WHEREAS, the students of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee are comprised of nearly 40% first-generation students, almost 10% higher than the national average.

WHEREAS, first-generation students matriculate, stay enrolled, and graduate at a substantially lower rate than students who are not first-generation.

WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Student Association have an obligation to acknowledge, encourage, and celebrate the success of these hardworking students who were able to overcome the myriad of barricades in place for first-generation students.

WHEREAS, the Electa Quinney Institute, the Roberto Hernandez Center, the Military and Veterans’ Resource Center, the LGBT+ Resource Center, and the Black Cultural Center all celebrate the momentous achievement of graduation for their student groups with graduation receptions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Student Association at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee will fund a First Generation Graduation Ceremony for the Spring 2019 semester in the maximum amount of $1795.35, with the understanding that the Inclusive Excellence Center will match the Student Association’s contribution to the event.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; this success of this event will attempt to set a precedent that the Inclusive Excellence Center can host a yearly graduation ceremony for First Generation Students.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; this celebration of graduating first-generation students will be a testament of the strong commitment the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee has to keeping true to its mission of being an access institution.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED; upon this legislation’s approval, this matter will be referred to the Treasurer of the Student Association as well as the director of the Inclusive Excellence Center.

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Alyssa Molinski                      Date       AYE       NAY
Student Association President