UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE

BILL: Forming the Blu Managerial Ad Hoc Committee
NUMBER 63-B-7 DATE: November 25, 2019
INTRODUCED BY: Austin Gulbrandson, Intergovernmental Affairs Director

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire does not have a recognized university mascot; and

WHEREAS, an article published on April 12, 2007 in the ‘Student Life’ section of The Spectator states “committees were formed in the past to create a Blugold mascot. There were movements in 1945, 1965, and 1967, according to The Spectator archives”; and

WHEREAS, Student Senate passed several pieces of legislation regarding institutional research, establishment, and use of a student body mascot at UWEC – namely, 51-R-32, 53-R-20, and 58-R-14; and

WHEREAS, a student body mascot, of the image of a Blugold Mythical Bird, was adopted and established through Student Senate with the passage of 54-B-8, with the name ‘Blu’; and

WHEREAS, Student Senate created the position of the Mascot Coordinator in the 57th Session; and

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate bylaws lists the responsibilities of the Mascot Coordinator: “to manage the audition process for mascots”; “to conduct biweekly meetings with the mascots”; “to serve as liaison between all interested parties and the mascots”; “to coordinate mascot schedules and promote mascot availability for Student Organizations and University events”; and

WHEREAS, the Mascot Coordinator “shall automatically serve on the Communications Commission” but are not subject to or housed within any commission; and

WHEREAS, the use and management of a student body mascot is the jurisdiction and property of the Student Senate; and

WHEREAS, Student Senate, through collected student segregated fees, funds and maintains the mascot costume, storage, and wage of performers, among other operative costs and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, with passage of 56-B-34 - which states “the Mascot was created in the 54th Session due to overwhelming student support” – Student Senate allocated “$4,468.00 from the Special Reserve Account to the General Operations Budget for the purchase of a Mascot costume”; and
WHEREAS, the student body mascot has been utilized on campus and at events by various parties that do not provide primary operational funding; and

WHEREAS, the image of the Blugold Mythical Bird has been distributed on University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire marketing and promotional materials, and bookstore merchandise;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, Student Senate will form an Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of representing and managing Blu as a student body mascot to the several parties of the University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the goals established within the committee will dictate the sunset of the committee, lasting no longer than the end of the 63rd Session of the Student Senate, or May 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the committee will be chaired by the Mascot Coordinator of UWEC Student Senate, and will hold regular meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Communications Director and Chief of Staff will have a required voting seat on the committee. The remaining voting structure of the committee will be composed of two (2) members of the Communications Commission, two (2) members of the Intergovernmental Affairs Commission, and two (2) at-large Student Senators. The tie-breaking vote will be granted to the chair of the committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, mascot performer(s), hired through the Mascot Coordinator from the student body at-large, will have a preserved, non-voting seat within the committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate supports Blu as a mascot associated with students of the university; and

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 Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Albert Colom, Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Mike Rindo, Assistant Chancellor, Facilities and University Relations; John Haven III, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Quincy Chapman, Director, Housing and Residence Life; Deborah Newman, Associate Director, Housing and Residence Life; Evan Weiher, Chair, University Senate; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Dan Schumacher, Director, Athletics; Kelly Holzer, Chair, University Staff Council.

SUBMITTED BY:

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