

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

**IN SUPPORT OF UPHOLDING THE GOVERNING DOCUMENTS THROUGH THE  
CENSURE OF THE SITTING PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT SENATE 63<sup>rd</sup> SESSION**

1           WHEREAS, Student Senate is the official voice of the student body at the University of  
2 Wisconsin - Eau Claire (UWEC); and  
3           WHEREAS, the UWEC website states that Student Senate is to, “represent the student body of the  
4 University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire at the University;” and  
5           WHEREAS, the actions of the Student Senate Executive Team reflect upon not only  
6 the Student Senate body, but the entirety of the student body of UWEC; and  
7           WHEREAS, the bylaws state that the Student Senate’s mission is, “to represent the student body  
8 to the University and community and ensure readily available student resources, diverse and enriching  
9 student development opportunities and a positive and fulfilling student life experience;” and  
10          WHEREAS, the Student Body Constitution Article VI Section 1 states that the Student Body  
11 Constitution is the primary governing document of the UWEC Student Senate; and  
12          WHEREAS, the Constitution Article III Section 2 Subsection D states, “The President shall be chief  
13 executive and legislative officer of student government and shall be responsible for proper execution of  
14 the Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate legislation;” and  
15          WHEREAS, the Student Body Constitution Article IV Section 1 Subsection A states that, “The  
16 judicial power shall be vested with the Student Senate;” and  
17          WHEREAS, the Student Body Constitution Article IV Section 1 Subsection B states, “The Student  
18 Senate has jurisdiction over any issues or disputes arising under this constitution;” and  
19          WHEREAS, the Student Body Constitution Article III Section 1 Subsection D states, “The general  
20 election shall be held annually in the second or third week of April;” and  
21          WHEREAS, on April 13<sup>th</sup>, the President of the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Session stated  
22 that general elections will be taking place in the first two weeks of September of 2020; and  
23          WHEREAS, the Student Body Constitution Article III Section 1 Subsection D states, “The  
24 Executive Board shall establish, by the end of the fall semester, the specific date(s) for the general  
25 election;” and  
26          WHEREAS, on April 13<sup>th</sup>, the President of the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Session stated that the  
27 decision to move elections was made in meetings between the President and Vice President of the  
28 Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Session and the Chancellor of UWEC [see attachment A]; and  
29          WHEREAS, the Student Body Constitution Article II Section H states, “The Senate may establish  
30 and enforce uniform standards of conduct for its members. The Senate may, in its bylaws, provide  
31 methods for removal of Senators and appointed officers;” and  
32          WHEREAS, the Student Senate Bylaws Chapter IV Subchapter 1 states, “A conflict of interest is  
33 defined as a situation in which a person is in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or  
34 decisions made in their official capacity;” and

35 WHEREAS, the inclusion of the Vice President of the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Session in discussions  
36 of the structure of elections goes against the regulations in the constitution and bylaws in relation to  
37 conflict of interest stated in the Student Senate Bylaws Chapter IV Subchapter 1; and

38 WHEREAS, the announcement from the President of the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Session stating that  
39 the Vice President of the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Session will solely maintain their position after the session  
40 has ended also goes against the regulations in the construction and bylaws in regards to conflict of  
41 interest stated in the Student Senate Bylaws Chapter IV Subchapter 1; and

42 WHEREAS, the Student Senate Bylaws Chapter IX Subchapter 2 Part 1 states, “The Vice President  
43 shall receive an amount equal to 75% of the President’s stipend;” and

44 WHEREAS, the President of the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Sessions announcement that the Vice  
45 President will retain their position and continue to get paid would violate the Student Senate Bylaws  
46 Chapter IX Subchapter 2 Part 1; and

47 WHEREAS, if the Vice-President if the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> session were to maintain  
48 their position throughout the summer, a special allocation request would have to be made to the  
49 Finance Commission and approved by the Senate body; and

50 WHEREAS, the Student Senate Bylaws Chapter VI Subchapter 1 states, “A session of the  
51 Senate shall run annually from the start of the first executive board meeting after the Student Senate  
52 elections to the executive board meeting after the Student Senate elections the following school year;”  
53 and

54 WHEREAS, the President of the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Sessions announcement that all Director,  
55 Interns, and Senators must vacate their positions after the General Assembly meeting on April 27  
56 would violate the Student Senate Bylaws Chapter VI Subchapter I; and

57 WHEREAS, the Student Senate Bylaws Chapter XIV Subchapter 3 state, “The Joint  
58 Commission [between UWEC Student Senate and UWEC-BC Student Senate] is required to have one (1)  
59 mandatory meeting within the first two months of the semester”; and

60 WHEREAS, the respective Presidents of those governing bodies are responsible to chair the Joint  
61 Commission; and

62 WHEREAS, the President of the Student Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Sessions failed to fulfill the responsibility of  
63 coordinating or otherwise facilitating a meeting between the respective governing  
64 bodies thereby breaking their duties as Student Body President and Co-Chair of the Joint Commission;  
65 and

66 WHEREAS, the Student Senate Bylaws Chapter IX, Subchapter 3 Part 7 states the roles and  
67 responsibilities of the Communication Director is to, “Promote awareness of and participation in  
68 Student Senate activities, monitoring student feedback and enhancing the many channels  
69 of communication;” and

70 WHEREAS, due to the lack of communication and confusion of members of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Session of  
71 Student Senator over the prolonged 2020 Spring break, the Communications Director of the Student  
72 Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Session attempted to monitor student feedback relating to interest in the continuation of  
73 the session via a Facebook Poll; and

74 WHEREAS, in an email to the current Communications Director the President of the Student  
75 Senate 63<sup>rd</sup> Session stated, “While you are the Communications Director and certain communication

76 aspects are under your purview, decisions surrounding if, when, and how meetings take place is  
77 not” [see attachment B]; and

78 WHEREAS, in previously mentioned statements by the President of the Student Senate  
79 63<sup>rd</sup> Sessions was a clear violation of the roles and responsibilities of the Communications Director  
80 outlined in the Student Senate Bylaws; and

81 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire  
82 recognizes that the COVID-19 global pandemic created extenuating circumstances for President Charlie  
83 Johnson to navigate; and

84 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire does  
85 not condemn the decisions of the President and Vice President; and

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire  
87 condemns the unconstitutional practices of the President and Vice President;

88 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, the sitting chair will transmit a copy  
89 to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Warren Anderson, Vice Chancellor, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and  
90 Student Affairs; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia Klein, Provost and Vice Chancellor for  
91 Academic Affairs; Dang Yang, Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs; Chris Jorgenson, Director,  
92 Gender and Sexuality Resource Center; Teresa O’Halloran, Director, Affirmative Action; Kristin  
93 Schumacher, Director, University Centers, Evan Weiher, University Senate; Vicky Thomas, Director,  
94 Services for Students with Disabilities; Kelly Holzer, Staff Council; Raymond Cross, President, UW-  
95 System; Miranda Ricci, Student Body President, UW-Eau Claire Barron County; Tory Tiedeman, Former  
96 Non-Traditional Student Regent; Oliva Woodmansee, Traditional Student Regent; Jamie Siseman, RHA  
97 President.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Joel Meier- Communications Director & On-Campus Student Senator

Lauren Becker- Student Office of Sustainability Director

Annika Angelo- On-Campus Student Senator