Wisconsin Idea Partnership Resolution

WHEREAS UW-Eau Claire faculty and academic staff have benefited from and collaborated with other System Institutions’ programs and faculty since 1971 when the University of Wisconsin merged with the Wisconsin State Universities to create the University of Wisconsin System (System); and

WHEREAS UW-Eau Claire, like all the System Institutions, needs significant budgetary flexibilities to better serve the people of western Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS UW-Eau Claire faculty and academic staff have voiced concerns that the separation of individual Institutions from the System could negatively affect current governance rights and structures, access for Wisconsin residents, tuition rates, and academic freedom in teaching and research; and

WHEREAS fragmentation of the System will increase administrative costs (such as the human resources System, Desire2Learn, and the University Catalog) and possibly lead to fewer shared resources and duplication of administrative and academic structures; and

WHEREAS fragmentation of the System will hinder research and teaching collaborations among Institutions (such as the Library Reserves) and will possibly lead to inefficient and unnecessary competition among Institutions; and

WHEREAS fragmentation of the System will deconstruct an already established set of policies and procedures that make it easier for information and research to be disseminated and for partnerships to take hold, and

WHEREAS the proposed Wisconsin Idea Partnership has been endorsed by the chancellors of all of the comprehensive universities in the University of Wisconsin System,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire faculty and academic staff strongly support the implementation of the Wisconsin Idea Partnership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire faculty and academic staff strongly endorse the maintenance of the System within the Board of Regents’ and System’s current governance and statutory framework; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the UW-Eau Claire faculty and academic staff calls for stable State funding and appropriate compensation for faculty and staff to maintain and strengthen public education in the State of Wisconsin.