SA0910-044: Resolution Recommending Changes to Board of Regents Policies on Differential Tuition

DATE: February 8, 2010
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WHEREAS; the Blugold Commitment is an initiative to increase differential tuition for University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire students; and,

WHEREAS; a survey of UW-Eau Claire students found that 69% did not support the Blugold Commitment proposal; and,

WHEREAS; on December 7, 2009, after the survey results were reported, the UW-Eau Claire Student Senate approved an amended version of the proposal by a vote of 17-15; and,

WHEREAS; UW-Eau Claire Student Senate President Michael Umhoefer and Chancellor Brian Levin-Stankevich submitted the proposal to the Board of Regents on February 4, 2010; and,

WHEREAS; on February 5, 2010, the UW System Board of Regents voted 14-2 in support of the UW-Eau Claire Blugold Commitment differential tuition proposal; and,

WHEREAS; in April of 2009, 2,286 UW-Madison students were surveyed on the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates, a differential tuition proposal; and,

WHEREAS; of those surveyed, 80% answered that they were either neutral or in opposition to the proposal; and,

WHEREAS; in May 2009, the Board of Regents passed the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates differential tuition proposal by a vote of 15-0-1; and,

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Karly Wallace Date
President, Student Senate
Vice-President, Student Association

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Erik Kahl Date
President, Student Association
WHEREAS; passage of the Blugold Commitment and the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates sets a precedence that student consent is unnecessary for any differential tuition proposal; and,

WHEREAS; as per UW System Regent Policy 32.7 on Student Involvement in Differential Tuition Initiatives, “Student approval is not a requirement for the initiative to be forwarded to the Board of Regents;” and,

WHEREAS; Regent Policy 32.7 also states, “A formal consultation process for student input for these tuition proposals does not exist;” and,

WHEREAS; differential tuition is a subject that affects each school in the UW System, including UW-L; and,

WHEREAS; the UWLSA is charged with “protecting, promoting, and developing the rights of the students of the University;” and,

WHEREAS; a change to Regent Policy on Student Involvement in Differential Tuition Initiatives would further the rights of students in the UW System; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Student Association strongly recommends that the UW-System Board of Regents amend Regent Policy 32.7 on Student Involvement in Differential Tuition Initiatives to require approval via formal student led referendum of differential tuition proposals prior to being forwarded to the Board of Regents; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED; this resolution is to be sent to the Board of Regents, UW-System President Kevin Reilly and any others deemed appropriate.