UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

In Support of and Recognizing National Coming Out Day

WHEREAS, National Coming out day will be celebrated by many allied and LGBTQIA+
individuals at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire on Friday, October 11th.

WHEREAS, for decades, policies and attitudes in the United States have made it extremely
difficult for LGBTQIA+ identifying individuals to be open about their identities to their family,
friends, neighbors and coworkers, because of the potential threats to their safety, and risk of
bullying, harassment and persecution that a queer individual would likely face.

WHEREAS, it takes a tremendous amount of courage, preparation, consideration and
deliberation for an individual who decides to come out given the threats and risks associated with
doing so.

WHEREAS, despite major progress in expanding the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals,
those same rights are currently under attack by homophobic and transphobic policy makers.

WHEREAS, the same risk of bullying, harassment and persecution, as well as threats to a
queer individual’s safety exist, despite it being much easier to openly, and proudly identify as
LGBTQIA+.

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire Student Senate to
diligently serve and protect the students of this university, including those who identify as
LGBTQIA+.

WHEREAS, through the diligent work of the Gender and Sexualities Resource Center, and
the Queer campus community, The University of Wisconsin Eau Claire has made significant
strides in creating an inclusive and welcoming campus community for those who identify as
LGBTQIA+.

WHEREAS, as a result of this work, The University of Wisconsin Eau Claire has earned a
5 star rating from Campus Pride. Additionally, The University of Wisconsin Eau Claire has been
placed by Best Colleges and Campus Pride in the top 25 schools in the nation, and the best in the
State of Wisconsin for its inclusivity of LGBTQIA+ people.
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire honors and celebrates National Coming out day and applauds the courage and strength that it takes for individuals who come out as LGBTQIA+

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire recognizes and commends the tremendous work and good that the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center has contributed to the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire despite the tremendous difficulty that work has been under threats from individuals determined to rollback LGBTQIA+ progress, rights, and equality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Senate of the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire renews its commitment to working for the advancement and protection of the LGBTQIA+ campus community, and hereby recognizes that EDI contributes greatly to the tremendous strength and resilience of our campus community.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Farmer will transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; Grace Crickette, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Billy Felz, Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management; Teresa O’Halloran, Interim Assistant Chancellor of EDI; Selika Ducksworth, Interim Executive Director for EDI Engagement; Kallie Friede, Interim Director, GSRC; Chris Jorgenson, Interim Executive Director, EDI/Leadership; Gregory Heinselman, Dean of Students; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Kristen Hohweiler, Student Body President, UW Eau Claire-Barron County; Evan Weiher, Chair, University Senate; Nicole Owen, Chair, University Staff Council

Authored By: Matthew Lehner, On Campus Student Senator