WHEREAS, plastic bags create significant litter problems in the Eau Claire community; and

WHEREAS, plastic bags take hundreds of years to degrade; and

WHEREAS, most students in the residence halls do not re-use plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no place on campus to recycle plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, placing a plastic bag recycling unit in the residence hall’s garbage rooms would allow more students to participate; and

WHEREAS, the placement of this unit would take up little space within the garbage rooms; and

WHEREAS, providing a place for students to recycle plastic bags would align with the campus’ “Green Initiative;” and

WHEREAS, this action would be a progressive step within the UW-Eau Claire community;
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate and Student Life & Diversity Commission (SLD) work with the Residence Hall Association (RHA) to add an area to recycle plastic bags within each residence hall’s garbage room; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that RHA and SLD work together to ensure that the bags are recycled when garbage is collected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Student Senate encourages RHA and SLD to investigate a means to collect some sort of reimbursement to fund further “green” efforts; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage President Raymond French transmit copies of this resolution to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Steven Tallant, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Andrew Soll, Vice Chancellor, Business & Student Services; Spectator; Leader-Telegram; Katie Troyer, RHA President; Dr. Marty Wood, Chair, University Senate; Ann Lapp, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Development & Diversity; Chuck Major, Housing Director; and Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Associate Dean of Student Development, Student Development & Diversity.

Submitted by:
Emily Mattheisen, Student Life & Diversity Commission Director & Off-Campus Senator
Jasmine Wiley, Environmental Affairs Chairperson
May 5, 2008