RESOLUTION PASSED BY PLACARD VOTE 26-0
9/17/2012

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF THE EAU CLAIRE CONFLUENCE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Confluence Project is a public-private partnership between Commonweal Development, Market & Johnson, Eau Claire Area Arts Groups, Blugold Real Estate, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Foundation, and the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the Confluence Project includes a new community arts center, mixed-use retail and commercial space, and university student housing representing an investment of approximately $85-90 million; and

WHEREAS, the Confluence Project would be developed on the “Haymarket Site,” which has been identified as the key to redevelopment of the Historic South Barstow Riverfront District in Downtown Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the Confluence Project could provide a catalyst for transformation as significant and successful as the redevelopment of the North Barstow District, which includes Phoenix Park, the Eau Claire Downtown Farmers Market, RCU
Corporate Headquarters and associated housing, retail, restaurants and other businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Confluence Project has significant potential to attract more UW-Eau Claire upper-classmen students to live, work and spend time in Downtown Eau Claire – thus creating opportunities for new businesses downtown and fostering additional support for existing businesses, and to raising the downtown area’s visibility as a tourist, retail and entertainment destination; and

WHEREAS, the Confluence Project comes out of hundreds of discussions with, and surveys of local citizens and visitors about the need to redevelop the Historic South Barstow Riverfront District, better utilize the riverfronts, further position Downtown Eau Claire as the center for entertainment, cultural arts, and related businesses, and improve existing or create new community events facilities in Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the Confluence Project is consistent with the strategic goals of the City of Eau Claire Comprehensive Plan, Clear Vision Eau Claire, Eau Claire Downtown Riverfront District Redevelopment Strategy and Vision Plan, The Good Life, A Cultural Direction for Eau Claire County, and the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Campus Facilities Master Plan; and
WHEREAS, the Confluence Project demonstrates a collaborative solution between the public and private sectors to meet strategic community needs that a single municipality, cultural, civic, private, or government organization would not be able to accomplish independently; and

WHEREAS, the Confluence Project solves issues for community arts groups, the Eau Claire Regional Arts Council, and UW-Eau Claire by providing students, faculty, staff and the public with greatly expanded and enhanced performance and fine arts facilities;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Student Senate supports The Confluence Project and recognizes its tremendous potential to contribute to educational and student life opportunities, economic and business development, downtown revitalization, and quality-of-life amenities that will further enable UW-Eau Claire to attract and retain students, faculty and staff; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Student Senate eagerly anticipates working collaboratively on the Confluence Project with University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Foundation, and the broader Community of Eau Claire; and
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage a copy of this resolution be sent 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; Kimera Way, Executive Director, UW-Eau Claire Foundation; Kevin P. Reilly, President, UW-System; Jeffrey Bartell, Regent; John Behling, Regent; Mark J. Bradley, Regent; John Drew, Regent; Tom Evers, Regent; Michael Falbo, Regent Vice President; Tim Higgins, Regent; Tracy Hribar, Regent; Edmund Manydeeds, Regent; Regina Milner, Regent; Kathnerine Pointer, Regent; Charles Pruitt, Regent; Gary Roberts, Regent; Brent Smith, Regent President; Mark Tyler, Regent; Jose Vasquez, Regent; David Walsh, Regent; Gerald Whitburn, Regent; Kerry Kincaid, City Council President; Larry Balow, City Council Member; Mark Olson, City Council Member; Jackie Pavelski, City Council Member; Thomas Vue, City Council Member; David Duax, City Council Member; David Klinkhammer, City Council Member; Kathy Mitchell, City Council Member; Bob Van Haden, City Council Member; Andrew Werthmann, City Council Member; Brian Amundson, Interim City Manager; Representative Warren Petryk; Senator Terry Moulton; Senator Kathleen Vinehout; Representative Candidate Jeff Smith;
Representative Candidate Judy Smriga; Representative Candidate Dana Wachs; Eau Claire County Board Supervisors Gary Gibson, Paul Reck, Douglsa Kranig, Stella Pagonis, Bruce Stabenow, Richard Ziemann, Steve Chilson, Kevin Stellies, Gordon Steinhauer, Michael Conlin, Ray Henning, Colleen Bates, Kathy Clark, Jean Schlieve, Nick Smiar, Joel Mikelson, Gregg Moore, James Dunning, Gerald Wilkie, Bruce Willett, Ardyth Krause, Sue Miller, Robin Leary, John Manydeeds, Gloria Christensen, Tami Schraufnagel, Paul Lokken, John DeRosier, and Pat LaVelle; and J. Thoms McCarty, Eau Claire County Administrator.

SUBMITTED BY:
Corydon Fish, Student Body President
Patrick Martin, Student Body Vice President
Tyrel Zich, Chief of Staff, Treasurer and Academic Affairs Commission Director
Benjamin Streeter, Information Technology Commission Director and Off-Campus Senator
Brianna Burke, Student Services Commission Director and On-Campus Senator
September 17, 2012