RESOLUTION PASSED BY PLACARD VOTE OF 26-0
11/19/12

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF $50,000 PLEDGE TO 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 development 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; and

WHEREAS, naming opportunities are given to individuals or organizations who make financial pledges to the Confluence Project as part of an effort to foster additional funding for the Confluence Project; and

WHEREAS, the 50 for 50 program allows the names of 50 donors who pledge $50,000 to be placed on a permanent plaque to be located in the arts center;

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 and students of UW-Eau Claire pledge $50,000 to the arts center portion of the Confluence Project as part of the 50 for 50 fundraising program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this pledge is conditional upon the City of Eau Claire, UW-System, Board of Regents, and State of Wisconsin final approval of the Confluence Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon meeting pledge conditions $10,000 be dispersed from the Student Senate Special Reserve account in the form of a Special Allocation for the first year and as a line item in the Organized Activities Budget each subsequent year until the five-year $50,000 pledge is met; 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; Mark Reeves, Director, 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 Miner, Regent; Katherine Pointer, Regent; Charles Pruitt, Regent; Gary Reoberts, Regent; Brent Smith, Regent President; Mark Tyler, Regent; Jose Vasquez, Regent; David Walsh, Regent; Gerald Whitburn, Regent; Kerry Kincaid, City Council President; City Manager, Russ Van Gompel; 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 Elect Dana Wachs; Eau Claire County Board Supervisors Gary Gibson, Paul Reck, Douglas 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
Schraunagel, Paul Lokken, John DeRosier, and Pat LaVelle; and
J. Thomas McCarty, Eau Claire County Administrator.

SUBMITTED BY:
Bryan Larson, Finance Commission Director and
Off-Campus Senator
Finance Commission
Corydon Fish, Student Body President
Patrick Martin, Student Body Vice President
Tyrel Zich, Chief of Staff, Treasurer, Academic Affairs
Commission Director and Off-Campus Senator
November 19, 2012