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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the bylaws of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (UW-Eau Claire) Student Senate provide specific policy and procedural interpretations of the Student Body Constitution; and
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Section 13, Part 4, Subsection 3 of the Student Senate bylaws is amended to read: “The Student Organization Commission Director shall email all student organizations that applied with their tentative allocation amounts. Following this email being sent out, all student organizations have 5 days to contact the SOC director to appeal their tentative allocation. Any student organizations that are allocated $0 or feel they deserve a larger allocation amount may appeal this decision. At the following Student Organization Commission meeting the appealing Student Organization will present. The remaining amount left in the Student Organization Commission allocation following the appeal process and notification of the final allocation amounts, will immediately be moved into the SOC Special Allocation Fund to be used for the following fiscal year of operations.”; and

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

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

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

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

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

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this bill, President Gaitán will transmit a copy of this bill to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Greggory Heinselman, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; Grace Crickette, Vice Chancellor,
Finance and Administration; Billy Felz, Interim Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Evan Weiher, Chair, University Senate; Stephanie Pyykola, Student Senate Program Manager; Sara Thommesen, Activities, Involvement, Leadership; Tracy Drier, Director Finance/Human Resources; Quincy Nesgoda, Student Body President, UW Eau Claire-Barron County; Gary Wheeler, Interim Campus Director, UW Eau Claire-Barron County