**RESOLUTION ON OPEN SEARCHES**

Whereas Western Carolina University is a *public* university that is responsible to the people of North Carolina.

Whereas Western Carolina University values openness and inclusion in all decisions.

Whereas Western Carolina University’snew draft strategic plan lists “transparency and best practice” as “foundational to each of the proposed strategic directions.”

Whereas hiring is among the most important actions a university takes.

Whereas we recognize the diverse perspectives and opinions of different stakeholders and believe they all have a right to be heard on issues of importance to the University.

Whereas job candidates will better understand Western Carolina University if they meet with stakeholders in an open forum.

Whereas we recognize the right and need for privacy in job searches until the finalist stage.

Whereas many of our peer institutions across the country have open searches at the finalist stage for positions up to and including Chancellor

Be it resolved that Western Carolina University will publicly announce the finalists for all positions and make accommodations for diverse stakeholders to meet the candidates and express their opinions.