UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN CONTINUED AFFIRMATION OF BLUGOLD COMMITMENT
DIFFERENTIAL TUITION

WHEREAS, the Blugold Commitment is an agreement between students, faculty, and administration to maintain and promote high-level academic experiences at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the Blugold Commitment was supported by the Student Senate as a way for students to make a direct and impactful difference through the funding of high impact academic programs, collaborative research, and cultural immersion experiences; and

WHEREAS, the Blugold Commitment would have increased differential tuition paid by students to a total of $1,200 for the 2013-2014 academic year and beyond; and

WHEREAS, these tuition dollars are directly overseen by members of the Student Body throughout each phase of the Blugold Commitment proposal review process; and

WHEREAS, for each categorical review committee for the Blugold Commitment proposals “Each committee shall consist of three students, two faculty or academic staff members and at
most one administrative representative who will be a non-voting member’ and the Funding Analysis Committee, where the voting on all proposals are finalized “shall include up to four student representatives (including the Academic Affairs Director) and four representatives from the office of the Provost;” and

WHEREAS, the yearly spending plan must be brought forth and voted on by the Student Senate before it is able to be implemented; and

WHEREAS, the Blugold Commitment provides financial aid, travel abroad opportunities, and collaborative research that give University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire students unique opportunities that may set them apart from other graduates; and

WHEREAS, the tuition freeze laid out in the Wisconsin State Budget froze differential tuition dollars; and

WHEREAS, students of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire did not see their differential tuition increase in accordance with the program they enacted; and

WHEREAS, Blugold Commitment proposals are funded based on the money that is projected to be available to the University; and

WHEREAS, the 2013-2014 Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition spending plan was projected to spend $13,245,364; and

WHEREAS, the spending plan was crafted before the freeze on Differential Tuition; and
WHEREAS, the final installment of funds are no longer available;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate believes that the freeze of Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition is a disservice to the student body of this University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate implores the University of Wisconsin System Student Representatives to use their Intergovernmental Affairs Committee to advocate on behalf of the merits of student implemented differential tuition programs and the elimination of the current freeze on differential tuition; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs; Dr. Joseph Abhold, Dean of Students; Dr. Mitch Freymiller, Chair, University Senate; Dave Gessner, Assistant Chancellor, Budget & Finance; Mark Reeves, Director, Budget & Finance; Governor Scott Walker; Representative Robin Vos, Speaker; and all UW-System Student Representatives.

submitted by
Samuel Fish, Academic Affairs Commission Director
and On-Campus Senator