

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

**BILL: Amending the Student Senate Bylaws to include the
SOC Special Allocation Fund**

NUMBER: 66-B-21

DATE: April 17, 2023

**INTRODUCED BY: Brad Heap, SOC Director; Student Organization Commission,
Ben Johnson, Finance Director; Finance Commission**

1 WHEREAS, the bylaws of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (UW-Eau Claire) Student
2 Senate provide specific policy and procedural interpretations of the Student Body Constitution;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, in past sessions, the conclusion of the annual Student Segregated Funding Fee
5 process involves the appeal process for student organizations who have applied; and

6 WHEREAS, in years past, numerous student organizations are unable to spend their full
7 allocation amount or alert the Student Organization Commission of their plan to spend the funds
8 by the third Monday of March, a requirement per the Student Senate bylaws Section 13, Part 4,
9 Subsection 6; and

10 WHEREAS, per the aforementioned clause in the bylaws, that unused allocation amount is
11 taken back and moved into the Redistributed Funds system; and

12 WHEREAS, the Student Organization Commission Director is required to appeal for funds
13 from the Finance Commission each Fall semester as part of the year-end balance appeal for the
14 Organized Activities funding process; and

15 WHEREAS, due to the decrease in enrollment on campus, the amount of funding that SOC
16 can receive from the year-end balance appeal process is expected to decrease for the FY 2023-
17 2024; and

18 WHEREAS, all the money received from the year-end balance appeal process immediately
19 moves into the SOC Special Allocation Fund, a fund specifically designed to support a multitude of
20 student organizations by providing them with up to \$500 in segregated fees that may be used
21 during the current fiscal year the funds are allocated; and

22 WHEREAS, being able to transfer the leftover money at the end of the Student Segregated
23 Funding Fee process that would traditionally be used for the appeal process directly into the SOC
24 Special Allocation fund for the following year would ensure that there is ample money available
25 in the SOC Special Allocation fund; and

26 WHEREAS, re-allocating the money in this fashion will ensure that all allocations to
27 student organizations is used in its entirety, as well that it is used solely for the purpose
28 presented to the Student Organization Commission during the weekly meetings; and

29 WHEREAS, amending the current Student Senate bylaws to add a clause to implement
30 this change for future sessions will ensure the future success of not only the Student Segregated
31 Funding Fee process, but also the SOC Special Allocation Fund; and

32 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Section 13, Part 4, Subsection 3 of the Student Senate
33 bylaws is amended to read: “The Student Organization Commission Director shall email all
34 student organizations that applied with their tentative allocation amounts. Following this email
35 being sent out, all student organizations have 5 days to contact the SOC director to appeal their
36 tentative allocation. Any student organizations that are allocated \$0 or feel they deserve a larger
37 allocation amount may appeal this decision. At the following Student Organization Commission
38 meeting the appealing Student Organization will present. The remaining amount left in the
39 Student Organization Commission allocation following the appeal process and notification of the
40 final allocation amounts, will immediately be moved into the SOC Special Allocation Fund to be
41 used for the following fiscal year of operations.”; and

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 13, Part 1, Subsection 3 of the Student Senate
43 bylaws is amended with an additional bullet point reading: “Host presentations from student
44 organizations for the SOC Special Allocation Fund during the entirety of the year, and
45 presentations from student organizations for the Student Segregated Funding Fee process during
46 the Spring semester of each fiscal year.”; and

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 13, Part 6, Subsection 2 of the Student Senate
48 bylaws is amended with an additional bullet point reading: “Ensuring that each member of the
49 Student Organization Commission – Funding Team is aware of the processes and functions of the
50 SOC Special Allocation Fund, and are available during the year to hear and deliberate on these
51 presentations.”; and

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 13, Part 3 be changed to Section 13, Part 5, and
53 that Section 13, Part 4, be changed to Section 13, Part 6, and that the title of Section 13, Part 6 be
54 amended to read: “BUDGET/FUNDING PROCESS RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT
55 ORGANIZATION COMMISSION DIRECTOR”; and

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section 13, Part 4 of the Student Senate bylaws is
57 amended to include an additional subsection (Subsection 7), in order to outline the functions of
58 the SOC Special Allocation Fund, which will read: “SOC SPECIAL ALLOCATION FUND. The Student
59 Organization Commission Director, in part with the funding team and voting members of the
60 Student Organization Commission, shall hear presentations throughout the fall and spring
61 semester for the SOC Special Allocation Fund. The SOC Special Allocation Fund is a fund designed
62 to fund new, re-activating, or “in-need” student organizations with segregated fees. Any
63 allocated funds may be used immediately after notification of the allocation, and 90% of the
64 funds must be used by June 30th of the same fiscal year, or the remaining allocation will be put
65 back into the redistributed funds system. The SOC Special Allocation Fund will be funded both in
66 part by a portion of the money received from the appeal process from the Finance commission at
67 the beginning of the year, as well as any left-over money at the end of the Student Segregated
68 Funding fee and appeal process.”; and

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these amendments be permanently adopted for the
70 current 66th session, as well as the following sessions of Student Senate; and

71 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this bill, President Gaitán will transmit a
72 copy of this bill to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Gregory Heinselman, Dean of Students; Dr.
73 Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; Grace Crickette, Vice Chancellor,

74 Finance and Administration; Billy Felz, Interim Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Evan
75 Weiher, Chair, University Senate; Stephanie Pyykola, Student Senate Program Manager; Sara
76 Thommesen, Activities, Involvement, Leadership; Tracy Drier, Director Finance/Human
77 Resources; Quincy Nesgoda, Student Body President, UW Eau Claire-Barron County; Gary
78 Wheeler, Interim Campus Director, UW Eau Claire-Barron County