WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Student Senate at this University to adopt inclusive and forward thinking policies; and

WHEREAS, as the representative body of the students, Student Senate is a body composed of many different identities and individuals with diverse backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, pronouns are an important tool used in speech to identify an individual, and;

WHEREAS, when speaking about a Senator in third person, which may occur in debate on the Senate floor, pronouns are gender implied. Often, these associations can be inaccurate; and

WHEREAS, misgendering an individual, or assuming their preferred pronouns without asking first, can send a harmful message; and

WHEREAS, using the correct gender pronouns of an individual, is an important way of showing respect for their identity; and

WHEREAS, yellow placards, which are provided to every new Senator upon appointment or election, are not only used for voting purposes, but are an important tool used to identify the name of a Senator during a general assembly meeting, commission meeting, or during office hours; and

WHEREAS, the Student Senate office manager is responsible for making placards for each new Senator upon appointment or election; and

WHEREAS, permanently incorporating a Senator’s preferred pronouns to their placards will not only build a more inclusive environment within the Senate, but will help other Senators and the student body to properly identify Senator’s preferred pronouns during general assembly meetings, commission meetings, and office hours; and

WHEREAS, President Gaitan has already started this process by offering pronoun stickers for the placard of each Senator that requests them, and many have taken this opportunity; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire calls upon the Student Senate office manager, to add a Senator’s preferred pronouns to every new placard created after the passage of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, the Student Senate office manager should ask every new appointed or elected Senator their preferred pronouns before making their respective placard; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, the Student Senate office manager should make clear to new or appointed Senator’s that adding their pronoun’s to their placard is strongly encouraged, but not required; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Gaitan will transmit a copy of this resolution to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Greg Heinselman, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Grace Crickette, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Billy Felz, Interim Vice Chancellor, Management; Evan Weiher, University Senate; Nicole Owen, Chair; University Staff Council; Grace Arrigoni, Student Body President, UW Eau Claire-Barron County; Gary Wheeler, Interim Campus Director, UW-Eau Claire-Barron County

AUTHORED BY:
Matthew Lehner, At-Large Student Senator