WHEREAS, Student Senate is the official voice of the student body at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire is committed to promote and support equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts; and

WHEREAS, the College of Eau Claire established a memorial on May 8th, 1970 for the May 4th shooting at Kent State; and

WHEREAS, on May 12th, the Augusta shooting occurred, followed by the May 15th shooting at Jackson State University; and

WHEREAS, a student-led protest was held in the former student mall, where students voiced opinions in a civilized and educational manner, in contrast to the rest of the nation, including in our own UW - System; and

WHEREAS, with the installment of the new Davies Student Center, the original memorial was displaced in the later 2000’s; and

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire reinstalled the Kent State memorial on May 4, 2015, for the 45th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, due to a limited researching and editing time, a rushed and inaccurate plaque and tree memorial, with the original stone edifice reinstalled, with no mention of the stone bench that sat with this memorial; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the old landmark and installment of the new for the 50th anniversary in May, 2020, will create a memorial that is more equitable for the entire month of May of 1970, one that is historically accurate in facts and location; and

WHEREAS, several organizations and departments at UWEC are in support and willing to provide funds, including Facilities, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Equity in Student Matters Commission, and the Special Collections of McIntyre Library;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate supports the installment of a new memorial; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate will continue to support EDI initiatives on campus; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate will continue to find and correct historical dilution within our campus;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson will transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia Klein, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Dang Yang, Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs Chris Jorgenson, Director, Gender and Sexuality Resource Center; Teresa O’Halloran, Director, Affirmative Action; Albert Colom, Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers

Submitted by:

Jackie Buttafuoco, Off-Campus Student Senator
Austin Gulbrandson, Intergovernmental Affairs Director
Travis DuChene, On-Campus Student Senator