**Resolution from the Faculty Senate, the General Education Task Force and the Liberal Studies Oversight Committee**

Whereas Western Carolina University is currently seeking meaningful measures to reduce spending through a well-established and clearly articulated process including multiple levels of oversight,

Whereas the University must be obliged to preserve its core mission of creating “engaged learning opportunities” and “academic programs … to improve individual lives and enhance economic and community development,”

Whereas the Liberal Studies program is central to the University’s mission and, in accordance with SACS standards (2.7.3), is a substantial component of each undergraduate degree, ensures breadth of knowledge, and is based on a coherent rationale,

Whereas SACS Accreditation requirements (3.4.10) state “[t]he institution places primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum with its faculty,”

Whereas Liberal Studies is currently undergoing an extensive review by the General Education Task Force and any program changes proposed to the Liberal Studies curriculum during this process of review would disregard the charge and work of the Task Force as well as the obligation to follow the appropriate institutional process (SACS, Section 2),

Whereas statements in public forums have indicated that changes to the Liberal Studies curriculum, of a temporary or permanent nature, have been discussed or proposed by university administrators as a means of budget reduction,

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate, the General Education Task Force and the Liberal Studies Oversight Committee do not believe that any changes to the Liberal Studies curriculum should be suggested or considered as a means of budgetary reduction.