

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

CALLING ON ALL NEW BUILDINGS, CONSTRUCTED BY OR CONSTRUCTED  
THROUGH PARTICIPATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE,  
TO UNDERGO SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION BY A THIRD-PARTY

~~WHEREAS, The University of Wisconsin Eau Claire Student Senate (Student Senate) is the official voice of the student body; and~~

~~WHEREAS, University of Wisconsin Eau Claire (UW Eau Claire) strives to “foster in one another creativity, critical insight, empathy, and intellectual courage, the hallmarks of a transformative liberal education and the foundation for active citizenship and lifelong inquiry.”~~ WHEREAS, the mission of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire are the stated ; and

~~WHEREAS, UW Eau Claire is committed to the values of the University are “Diversity and inclusiveness~~Inclusiveness; ~~leadership~~Leadership; ~~innovation~~Innovation and ~~continuous~~Continuous improvementImprovement; ~~stewardship~~Stewardship and ~~sustainability~~Sustainability.”; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations defines sustainable development as “[...] meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization states “[Climate Change] threatens the essential ingredients of good health - clean air, safe drinking water, nutritious food supply, and safe shelter - and has the potential to undermine decades of progress in global health. [...] Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250 000 additional deaths per year, from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat stress alone. The direct damage costs to health is estimated to be between USD 2-4 billion per year by 2030”; and

~~WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services states “Evidence and research drawn from the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) suggests [...] climate and health impacts [on] Precipitation Changes, Heat Extremes, Drought, Winter Weather Changes, Disease Vectors, Surface Water, [and] Groundwater.”; and~~

WHEREAS, the fourth National Climate Assessment states “Impacts from climate change on extreme weather and climate-related events, air quality, and the transmission of disease through insects and pests, food, and water increasingly threaten the health and well-being of [people that live in the United States], particularly populations that are already vulnerable.”; and

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33 ~~WHEREAS, UW Eau Claire as an educational institution is committed to strategic and~~  
34 ~~collaborative partnerships with numerous health care systems through over 300 signed affiliations,~~  
35 ~~including the Mayo Clinic Health System (Mayo Clinic); and~~

36 ~~WHEREAS, UW Eau Claire seeks to continue growth in collaborative research with the~~  
37 ~~Mayo Clinic, which was announced in June of 2017, through the proposed Sonnentag Event~~  
38 ~~and~~

39 ~~Recreation Complex, the New Science Building; and~~

40 ~~WHEREAS, the Mayo Clinic website states that Mayo Clinic strives to “[...] sustain and~~  
41 ~~reinvest in our mission and extended communities by wisely managing our human, natural, and~~  
42 ~~material resources.”; and~~

43 WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ~~Summary for~~  
44 ~~Politymakers~~Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5° reports that “limiting climate change to  
45 1.5°C necessitates net zero anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions by around 2050 (40–60%  
46 interquartile range).”; and

47 WHEREAS, total carbon emissions of UW-Eau Claire from the year 2017 to 2018 were  
48 35,397 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, equal to the carbon ~~sequestering-sequestration~~  
49 ~~capacity~~ of 585,297 trees planted and grown for ten years; approximately 2/3 of these emission are  
50 directly related to building use (electricity, heating and cooling); and

51 WHEREAS, in the year 2007, former Chancellor Brian Levin-Stankevich signed the  
52 American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment, establishing the goal of net zero  
53 campus carbon emissions; and

54  
55 WHEREAS, in ~~the year~~ 2018 the UW-Eau Claire Climate Action Plan Advisory  
56 Committee, comprised of representatives from Housing + Residence Life, Facilities, Centers,  
57 various academic departments, the Student Office of Sustainability, and Student Senate, convened by  
58 Chancellor James Schmidt, created the UW-Eau Claire Climate Action Plan; and

59 WHEREAS, in the year 2018, the Climate Action Plan was passed through the Student  
60 Senate, Staff Council, and University Senate and signed on behalf of UW-Eau Claire by  
61 Chancellor James Schmidt; and

62 WHEREAS, the Climate Action Plan sets a goal of net carbon neutrality for ~~the~~-UW-  
63 Eau Claire by the year 2050, a goal that mirrors carbon neutrality goals established by the  
64 State of Wisconsin, Eau Claire County, ~~and the~~ City of Eau Claire, and the Eau Claire Area School  
65 District; and

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66 WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin - Madison, Stevens Point, Oshkosh, Milwaukee,  
67 Whitewater, River Falls, and La Crosse have each constructed one or more third-party certified  
68 energy efficient buildings; and

69 WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire has completed or is currently engaged ~~involved~~ in two-three  
70 residence hall renovations and five-seven new construction projects ~~in-over~~ the past two-decade ~~years~~;  
71 and

72 ~~WHEREAS, none of these construction project participated in by have UW-Eau Claire has~~  
73 undergone a third-party energy efficiency certification; ~~in short, -and~~

74 ~~WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire has not implemented the construction standards required~~  
75 to reach the goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 outlined-committed to in within the Climate Action  
76 Plan; and

77 ~~WHEREAS, within the 2018-2019 Student Office of Sustainability term, two separate~~  
78 ~~proposals in support of allocating funds towards sustainable third-party certification were brought~~  
79 ~~forward and passed unanimously through the body; and~~

80 WHEREAS, the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate passed a closely related companion resolution  
81 (63-R-12, from which this resolution was derived) by unanimous vote on Monday, October 22, 2019.

