WHEREAS, environmental sustainability is one of the six values of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the “Environmental Responsibility Account” has given the students a significant opportunity to positively affect sustainability at UW-Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Endeavors Commission (EEC) was responsible for allocation of said Environmental Responsibility Account during the 2010-2011 academic year; and

WHEREAS, the Student Senate approved the EEC’s first bill of $131,642 funding 13 projects; and

WHEREAS, in the case of six of these projects, money is going directly into the hands of students in the form of stipends for research, and conducting work
WHEREAS, the model of relying on external proposals proved inflexible, and created timeline situations in which proposals were considered hastily; and

WHEREAS, the need for process integrity, more precise criteria, and more commitment arose throughout the inaugural year of the EEC; and

WHEREAS, these issues have been addressed in the creation of the Student Office of Sustainability (SOS); and

WHEREAS, SOS creation will reflect an optimal logical construct for campus relations and create an institution that operates autonomously in order to be more proactive and thus far more effective than the EEC model; and

WHEREAS, the SOS will allow UW-Eau Claire students to develop strong initiatives that are based on meeting an understood sustainability rubric from project conception; and

WHEREAS, the majority of projects will be developed internally to ensure projects align with international best-case practices and accountability can be maintained; and

WHEREAS, the SOS will retain the ability to fund outside entities such as student organizations, and University departments for their environmental improvements; and

WHEREAS, the SOS will develop leadership by encouraging students to become involved in project development and execution; and

WHEREAS, the SOS will build partnerships across campus and community to engage entities such as the Conservationists, Student National Environmental Association, The Foodlums, Hobnailers, Biology Club, Chemistry Club, Geology
Club, Energy Services Corps, the Watershed Institute, The Environmental Adventure Center, The Eau Claire Foundation’s Sustainability Initiatives Fund, United Council’s Sustainability Taskforce, and the City of Eau Claire’s Green Team;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Environment Endeavors Commission will be dissolved within one week of passage; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Student Senate adopt the Student Office of Sustainability Bylaws as outlined in Attachment “A;” and

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; Dave Gessner, Assistant Chancellor, Budget & Finance; Dr. Susan Harrison, Chair, University Senate; Dr. James Boulter, Associate Professor, Chemistry; Dr. Kate Hale-Wilson, Sustainability Fellow, English Department; Dr. Kim Pierson, Professor, Physics and Astronomy; Dr. Christina Hupy, Assistant Professor, Geography/Anthropology; Dr. Sean Hartnett, Professor, Geography/Anthropology; Dr. Garry Running, Professor, Geography/Anthropology; Dr. Eric Jamelske, Associate Professor, Economics; Dr. Sean McAleer, Associate Professor, Philosophy/Religious Studies; Dr. James Phillips, Professor, Chemistry; Christian Wise, Sodexo; Dan Langlois, Assistant Director, University Recreation & Sport Facilities; Vicki Funne-Reed, Director, University Recreation and Sport Facilities; and Dr. Wilson Taylor, Chair, Biology Department.