WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire is committed to the values of “Diversity and inclusiveness; leadership; innovation and continuous improvement; stewardship and sustainability.”; and

WHEREAS, The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Student Office of Sustainability is tasked with serving the students of the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire through the allocation of The Green Fund, towards sustainable initiatives that directly benefit students, in accordance with 820 policy; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations defines sustainable development as “[…] meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization states “[Climate Change] threatens the essential ingredients of good health - clean air, safe drinking water, nutritious food supply, and safe shelter - and has the potential to undermine decades of progress in global health. […] Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year, from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat stress alone. The direct damage costs to health is estimated to be between USD 2-4 billion per year by 2030”; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Summary for Policymakers reports “limiting climate change to 1.5°C necessitates net zero anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions by around 2050 (40–60% interquartile range).”; and

WHEREAS, the most recent Campus Carbon Footprint Executive Summary states that the total “carbon emissions of the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire from the year 2017 to 2018 were 35,397 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, equal to the carbon sequestering of 585,297 trees planted and grown for ten years”; and

WHEREAS, in the year 2007, former Chancellor Brian Levin-Stankevich signed the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment, establishing the goal of net zero campus carbon emissions; and

WHEREAS, in the year 2018 the UW-Eau Claire Climate Action Plan Advisory Committee, comprised of representatives from Housing + Residence Life, Facilities, Centers, various academic departments, the Student Office of Sustainability, and Student Senate, by Chancellor James Schmidt, created the UW-Eau Claire Climate Action Plan; and
WHEREAS, in the year 2018, the Climate Action Plan was passed through the Student Senate, Staff Council, and University Senate and signed on behalf of UW-Eau Claire by Chancellor James Schmidt; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Action Plan sets a goal of net carbon neutrality for the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire by the year 2050, a goal that mirrors carbon neutrality goals established by the State of Wisconsin, Eau Claire County, and City of Eau Claire; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Energy states, “LED is a highly energy efficient lighting technology, and has the potential to fundamentally change the future of lighting in the United States. Residential LEDs -- especially ENERGY STAR rated products -- use at least 75% less energy, and last 25 times longer, than incandescent lighting. Widespread use of LED lighting has the greatest potential impact on energy savings in the United States. By 2027, widespread use of LEDs could save about 348 TWh (compared to no LED use) of electricity: This is the equivalent annual electrical output of 44 large electric power plants (1000 megawatts each), and a total savings of more than $30 billion at today's electricity prices.”; and

WHEREAS, increased energy efficiency within University buildings operationally funded through the use of student dollars directly correlates with reduced cost to students, as seen in Attachment B; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate approves a Green Fund allocation of $20,200.00 to the Facilities Capital Fund of UW-Eau Claire, to ensure the completion of the LED lighting retrofit of Oak Ridge Hall within the year 2020; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson will transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Kimera Way, President, UW-Eau Claire Foundation, Executive Director of University Advancement; John Haven III, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Albert Colom, Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Michael Rindo, Assistant Chancellor for Facilities and University Relations; Troy Terhark, Director, Facilities; Renee Strehlau, Campus Facilities Planner, Facilities; Anthony Rongstad, Sustainability Specialist, Associate Director of Facilities; Tracy Drier, Associate Director, Budget and Resource Planning; Quincy Chapman, Director, Housing + Residence Life; Deborah Newman, Associate Director, Housing + Residence Life; Ryan Banaszak, Assistant Director of Operations, Housing + Residence Life; Mike Knuth, Integrated Marketing and Communications; Jamie Siseman, President, Residence Hall Association; Tavin Swanberg, Horan Hall Director, Students Encouraging Environmental Deeds Advisor, Housing + Residence Life.