

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

IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

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

3 WHEREAS, students in the Computer Science (CS) Department at UW-Eau Claire placed
4 fourth out of ninety teams at a cybersecurity competition hosted by CypherCon 3.0 in the Spring
5 of 2018; and

6 WHEREAS, students in the CS Department at UW-Eau Claire placed third out of ninety
7 teams at a cybersecurity competition hosted by CypherCon 4.0 in the Spring of 2019; and

8 WHEREAS, the CS Department at UW-Eau Claire receives 25 foreign exchange students
9 from the Changshu Institute of Technology in China as part of UWEC's 1-2-1 exchange program
10 each year; and

11 WHEREAS, since 2003, two students in the CS Department at the UW-Eau Claire are
12 annually chosen to receive the David Karlgaard Scholarship of \$4,000 for four years; and

13 WHEREAS, the CS Department has 408 declared majors as of the fall of 2019; and

14 WHEREAS, the average class size in the CS Department is 63 students with a minimum
15 of 20 students and a maximum of 93 students in their classes; and

16 WHEREAS, students studying Physics, Graphic Design, Mathematics and Information
17 Systems are also required to take various CS courses; and

18 WHEREAS, the CS Department has four full time faculty; and

19 WHEREAS, University of Wisconsin -La Crosse has 12 faculty distributed among a class
20 sized of an average 24 students; and

21 WHEREAS, University of Wisconsin -Platteville has 14 faculty for over 400 CS students;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, on November 6th, 2019, 22 students attended the Computer Science Open
24 Forum hosted by Student Senate's Academic Affairs Commission; and

25 WHEREAS, on November 14th 2019, the Academic Affairs Director created the Computer
26 Science Task Force comprised of the Student Senate Academic Affairs Director and five Computer
27 Science majors; and

28 WHEREAS, the Computer Science Task Force is designed to address the issues facing the
29 CS department by creating a one-year survival plan as well as a five-year long-term solution; and

30 WHEREAS, the Computer Science Task Force has and will continue to meet with
31 administration to ensure the success of the CS Department; and

32 WHEREAS, on November 15th, 2019, approximately 250 students attended the Computer
33 Science Open Forum hosted by Dr Rodd Freitag, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences;

34 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Student Senate supports the students and faculty of
35 the Computer Science department; and

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Student Senate calls upon the UW- Eau Claire
37 administration to work with the Computer Science Task Force to develop solutions to the issues
38 currently faced by the department; and

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Student Senate calls upon the UW-Eau Claire
40 administration to work with the Computer Science Task Force to increase communication with
41 students regarding the condition of the CS Department; and

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Student Senate calls upon the UW- Eau Claire
43 administration to hire more CS faculty for the Fall of 2020 and to implement emergency hires for
44 the Spring of 2020 to reduce class sizes as outlined within the Computer Science Task Forces one-
45 year plan; and

46 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson
47 will transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice
48 Chancellor for Academic Affairs; John Haven III, Vice Chancellor of Finance; Albert Colom, Vice
49 Chancellor of Enrollment Management and Interim Director of ARCC; Michael Carney, Associate
50 Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Rodd Freitag, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and
51 Sciences; Evan Weiher, Chair, University Senate; Kelly Holzer, Chair, Staff Council; Dr. Jack
52 Tan, Department Chair of the Computer Science Department; Dr. Heidi Gurung, Professor of
53 Computer Science; Dr. Chris Johnson, Professor of Computer Science; Dr. Heather Amthauer,
54 Professor of Computer Science;

SUBMITTED BY:

Travis DuChene, Director of Academic Affairs

Grace Luloff, On- Campus Senator

Mary Stoutenburg, On- Campus Senator