UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE FEDERAL
PERKINS LOAN PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Federal Perkins Loan Program is the nation’s longest running student loan program; and
WHEREAS, the Federal Perkins Loan Program has yet to be reauthorized for the September 30, 2015 deadline; and
WHEREAS, if the program fails to be reauthorized by the above mentioned date it will cease to exist on October 1, 2015; and
WHEREAS, the Federal Perkins Loan offers low interest, subsidized loans to students attending college within the University of Wisconsin System; and
WHEREAS, these loans provide significant financial support to students with exceptionally high need after other federal loans are applied; and
WHEREAS, the program offers favorable loan forgiveness opportunities to students, allowing them to eliminate their debt by working in high need, public service areas; and
WHEREAS, without this loan a significant number of students would be unable to complete their education; and
WHEREAS, in the 2012-2013 academic year, $28.4 million in Perkins Loans were awarded to 15,285 students across the University of Wisconsin System; and

WHEREAS, in the 2012-2013 academic year the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire was able to award $2,173,308 to 1,018 students who displayed exceptionally high need; and

WHEREAS, if the Perkins Loan Program is not approved before the deadline, students of the University will lose those financial aid dollars; and

WHEREAS, inability to receive an undergraduate education will prevent some of them from going on to have a positive impact on the communities in which they will live and work; and

WHEREAS, if the United States Congress does not reauthorize this program for the 2015-2016 academic year, and the years after, thousands of students across the University of Wisconsin System will not be able to participate in the loans program and may lose opportunities to attend a university;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Student Senate encourages the United States Congress to reauthorize the Perkins Loan Program to ensure continued financial support to students with exceptionally high need; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in particular, the Student Senate urges United States Representatives from Wisconsin to champion the effort to help maintain the efficacy of the University of Wisconsin
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; Mitch Freymiller, Chair, University Senate; Dr. Martin Hanifin, Vice Chancellor, Administration & Finance; Kathleen Sahlhoff, Director, Office of Financial Aid; US Representative Ron Kind, Wisconsin’s Third District; US Representative Paul Ryan, Wisconsin’s First District; US Representative Mark Pocan, Wisconsin’s Second District; US Representative Gwen Moore, Wisconsin’s Fourth District; US Representative James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Wisconsin’s Fifth District; US Representative Thomas Petri, Wisconsin’s Sixth District; US Representative Sean Duffy, Wisconsin’s Seventh District; US Representative Reid Ribble, Wisconsin’s Eighth District; US Representative-Elect Glenn Grothman, Wisconsin’s Sixth District; US Senator Ron Johnson, and US Senator Tammy Baldwin.

SUBMITTED BY
Samuel Fish, Student Body President
Jacob Wrasse, Student Body Vice President
November 17, 2014