UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN OPPOSITION TO THE STATE BUDGET LAPSE REDUCTION TO THE UW SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the UW System received a $250 million budget cut in the biennial state budget; and

WHEREAS, the 2011-2013 State Budget required state agencies to return at least $174.3 million in lapsed general purpose revenue funds already allocated in the same budget; and

WHEREAS, the UW System is expected to absorb at least $65.6 million of this cut over two years; and

WHEREAS, the UW System will take a much higher portion of the lapse than other state agencies that receive general purpose revenue; and

WHEREAS, $65.6 million is 38% of the total general purpose revenue lapse despite the fact that the UW System only represents 7% of total general purpose revenue expenditures; and

WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire will be responsible for returning at least $3,344,707; $2,345,863 of which will be required to be returned during the 2012 fiscal year; and
WHEREAS, it will be exceedingly difficult, and ultimately unfair for the UW System and specifically UW-Eau Claire to take additional cuts; and

WHEREAS, these revenue cuts come mid-semester when UW-Eau Claire and the UW System have made firm commitments to their students, faculty, and staff that cannot be reversed; and

WHEREAS, these disproportionately large cuts will negatively affect the education of students at every UW institution at a time when the UW System is needed to spur economic growth and innovation in Wisconsin’s economy;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate of UW-Eau Claire opposes the additional cuts to the UW system and the harm these cuts will cause to students across Wisconsin; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate advocates for a more even and fair distribution of the general purpose revenue lapse across state agencies be developed in order to meet the needs of UW-Eau Claire students and to limit the harm to UW-Eau Claire, its students, and the UW System as a whole; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs; Dr. Brian Carlisle, Dean of Students; Dr. Susan Harrison, Chair, University Senate; Dave
Gessner, Assistant Chancellor, Budget & Finance; Mark Reeves, Director, Budget & Finance; Governor Scott Walker; State Representative Robin Vos; State Senator Alberta Darling; State Senator Kathleen Vinehout; Senator Terry Moulton; State Representative Kathy Bernier; State Representative Steve Kestell; State Senator Dale Schultz; UW President Kevin Reilly; All presidents of the student governments of the UW system; President Michael Spector, Board of Regents; and Thomas Stafford, UW System Legal.

SUBMITTED BY:
Corydon Fish, Intergovernmental Affairs Commission Director and Off-Campus Senator
Phillip Rynish, Student Body President
Mark Morgan, Student Body Vice President
October 24, 2011