHEREAS, UW System has stated that they believe the
building should be redesigned to accommodate the tree and modify
the loading dock to better accommodate the Nursing building; and
WHEREAS, some students have expressed disapproval and
concern with paying for any costs associated with the redesign
of the new student center; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Regents approved the new student
center building project for 48.8 million dollars collected by
student fees over twenty years; and
WHEREAS, the money to support the possible redesign would
be taken from the building project budget; and
WHEREAS, increasing the student fee, or the time at which
the student fee is collected, would have to be a decision
supported by the Student Senate, campus-wide student referendum,
and be reapproved by the Board of Regents; and
WHEREAS, the current estimate of the building cost is based
on national construction averages and not state construction
averages; and
WHEREAS, national averages for cost estimating are higher than state averages; and

WHEREAS, by formal request, the Division of State Facilities can re-estimate all building design options in accordance to state averages instead of national averages; and

WHEREAS, six other UW System building projects were estimated using the national averages and have returned with bids from local contractors 10 to 25% below national average expectations; and

WHEREAS, a cost estimate based on state averages would be lower and provide a more accurate estimate of the actual cost and building potential; and

WHEREAS, the more accurate estimate would make more money available to the building; and

WHEREAS, the size and quality of the building would not be compromised if state averages were used in estimating construction costs;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the students of the new Student Center Steering Committee make an official request to Division of State Facilities to provide a new estimate of the original building design option in accordance with state averages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that cost estimates for all design options be conducted with the cost estimates from Division of State Facilities and Wisconsin averages; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Division of State Facilities formally instruct the architectural and engineering firms to estimate all design options using state averages provided in the Division of State Facilities re-estimate report of the original design.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any money made newly available from re-estimating to state averages will be spent on anything in the project budget except architectural, engineering, and Division of State Facilities Project Management fees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all redesign options brought forth to the Steering Committee clearly state any additional fees associated with those design options in the budget categories of architectural, engineering, and Division of State Facilities Project Management fees; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Umhoefer transmit a copy of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs Dr. Susan Harrison, Chair, University Senate; Dave Gessner, Assistant Chancellor, Budget and Finance; Mike Rindo, Executive Director, University Communications; Charles Farrell, Director, University Centers; Rick Gonzales, Campus Planner; David Miller, Assistant Vice President, Capital Planning & Budget; Jeff Kosloske, Senior Architect, Capital Planning & Budget; Kate Sullivan, Director, Facilities Planning, Capital Planning &
Budget; Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Students, Dean of Students Office; John Rackey, A/E Supervisor and Northwest Team Leader, Division of State Facilities; David Haley, State Chief Architect and Deputy Director, Division of State Facilities; and Adel Tabrizi, State Chief Engineer and Director, Division of State Facilities.

SUBMITTED BY:
Davendra Raj, Student Life & Diversity Commission Director and On-Campus Senator
Sarah Tweedale, Student Services Commission Director and On-Campus Senator
Phil Rynish, Transportation/Safety Affairs Chairperson and On-Campus Senator
Chrissy Duszynski, On-Campus Senator
Paydon Miller, Off-Campus Senator
October 12, 2009