82 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the ~~Student-University~~ Senate calls upon ~~its-the~~  
83 administration to reevaluate its current trajectory towards accomplishing the goal of carbon neutrality  
84 by 2050 established within the Climate Action Plan; and

85 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ~~Student-University~~ Senate calls on the staff and  
86 administration of UW-Eau Claire and the University of Wisconsin System to collaborate with  
87 selected architectural & engineering services firms to certify all future newly constructed  
88 buildings within the UW-Eau Claire community as sustainable by a third-party; and

89 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Student-University Senate calls on the staff~~  
90 ~~and administration of UW-Eau Claire and University of Wisconsin System to collaborate with staff~~  
91 ~~and administration of the UW-Eau Claire Foundation to encourage the certification of future~~  
92 ~~constructed buildings within the UW-Eau Claire community as sustainable by a third-party; and~~

93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ~~Student-University~~ Senate calls for the construction  
94 of a high-performance, energy efficient, flagship, third-party certified sustainable New Science  
95 Building that aligns with UW-Eau Claire's commitment to public health and wellbeing; and

96 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student-University Senate calls upon UW-~~  
97 Eau Claire staff and administration to take immediate, deliberate, and decisive action that seeks to

98 establish an intent to construct a high-performance, energy efficient, flagship, third party certified  
99 sustainable building within the ~~charter~~/scope of the New Science Building; and

100 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student-University Senate calls upon its  
101 administration to issue a campus-wide statement on behalf of UW-Eau Claire, acknowledging the  
102 Global Climate Crisis, its impact on our campus-community, and what steps UW-Eau Claire as an  
103 institution is taking towards mitigation; and

104 BE IT ~~FURTHER-FINALLY~~ RESOLVED, that the Student-University Senate at UW-Eau  
105 Claire will continue to demand accountability from ~~its-the~~ institution in encouraging a culture of  
106 sustainability within the campus community that will allow UW-Eau Claire to continue to educate  
107 and foster excellence for generations to come; ~~and.~~

108 ~~BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson will transmit a  
109 copy to University of Wisconsin Board of Regents: Robert Atwell, John Robert Behling, Scott Beightol,  
110 José Delgado, Michael M. Grebe, Eve Hall, Mike Jones, Tracey L. Klein, Becky Lezvow, Edmund  
111 Manydeeds III, Janice Mueller, Andrew S. Peterson, Cris Peterson, Jason R. Plante, Carolyn Stranford  
112 Taylor, Torrey Tiedeman, Karen Walsh, Gerald Whitburn, Olivia Woodmansee; Dr. James Schmidt,  
113 Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Kimera Way,  
114 President, UW Eau Claire Foundation, Executive Director of University Advancement; John Haven III,  
115 Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Albert Colom, Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management;  
116 Demetrius Smith, Program Director of EDI; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Michael Rindo, Assistant  
117 Chancellor for Facilities and University Relations; Troy Terhark, Director, Facilities; Chris Hessel,  
118 Associate Director of Facilities; Renee Strohla, Campus Facilities Planner, Facilities; Anthony Rongstad,  
119 Sustainability Analyst; Tracy Drier, Associate Director, Budget and Resource Planning; Quiney  
120 Chapman, Director, Housing + Residence Life; Deborah Newman, Associate Director, Housing  
121 +Residence Life; Ryan Banaszak, Assistant Director of Operations, Housing + Residence Life; Kelly  
122 Holzer, Chair, University Staff Council; Evan Weiher, Jacob Wrasse, Government and Community  
123 Relations Specialist, University Relations; Chair of University Senate; Mike Knuth, Integrated Marketing  
124 and Communications; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Dang Yang, Director, Office of  
125 Multicultural Affairs; Jamie Siseman, President, Residence Hall Association; Cathy Weiss, Senior  
126 Architect, University of Wisconsin System Office of Capital Planning & Budget; Pamela Guthman, DNP,  
127 RN-BC, Clinical Assistant Professor, College of Nursing; Tavin Swanberg, Horan Hall Director, Students  
128 Encouraging Environmental Deeds Advisor, Housing + Residence Life~~

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131  
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**AUTHORED BY:**

Lauren Becker, Director, Student Office of Sustainability Commission  
Stephanie Hoeksema, Director, Equity in Student Matters Commission

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133 Lillian Strehlow, Education Intern, Student Office of Sustainability Commission  
134 Franny Donovan, On-Campus Student Senator  
135 Grace Luloff, On-Campus Student Senator  
136 Travis Duchene, Director, Academic Affairs ~~Commissi~~Commissioner

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137  
138 **EDITED BY:**  
139 James Boulter, Chair, University Senate Physical Plant Planning Committee

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