UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE - STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF SOLICITING CAPITAL INITIATIVES FROM ORGANIZED ACTIVITIES

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

WHEREAS, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate acts as fiduciary and trustee of monies collected from the student body via segregated fees[1]; and

WHEREAS, as fiduciary and trustee, UW – Eau Claire Student Senate's financial duties include a duty of loyalty as well as a duty of prudence to the student body[2]; and

WHEREAS, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission, on behalf of the General Assembly, operates under the "purpose is to allocate all allocable segregated fees to organized activities, make thorough recommendations to the Chancellor for all non-allocable segregated fees, and help student organizations in unforeseen circumstances with special allocations"[3]; and

WHEREAS, the contents of this Resolution were approved by the UW – Eau Claire Finance Commission on October 19, 2021 by a vote of 4-0-1; and

WHEREAS, as a fiduciary and trustee of the student body, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate must address fiscal implications of the enrollment cliff, budget cuts, and the end of the tuition freeze[4][5]; and

WHEREAS, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission estimated clawbacks of monies unspent by organized activities in the previous fiscal year in an amount well over $300,000.00[6][7]; and

WHEREAS, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission's clearing account currently holds a balance of well over $800,000.00 gross estimated clawbacks from the previous fiscal year[8]; and

WHEREAS, the net balance of the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission's clearing account will net a balance of around $650,000.00 pending the successful implementation of a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for the Sonnentag Complex in accordance with 64-B-13[9]; and

WHEREAS, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission has struggled in previous sessions to find prudent, cost effective, and 820 compliant initiatives to spend down the Finance Commission's clearing account balance on its own[10]; and

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[1] https://www.uwec.edu/student-senate/commissions/finance/
[2] https://www.investopedia.com/terms/f/fiduciary.asp
[3] https://www.uwec.edu/student-senate/commissions/finance/
[4] https://www.spectatornews.com/campus-news/2021/10/college-enrollment-projected-to-drop-in-2025/
[5] https://www.fox6now.com/news/uw-madison-tuition-freeze-ends
[6] An estimate given by Director Johnson in a Finance Commission meeting on October 5, 2021.
[7] https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/clawback.asp
[8] An estimate given by Director Johnson in a Finance Commission meeting on October 5, 2021.
[9] https://www.uwec.edu/files/6889/64-B-13.pdf
[10] Please see UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission Meeting Minutes March 17, 2021.

WHEREAS, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission has not formalized a universal solicitation for capital expenditures from organized activities for the 65th Session; and

WHEREAS, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission has received positive feedback from organized activities which have received funds for capital expenditures[11]; and

WHEREAS, the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission has spoken favorably about decreasing the surplus via capital expenditures or other subsidies; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Finance Commission, at the behest of General Assembly, is encouraged to spend down the clearing account balance to $200,000.00 in a prudent and timely manner (an amount previously agreed as satisfactory by previous Commissions)[12]; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Finance Commission, at the behest of the General Assembly, shall solicit 820 compliant capital initiatives from each organized activity to reduce the surplus in the clearing account to $200,000.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Director Johnson is encouraged to include this Resolution in his transition materials to subsequent Finance directors; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Mikoulinskii will transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Olga Diaz, Vice Chancellor, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Student Affairs; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia A. Klein, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Grace Crickette, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration; Kimera Way, President, UW – Eau Claire Foundation; Jake Wrasse, UW – Eau Claire Legislative and Community Relations Liaison; Grace Arrigoni, President, UW – Eau Claire - Barron County Student Government Association; William Felz, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management; Paula Gilbeck, Interim Director of University Relations; Elizabeth TenBarge, President, Resident Hall Association; Nicole Rindone, Senior Coordinator for Events & Marketing in Activities, Involvement and Leadership; Joann Martin, MSED, Coordinator of Student Activities, Involvement and Leadership; Sharon Breed, Financial Specialist, Recreation and Sport Operations; Garret Larson, Competitive Sports Coordinator, Recreation and Sports Operations; Dang Yang, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Dr. Kent Syverson, Faculty Advisor for the Flipside; Charlotte Gutzmer, Editor-in-Chief, Flipside; Chris Outzen, Director of Forensics; Dr. Christopher J. Jorgenson, Director, Gender and Sexuality Resource Center; Jackson Schmidtke, Study Abroad Coordinator; Lee Chepil, International Student and Scholar Services Coordinator; Colleen Marchwick, Director of Center for International Education; Dr. Gretchen Peters, Chair, Department of Music & Theatre Arts; Brenden Hicks, Director, Student Organizations Commission; Stephanie Pyykola, Student Senate Program Associate; Carol Pilgrim, Academic Department Associate, Communication + Journalism; Karen M. Larson, Academic Department Associate, Music and Theatre Arts; Brett Farmer, Director, University Activities Commission; JoAnn Martin, Coordinator of Student Activities, Office of Activities, Involvement, and Leadership; Jill Olm, Associate Professor, Art + Design; Amanda Bulger, Director, Ruth Foster Art Gallery; Jack Kapfer, Associate Professor, Communication + Journalism; and Dr. Jan Larson, Department Chair, Communication + Journalism.

SUBMITTED BY:

Steven R. Ross, Off-Campus Student Senator[13]

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[11] Preliminary conversations with Dr. Gretchen Peters, faculty advisor for Music and Theatre, showcased gratitude for Student Senate's investment in new musical instruments from the previous fiscal year.

[12] An amount discussed in Finance Commission on October 5th, 2021.

[13] Authored with the advice and consent of the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission. Please see the October 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes from the UW – Eau Claire Student Senate Finance Commission for formal approval of this Resolution.