WHEREAS, textbook prices are a perpetual concern for students and their instructors in higher education; and

WHEREAS, keeping all costs low for students in today’s circumstances of declining state support for higher education should be a priority for all; and

WHEREAS, if given the choice between two identical texts, instructors would select the more affordable text; and

WHEREAS, information about the texts and publishers should be provided to the instructors to make informed decisions about which textbook to select; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 883 (Attachment “A”) requires that the price at which the publisher would sell the textbook to a vendor who sells textbooks to students be provided to instructors at the time of solicitation; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 883 also requires the publishers to make known the history of revisions to the textbook at the time of solicitation; and
WHEREAS, these provisions will allow for greater textbook affordability; and
WHEREAS, the students of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire currently participate in a textbook rental system; and
WHEREAS, a noticeable number of textbooks are still required for purchase despite this system; and
WHEREAS, it is not feasible for all campuses, particularly large campuses, to implement such a program; and
WHEREAS, these provisions will assist all in selecting textbooks, no matter the system used;
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Student Senate supports Assembly Bill 883 and recommends its immediate approval; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Student Senate supports that an identical bill be introduced in the Wisconsin State Senate to complement Assembly Bill 883 to allow for its immediate approval and implementation; 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. Steven Tallant, Provost/Vice Chancellor; the Spectator, the Leader-Telegram; Representative Jeff Smith; Representative Terry Moulton; Representative Stephen Nass,
Submitted by:
Raymond French, Student Body President
Meghan Charlier, Student Body Vice President
March 3, 2008