

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

**BILL: Creation of an Ad-Hoc Vacancy Committee**

**NUMBER: 66-B-3                      DATE: September 12, 2022**

**INTRODUCED BY: Nicholas Johnson, Student Body Vice President**

- 1            WHEREAS, every Spring semester, a student body election is conducted to fill 30 Student  
2 Senate seats, as well as the offices of Student Body President and Student Body Vice-President;  
3 and  
4            WHEREAS, Senator seats that are not filled upon the certification of the election results,  
5 or that become empty due to the resignation of a Senator are deemed “vacant”; and  
6            WHEREAS, vacancies are common occurrence; and  
7            WHEREAS, the current amount of vacancies is higher than usual; and  
8            WHEREAS, the process of filling vacancies includes the creation of an ad-hoc Vacancy  
9 Committee; and  
10           WHEREAS, per the bylaws, the passage of a bill is required for the creation of an ad-hoc  
11 committee; and  
12           WHEREAS, based on historical knowledge, it is unlikely that previous sessions have  
13 complied with this mandate; and  
14           WHEREAS, the Vacancy Committee shall be chaired by the Student Body ~~Vice~~-President;  
15 and  
16           WHEREAS, the Vacancy Committee shall be co-chaired by the Student Body Vice-  
17 President; and  
18           WHEREAS, the Senate Personnel Director shall have a dedicated seat on the Vacancy  
19 Committee; and  
20           WHEREAS, other than the chair, co-chair, and Senate Personnel Director, the Vacancy  
21 Committee shall be composed of no more than two Student Senators, and no more than two  
22 members of the Executive Board; and  
23           WHEREAS, the purpose of this committee is to review the applications of interested  
24 students, and to interview candidates who meet the criteria for Student Senator seats; and  
25           WHEREAS, following this process, the Vacancy Committee relays its recommendations  
26 to the Student Body President for confirmation; and  
27           WHEREAS, following bylaw revisions in the spring, the filling of vacancies is no longer  
28 beholden to the on-campus and off-campus distinction of the student body election process;  
29 and

30 WHEREAS, this bylaw revision was done to eliminate the housing barrier of joining  
31 Student Senate as it applies to filling vacant seats; and

32 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the filling of seats on the Vacancy Committee shall be  
33 done by the normal nomination process within the personnel section following the passage of  
34 this bill; and

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this ad-hoc committee shall be dissolved automatically  
36 upon the filling of all vacant Senator Seats unless otherwise directed by the Student Senate, or  
37 upon the passage of a motion to that end if not all Senator seats are successfully filled; and

38 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Gaitan will transmit a copy of  
39 this bill to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Gregory Heinselman, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia  
40 Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; Olga Diaz, Vice Chancellor, Equity,  
41 Diversity, Inclusion and Student Affairs; Grace Crickette, Vice Chancellor, Finance and  
42 Administration; Billy Felz, Interim Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Evan Wheier,  
43 Chair, University Senate; Quincy Nesgoda, Student Body President, UW Eau Claire-Barron  
44 County; Gary Wheeler, Interim Campus Director, UW Eau Claire-Barron County