

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION**

IN SUPPORT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S DAY

1 WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (UW-Eau Claire) Student Senate is the
2 official voice of the student body; and

3 WHEREAS, the city council of Eau Claire declared that the second Monday of October is to be
4 officially recognized as Indigenous People’s Day via a resolution in 2017; and

5 WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire is celebrating October 14th as Indigenous People’s Day this year; and

6 WHEREAS, the importance of Indigenous People’s Day allows society to reimagine what was
7 previously known as Columbus Day; and

8 WHEREAS, recognizing it as Indigenous People’s Day changes it from the dedication to
9 colonialism into a day that highlights the truth about the genocide and oppression that indigenous people
10 have faced and continue to face; and

11 WHEREAS, the idea of replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous People’s Day was first proposed
12 in 1977 by a delegation of Native nations to the United Nations-sponsored International Conference on
13 Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas, held in Geneva, Switzerland, which
14 passed as a resolution; and

15 WHEREAS, the Council Oak Tree served as a peaceful meeting place for the leaders of the Ojibwe
16 and Dakota Nations to discuss resolutions during the 18th and 19th century; and

17 WHEREAS, the Office of Multicultural Affairs is hosting the Indigenous People’s Day Ceremony
18 to re-introduce the UWEC University Seal, which contains the Council Oak Tree, and unveil the 12
19 Wisconsin tribal nation flags in Davies, on October 14th, 2019; and

20 WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire is home to more than 100 Indigenous students; and

21 WHEREAS, supporting and creating inclusive narratives, such as establishing Indigenous People’s
22 Day, is necessary to align with the University’s EDI Initiatives;

23 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, UW-Eau Claire Student Senate officially recognizes the second
24 Monday of October as Indigenous People’s Day; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UW-Eau Claire Student Senate will call on the administration to
26 continue to recognize and support the second Monday of October as Indigenous People’s Day and
27 acknowledge the historical importance it contributes to campus; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate will support current and future
29 University initiatives aimed at improving our campus climate for people of color; and

30 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson will
31 transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Klein, Provost and Vice Chancellor for
32 Academic Affairs; Albert Colom, Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; John Haven III, Vice
33 Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Evan Weiher, University Senate; Chris Jorgenson, Director,
34 Gender and Sexuality Resource Center; Teresa O'Halloran, Director, Affirmative Action; Kristin
35 Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Dang Yang, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Demetrius
36 Smith, Program Director Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; Heather Ann Moody, Assistant Professor,
37 American Indian Studies, Faculty Advisor to Inter-Tribal Student Council; Debra K. Barker, Director of
38 American Indian Studies

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