UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF HMONG AMERICAN LEADERSHIP &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

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

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

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

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