UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

STUDENT SENATE

CLASSIFICATION ___ IN SUPPORT OF A REFERENDUM TO AMEND THE STUDENT
SENATE CONSTITUTION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

NUMBER 56-B-20 DATE December 3, 2012

INTRODUCED BY BENJAMIN STREETER, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION
DIRECTOR AND OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR

WHEREAS, twelve credits represents full-time status at the University for undergraduate students; and

WHEREAS, this six credit requirement represents half-time status at the University for undergraduate students; and

WHEREAS, the current eligibility requirements for involvement in Student Senate, its commissions, and associated committees require, among other conditions, that a “student must have at least six credit hours at the University at the time of election or appointment and must hereafter maintain a minimum of six credit hours, while in the office or in the service of Senate;” and

WHEREAS, full-time status for graduate students at the University is nine credit hours and half-time status is four credit hours; and
WHEREAS, the current eligibility requirements do not take into account this discrepancy between half-time credit loads for graduate and undergraduates; and

WHEREAS, graduate students with a half-time credit load should be permitted the same opportunities to engage in student government and peer representation that undergraduates with half-time status enjoy; and

WHEREAS, constitutional amendments require a university-wide student referendum; and

WHEREAS, the proposed constitutional amendment to change the constitution’s language to reflect current half-time status is shown in Attachment “A;”

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire supports the extension of Student Senate eligibility to graduate students with half-time status per the University’s definition of half-time status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire authorizes a referendum to take place during the April Student Senate elections; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Fish transmit a copy of this bill to Dr. Gilles Bousquet, Interim 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; and Mark Reeves, Director, Budget & Finance.