WHEREAS, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse student government passed a resolution recommending a change to the Board of Regents policy on differential tuition initiatives; and

WHEREAS, UW-La Crosse Student Association resolution SA0910-044 specifically addressed the Blugold Commitment differential tuition initiative that was approved by the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Student Senate did not implement the costs of the Blugold Commitment to incoming students only; and

WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate feels that current students who decide to increase tuition should be impacted by the financial burden as well as incoming students; and

WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate and the Associated Students of Madison supported the inclusion of a substantial financial aid component within their respective differential tuition proposals; and
WHEREAS, after the Blugold Commitment differential tuition proposal was amended by UW-Eau Claire Student Senate, a follow-up survey was not conducted to measure student opinion; and

WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate does not believe a binding student referendum should be the sole dependent factor upon forwarding a differential tuition proposal to the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents policy currently does not include a requirement for a financial aid component for large differential tuition proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents policy currently does not require any student approval for a differential tuition proposal to be forwarded to the Board of Regents;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that UW-Eau Claire Student Senate recommends these changes to the Board of Regents policy on differential tuition initiatives:

Procedure for creating differential tuition initiative proposals must meet the following criteria:

1. Differential tuition initiative proposals must never be implemented to incoming students only, but can be implemented to the class following the incoming class.

2. Differential tuition initiative proposals greater than 10% of the current cost of tuition and fees must include a financial assistance component.

3. A survey must be sent to all students directly affected by the proposed differential tuition initiative to measure students’ opinions on the goals and dollar amount of the proposed differential tuition initiative.

4. A follow-up survey must be sent to all students directly affected by the proposed differential tuition initiative if the proposal is amended by the Chancellor or the Student Senate at any time after the first survey was conducted.
5. Students must be asked if they support the proposed differential tuition initiative in the form of a “yes/no” question either in the survey or a separate formal student referendum.
   a. The support of a majority of respondents via the “yes/no” question or separate formal student referendum is a contingent factor in forwarding the differential tuition initiative to the Board of Regents.
   b. The results of the “yes/no” question or separate formal student referendum, whether positive or negative, may be overridden by a 2/3 majority vote of the student government.

6. Student approval of the differential tuition initiative proposal from either the survey, formal student referendum, or student government is required to be forwarded to the Board of Regents.

7. A student oversight component must be agreed upon by the student government and administration before the initiative is forwarded to the Board of Regents and must contain student/administration collaborative committees.

Differential tuition initiative proposals presented to the Board of Regents must include the following:

1. An opinion from the student government in the form of a Student Senate vote.
2. A copy of the conducted survey and results.
3. If conducted, a copy of the follow-up survey and results.
4. If conducted, a copy of the formal student referendum and results.
5. A copy of the student oversight component agreed upon by the student government and administration.

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 & Finance; Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Students, Dean of Students Office; the
University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents; and Dr. Kevin Reilly, UW-System President.

SUBMITTED BY:
Chrissy Duszynski, On-Campus Senator
Michael Umhoefer, Student Body President
Amber Bretl, Student Body Vice President
Daven Raj, Student Life & Diversity Commission Director
& Off-Campus Senator
Sarah Tweedale, Student Services Commission Director
& On-Campus Senator
Ben Klingenberg, United Council Delegation Leader
& On-Campus Senator
Matthew Sias, Webmaster & Off-Campus Senator
Phillip Plager, On-Campus Senator
Collin Hawkins, Off-Campus Senator
Dylan Jambrek, Finance Commission Director
& Off-Campus Senator
March 8, 2010