

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

**Urging the Joint Finance Committee and Wisconsin State Legislature to Approve
Phase II Funding for a New Science and Health Sciences Building at the
University of Wisconsin Eau Claire**

1 WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire
2 to represent the student body at local, state, and national levels of government
3 WHEREAS, Student Senate participated in the annual Chippewa Valley Rally lobbying trip in
4 Madison, Wisconsin, sponsored by the Chippewa Valley Area Chamber of Commerce; and
5 WHEREAS, Phase II funding for a new Science and Health Sciences Building was a priority
6 advocated for on this trip which included meetings with members of the Wisconsin State Legislature; and
7 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin State Legislature has already approved 109 million dollars in Phase I
8 funding in the 2019-2021 State budget, which was signed by Governor Tony Evers; and
9 WHEREAS, Governor Tony Evers has added Phase II funding of the Science and Health Sciences
10 building into his proposed 2023-2025 State Budget; and
11 WHEREAS, upon Phase II funding approval, the project will be shovel ready by Winter of 2024, to
12 be completed by fall of 2026; and
13 WHEREAS, the current Science building, Phillips Hall, was built in the 1960's; and
14 WHEREAS, Phillips Hall is in disrepair and can no longer be renovated to keep up with the
15 standards and needs of the 21st century; and
16 WHEREAS, 38 percent of Students attending the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire are STEM
17 majors; and
18 WHEREAS, the new Science and Health Sciences building will primarily be used for the University
19 of Wisconsin Eau Claire's ever expanding research capabilities, and the intensive laboratories these
20 endeavors require; and
21 WHEREAS, the University has entered into a private/public partnership with the Mayo Clinic,
22 where 10,000 square feet of laboratory space will be funded to further establish a lasting partnership; and
23 WHEREAS, a new Science and Health Science building that meets the needs of the 21st century
24 will be crucial to further economic development of the region, as it will better train students and future
25 workers in critical industries, and continue to attract well qualified faculty to the University; and
26 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire
27 humbly asks the Joint Finance Committee, and the Wisconsin State Legislature to approve Phase II funding
28 for the new Science and Health Sciences Building at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire; and
29 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this Resolution, President Gaitan will transmit a
30 copy of this resolution and its final vote to the Members of the Joint Finance Committee: Representative
31 Born (Co-Chair), Senator Marklein (Co-Chair), Representative Katsma (Vice-Chair), Senator Stroebel (Vice-
32 Chair), Senator Felzkowski, Senator Ballweg, Senator Testin, Senator Wimberger, Senator L. Johnson,
33 Senator Roys, Representative Zimmerman, Representative Rodriguez, Representative Kurtz,
34 Representative Dallman, Representative Goyke, Representative McGuire

**AUTHORED BY:
Matthew Lehner, At-Large Student Senator**