

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

**IN SUPPORT OF HMONG AMERICAN LEADERSHIP &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

1           WHEREAS, Student Senate is the official voice of the student body of the University of Wisconsin  
2 – Eau Claire; and  
3           WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire has a history of enrolling students whom  
4 identify as Hmong; and  
5           WHEREAS, there are 165 students whom identify as Hmong enrolled in the University of  
6 Wisconsin- Eau Claire as of Spring 2020; and  
7           WHEREAS, due to historical settlement patterns, the Eau Claire community has a sizable and  
8 involved Hmong population; and  
9           WHEREAS, there is a noticeable increase of graduates that identify as Hmong leaving the Eau  
10 Claire area due to lack of opportunities; and  
11           WHEREAS, Hmong Community Development (HCD) is an organization formed in 2019 aimed to  
12 tackle this issue; and  
13           WHEREAS, HCD changed their name in September 2019 to Hmong American Leadership &  
14 Economic Development (HALED), in pursuance of its mission and vision; and  
15           WHEREAS, HALED’s mission statement reads: “To build leadership and increase economic  
16 prosperity for Hmong Americans by providing education, expanding networks, and elevating social  
17 equity”; and  
18           WHEREAS, HALED’s vision includes “a community where everyone has equal opportunities for  
19 education, economic prosperity, and full community participation to maintain a healthy life”; and  
20           WHEREAS, the four principle goals of HALED are Economic Development, Workforce Advocacy,  
21 Leadership Development, and Community Building; and  
22           WHEREAS, the objectives of HALED include promoting entrepreneurship, home ownership  
23 education, providing living wages, ensuring safe working environments, addressing student debt,  
24 networking, leadership development, mentorships, volunteerism, philanthropy, self-sustainability, and  
25 strengthening community relations; and  
26           WHEREAS, HALED creates networking events, leadership workshops, and financial literacy  
27 seminars that are free to attend, as well as public community building events; and

28 WHEREAS, HALEd has already established a working relationship with the Office of Multicultural  
29 Affairs on campus; and

30 WHEREAS, the City of Eau Claire would greatly benefit from the increased retention of the  
31 University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire graduates in the community.

32 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate recognizes  
33 the need for Hmong networking and leadership development organizations in Eau Claire; and

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate supports the  
35 vision and goals of HALEd; and

36 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson will transmit a  
37 copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; William Felz, Interim Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management;  
38 LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Dr. Warren Anderson, Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and  
39 Student Affairs; Dr. Patricia Klein, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Teresa O’Halloran,  
40 Director, Affirmative Action; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Mike Rindo, Assistant  
41 Chancellor for Facilities and University Relations; Evan Weiher, Chair, University Senate; Kelly Holzer,  
42 Chair, University Staff Council; Dang Yang, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Mike Knuth, Integrated  
43 Marketing and Communications; Jacob Wrasse, Government and Community Relations Specialist; Mai  
44 Xiong, President, Hmong American Leadership & Economic Development; Miranda Ricci, Student Body  
45 President, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire - Barron County

Submitted by:

Austin Gulbrandson, Intergovernmental Affairs Director and Off-Campus Senator

Travis DuChene, Academic Affairs Director and On-Campus Senator

Stephanie Hoeksema, Senate Equity Director