UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

STUDENT SENATE

CLASSIFICATION ___ REJECTING THE PROPOSED POLICY OF SHUTTING DOWN ___

LATE NIGHT CAFETERIA ACCESS DUE TO THEFT

NUMBER 54-B-48 DATE March 28, 2011

INTRODUCED BY DYLAN JAMBREK, STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT; MARK MORGAN, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION DIRECTOR & ON-CAMPUS SENATOR; STEVEN VAN DE LAARSCHOT, ON-CAMPUS SENATOR & FOOD SERVICES CHAIRPERSON; AARON RICE, ON-CAMPUS SENATOR; CHRISSY DUSZYNSKI, STUDENT SERVICES COMMISSION DIRECTOR & OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; PHILLIP RYNISH, STUDENT BODY VICE PRESIDENT; NICK HOGEN, PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION DIRECTOR & OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; JACOB KAMPEN, FINANCE COMMISSION DIRECTOR & ON-CAMPUS SENATOR; MATTHEW SIAS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION DIRECTOR & OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; JOHN CAYER, OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; PAUL COATES, OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; MELISSA OPITZ, SECRETARY/WEBMASTER & OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; APRIL ROSS, OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; JAKE BERNARDY, OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; JAMES KUST, OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; PAYDON MILLER, OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; MITCH WENZEL, OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; STEPHANIE MABREY, TENANT AFFAIRS CHAIRPERSON & ON-CAMPUS SENATOR; TREVOR GOYETTE, ON-CAMPUS SENATOR; WILLIAM BECKFIELD, OFF-CAMPUS SENATOR; BENJAMIN KRALL, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION DIRECTOR & ON-CAMPUS SENATOR;
WHEREAS, Blugold Dining is facing significant amounts of theft primarily from the Hilltop cafeteria; and

WHEREAS, in response to this crisis, Blugold Dining and University Centers consulted solely with the Residence Hall Association; and

WHEREAS, after this consultation, Blugold Dining decided to close the cafeteria on upper campus during late night hours (after 8:30 p.m.) to recoup losses from theft; and

WHEREAS, students living on campus are required to purchase a meal plan; and

WHEREAS, students sign a contract with Housing and Residence Life relating to that meal plan; and

WHEREAS, the contract does not permit the changing of services, only the rates within its terms; and

WHEREAS, Blugold Dining, by changing the meal plans, has diverted the majority of students into the cafeteria; and

WHEREAS, first semester freshman have no choice but to purchase an all access or dining deluxe meal plan, making them heavily dependent upon the cafeteria; and

WHEREAS, Blugold Dining has restricted access to “to go” boxes; and

WHEREAS, while the Student Senate acknowledges the high levels of theft, it does not believe this is an appropriate response; and

WHEREAS in response to the Executive Board’s letter in regards to this
issue, University Centers acknowledged this would have a direct effect on the students; and

WHEREAS, students, through their government, have “primary responsibility for the formulation and review of policies concerning student life, interest and services” under Wis. Stats. §36.09(5); and

WHEREAS, UW System Regent Policy 30-3 reads: “Primary responsibility means that students have the obligation and authority to initiate policies concerning student life, services, and interests, and to review existing and proposed policies in these areas before they are amended or adopted by the other constituencies of the university” (emphasis added); and

WHEREAS, this major shift in the policies concerning an intrinsic student life issue and student service, food service, should have gone through the recognized governance structure; and

WHEREAS, the Student Senate was not consulted in the matter nor did it authorize such a change; and

WHEREAS, the current official shared governance document of UW-Eau Claire, ratified by Chancellor Leonard Haas on March 12, 1975, after approval by Faculty and Student Senate reads: “At the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, the Student Senate is the official governing body of the students.”; and

WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate is the recognized campus-wide student governance structure of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire;

WHEREAS this is not the first shared governance issue raised with University Centers this session; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate, in its statutory
capacity, rejects the policy being implemented by Blugold Dining regarding closing down late night access to the upper campus cafeteria; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should the policy be implemented despite this rejection, it is a violation of Regent policy and state statute; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate does not acknowledge that the University Centers Advisory Board and the Dining Committee have any shared governance responsibilities under Wis. Stats. 36.09(5); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate directs the Executive Board to create a plan to establish true student shared governance over an integral student service, the student center, and its operation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student Senate believes that this shift in policy in the middle of the term of a contract may be considered a breach on the part of the University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that from this point forward, to fully comply with shared governance law, major changes of University operation policy or practice relating to dining must attain approval of the Student Senate, or a delegate committee or commission thereof, in accordance with its structure and procedures;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Jambrek transmit a copy of this bill to Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs; Dr. Brian Carlisle, Dean of Students; Dr. Susan Harrison, Chair, University Senate; Dave Gessner, Assistant Chancellor, Budget & Finance; Charles Farrell, Director, University Centers; and Christian Wise, General Manager, Blugold Dining.