

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

**IN CELEBRATION OF HINDU HERITAGE MONTH**

1           WHEREAS, University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire (UW-Eau Claire) Student Senate is the official  
2 voice of the student body; and

3           WHEREAS, In the United States, fifteen states, including Texas, Mississippi, and Minnesota,  
4 proclaimed October as Hindu Heritage Month<sup>1</sup>; and

5           WHEREAS, October holds a special significance as it is the birth month of Mahatma Gandhi and  
6 is often when Diwali, the festival that is celebrated in the victory of good over evil, is held; and

7           WHEREAS, Hinduism is the third largest religion in the world with over one billion devotees  
8 worldwide and approximately three million in the United States<sup>1</sup>; and

9           WHEREAS, Hindus represent one of the newest and fastest-growing immigrant communities  
10 who started immigrating to the United States in the 1900s and came in increasing numbers after lifting  
11 the Asian Exclusion Act of 1924<sup>2</sup>; and

12           WHEREAS, Hindu heritage, culture, and values have greatly benefited our nation especially  
13 through the Vedanta philosophy, Ayurvedic medicine, classical Indian art, dance, music, meditation,  
14 yoga, literature, and community service; and

15           WHEREAS, Hindu Americans have greatly enriched the higher education university systems by  
16 teaching numerous students in a large variety of fields; and

17           WHEREAS, Wisconsin is home to around thirty-thousand Hindu Americans who represent  
18 diverse ethnic backgrounds, including individuals of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Malaysian,  
19 Indonesian, Afghani, Nepali, Bhutanese, Sri Lankan, Fijian, Caribbean, European descent, and more<sup>3</sup>; and

20           WHEREAS, Hindu Heritage Month provides the opportunity to focus on the Hindu culture and its  
21 diverse spiritual traditions rooted in India; and

22           BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, UW- Eau Claire Student Senate encourages the student community  
23 to conduct research and educate oneself to better understand the Hindu culture and community; and

24           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UW- Eau Claire Student Senate recognizes October as the Hindu  
25 Heritage Month; and

26           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UW- Eau Claire Student Senate will seek to increase awareness and  
27 appreciation of the Hindu community as well as acknowledge the significant contributions made by  
28 them; and

29           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UW – Eau Claire Student Senate will continue to look for more ways to  
30 support and engage Hindu students on campus and their communities; and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://hindumonth.org/proclamations/>

<sup>2</sup> [hinduamerican.org/hindu-heritage-month](http://hinduamerican.org/hindu-heritage-month)

<sup>3</sup> Carroll, Brett E. (December 28, 2000). *The Routledge Historical Atlas of Religion in America*. Routledge Atlases of American History

31 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Mikoulinskii will transmit  
32 a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Olga Diaz, Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity, Inclusion &  
33 Student Affairs; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Academic  
34 Affairs; Dang Yang, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Teresa O’Halloran, Director, Affirmative  
35 Action; Grace Crickette, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Jake Wrasse, Legislative and  
36 Community Relations Liaison; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Grace Arrigoni, Student  
37 Body President, UW-Eau Claire Barron County; Jay Dosmanbetov, President, International Student  
38 Association  
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**SUBMITTED BY:**  
**Manushri Ivaturi, Equity in Student Matters Commission Member,**  
**On-Campus Senator**