

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

**IN SUPPORT OF THE HIBBARD PENTHOUSE DESIGNATED AS
THE LATINX CULTURAL CENTER**

1 **WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (UW-Eau Claire) "has made it a central priority**
2 **of the campus to increase recruitment and retention of students and faculty of color and from all other**
3 **marginalized groups" ¹; and**

4
5 **WHEREAS, one of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) goals at UW-Eau Claire is to "Develop**
6 **an infrastructure that facilitates community engagement and partnerships across the institution"**²; and

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8 **WHEREAS, as of Fall 2018 UW-Eau Claire has 334 students enrolled that identify as Hispanic;**
9 **and**

10
11 **WHEREAS, the Hispanic identifying student population is the largest group of Students of Color**
12 **at UW-Eau Claire, with a 29.8 percentage of all Students of Color and 3.1 percentage of the total student**
13 **enrollment**³; and

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15 **WHEREAS, the Latinx identifying student population is the only ethnic group housed under the**
16 **Office of Multicultural Affairs without a designated cultural center on campus; and**

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18 **WHEREAS, the Latinx Cultural Center (LCC) will provide the Latinx student population a**
19 **designated physical space to come together and develop a deeper sense of community; and**

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21 **WHEREAS, the LCC will also provide a resource space for other members of the campus**
22 **community such as the Latin American Studies Department, Spanish Department, as well as other**
23 **individuals and groups on campus looking to exchange interdisciplinary perspectives; and**

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25 **WHEREAS, the LCC will provide the process to connect students on campus to the Latinx student**
26 **population at the University, as well as the Latinx population and community in Eau Claire; and**

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28 **WHEREAS, the Chancellor's guidepost goals want to increase the percentage of Students of**
29 **Color enrolled from 11.1% to 20% within the next six years**⁴; and

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¹"What is EDI about at UW-Eau Claire?" <https://www.uwec.edu/diversity/diversity-vision-goals/>

² "EDI goals" <https://www.uwec.edu/diversity/diversity-vision-goals/>

³ "UW-Eau Claire Factbook-All Student of Color Trend" <https://www.uwec.edu/institutional-research/factbook-landing-page/factbook-enrollment/>

⁴ "Guidepost Goals" <https://www.uwec.edu/about/chancellors-office/>

31 WHEREAS, other Institutions in the UW-System have adopted a Cultural Center for the
32 Hispanic/Latinx community such as UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee; and

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34 WHEREAS, visibility is a critical component of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; and

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36 WHEREAS, Institutions of Higher Education have historically held a reputation of demonstrating
37 exemplary behavior and serving as gatekeepers of progress; and

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39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate strongly supports
40 the designation of the Hibbard Penthouse as the Latinx Cultural Center; and

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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student Senate supports intentional strides to cultivate a
43 campus environment to recruit, retain, and maximize success for Latinx and other Students of Color;
44 and

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student Senate will continue to advocate for representation of
46 historically underrepresented identities; and

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48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that UW-Eau Claire supports efforts to remove barriers for students,
49 faculty, and staff with historically marginalized identities; and

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51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student Senate supports intentional strides to cultivate campus
52 environments to maximize success for Latinx and other Students of Color; and

53
54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Student Senate supports the growth of resources and support
55 for the continuously evolving demographics surrounding UW-Eau Claire; and

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57 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson will transmit
58 a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Warren Anderson, Vice Chancellor, Equity,
59 Diversity, Inclusion and Student Affairs; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia Klein, Provost and
60 Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; Dang Yang, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Dr. Demetrius
61 Smith, Program Director for EDI; Teresa O'Halloran, Director, Affirmative Action; Albert Colom, Vice
62 Chancellor, Enrollment Management; John Haven III, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration;
63 Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Miranda Ricci, Student Body President, UW-Eau Claire
64 Barron County; Michael Rindo, Assistant Chancellor, Facilities and University Relations; Evan Weiher,
65 Chair, University Senate; Dr. Kelly Wonder, Director, Ronald E. McNair Program; Kelly Holzer, Chair,
66 University Staff Council; Jodi Marie Thesing-Ritter, Executive Director of EDI; Diana Zarate, Latinx
67 Student Services Coordinator; Dr. Manuel Fernandez, Latin American Studies Program Director; Dr. José
68 Felipe Alvergue, Latin American Studies; Dr. Anne Cummings Hlas, Languages, Latin American Studies;
69 Dr. Analisa DeGrave, Languages, Latin American Studies; Dr. Bibiana Fuentes, Languages, Latin
70 American Studies; Dr. Paul J. Hoff, Languages, Latin American Studies; Meghan Licón, Languages, Latin
71 American Studies; Karen O'Day, Latin American Studies; Jose Quintana, Outreach Coordinator,
72 Admissions; Dr. Fabiola Varela, Languages; Sara Echarri Recarte, Languages; Dr. Bibiana Fuentes,
73 Languages; Dr. Carter Smith, Languages; Dr. José Valero, Languages

SUBMITTED BY

Stephanie Hoeksema, Equity in Student Matters Director