UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

STUDENT SENATE

CLASSIFICATION          SPECIAL ALLOCATION FOR THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

NUMBER      52-B-22   DATE     March 9, 2009

INTRODUCED BY        THOMAS HOLTAN, FINANCE COMMISSION DIRECTOR AND

FINANCE COMMISSION

1 WHEREAS, the Blugold Marching Band is an entity of the Music
2 Department; and
3 WHEREAS, the mission of the Blugold Marching Band is to provide support
4 for Blugold athletics, to serve majors and non-majors with an enjoyable and
5 rewarding musical experience, and to represent the university to a wide range of
6 audiences on the state, regional, national, and international stage; and
7 WHEREAS, the Blugold Marching Band performs each year at Blugold
8 home football games, the Homecoming Parade, an annual stage show in Zorn
9 Arena, three high school exhibitions (Chippewa Falls, Milwaukee, and
10 Metrodome), and other selected events by invitations; and
11 WHEREAS, the Blugold Marching Band is the largest Division Three
12 Marching Band in America; and
WHEREAS, including all divisions of higher education, the Blugold Marching Band is one of the most active marching bands in the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, from the year 2000 to 2008 Blugold Marching Band membership grew from 60 members to 232 members; and

WHEREAS, the membership of Blugold Marching Band is made up of 30% music education majors and 70% non-music majors; and

WHEREAS, the Blugold Marching Band has a visibility to 30,000 to 50,000 audience members annually; and

WHEREAS, because of the increase in interest, an online application process has been instigated; and

WHEREAS, the application process for 2009 opened on February 15; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2009 the applications were 51% higher than at that time, one year previously; and

WHEREAS, the rate of returning members has increased from 65% to 74%; and

WHEREAS, there are a projected 300 applications for this year; and

WHEREAS, the band currently contains 196 standard uniforms; and

WHEREAS, the original 80 uniforms are still in use and are more than 25 years old; and

WHEREAS, the other 116 uniforms have been purchased in small increments over eight years to keep up with the growth of the band; and

WHEREAS, the uniforms are $511.40 a piece and come in a particular size, making it difficult to fit each member; and

WHEREAS, the projected life of these uniforms have a 20 year life, which
many of the uniforms have exceeded; and

WHEREAS, the Music Department allocates $2,000 annually for the band, which allows for just under four uniforms; and

WHEREAS, the Blugold Marching Band wants to allow all interested students to participate in this great collegial experience; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Commission voted 7-0-1 to allocate $13,296.40 for 26 new uniforms; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Commission was also asked to contribute an additional $13,050 for 200 Blugold baldrics; and

WHEREAS, the baldrics are currently falling apart in the elements, making them not uniform in their appearance; and

WHEREAS, although a worthy investment, the Finance Commission felt like this shouldn’t be pursued at this time, and that the Blugold Marching Band should talk to the Foundation about a possible donation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate supports the growth of the Blugold Marching Band; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Student Senate allocates $13,296.40 to the Blugold Marching Band for the special allocation request of 26 new uniforms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Student Senate allocates $13,050 for 200 Blugold Baldrics; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UWEC Student Senate encourages the Marching Band to explore the option of a small course fee; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Lauer transmit a copy of this bill to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Marty Wood,
Interim Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs; Dr. Randy Dickerson, Associate Professor, Music & Theatre Arts; Dave Gessner, Director, Business Services; and Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Students, Dean of Students Office.