WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare is a free and open digital publication of high quality educational materials, organized as courses; and

WHEREAS, an OpenCourseWare initiative aligns closely with the educational and public service missions of a non-profit institution of higher learning; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare advances the institutional mission, stimulates innovation, and generates alumni and community pride; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare builds global awareness of our unique educational approach and curriculum; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare provides a model demonstrating the value of openness; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare advances knowledge by unlocking information for the benefit of all; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare fosters connections with colleagues around the world; and
WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare provides open access to high-quality educational contest to educators and learners for whom the materials can make the most difference; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare improves recruitment by helping the right students find the right programs; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare provides a resource for students, faculty and alumni that supports learning and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare builds awareness to the unique contributions that UW-Eau Claire faculty make to their respective disciplines; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare preserves a record of teaching innovations and allows others to build upon them; and

WHEREAS, the key to success of OpenCourseWare relies on faculty support; and

WHEREAS, OpenCourseWare provides a new vehicle for contributing to faculty members' discipline, affords greater visibility for themselves and their work, provides a valuable service to faculty for enhancing the presentation of course materials, provides an information resource and embraces faculty values;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate supports the formation of an ad hoc committee to assess faculty support of OpenCourseWare, develop specific goals, and devise a way to
measure and evaluate program performance against goals and external benchmarks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon passage of this resolution, Vice Chancellor Soll be charged with putting together the ad hoc committee on OpenCourseWare; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings of this committee be reported back to the campus community, including the Student Senate and University Senate by December 2008; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage President Raymond French transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business & Student Services; Dr. Andrew Phillips, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; Dr. Marty Wood, Chair, University Senate; Ann Lapp, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Development & Diversity; and Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Student Development, Student Development & Diversity.

Submitted by:
Tim Lauer, Treasurer and On-Campus Senator
Meghan Charlier, Student Body Vice President
Information Technology Commission
February 25, 2008