***Resolution Adding Joint Statement on University Community Responsibilities and Shared Governance to the Faculty Handbook***

***Whereas*** the Faculty Senate has adopted the joint collegiality and professionalism statement to be shared by all members of the University community, and

***Whereas*** the Faculty Handbook has a section on Responsibility of the University Community,

***Be it resolved*** to place the joint statement in Section 4.02 of the Faculty Handbook as part E to read:

**Faculty Handbook 4.02  - Academic Freedom and Responsibility of the University Community**

A. Western Carolina University is dedicated to the transmission and advancement of knowledge and understanding. Academic freedom is essential to the achievement of these purposes. This institution therefore supports and encourages freedom of inquiry for faculty members and students to the end that they may responsibly pursue these goals through teaching, learning, research, discussion, and publication, free from internal and external restraints that would unreasonably restrict their academic endeavors.

B. Western Carolina University shall support faculty and students in their responsible exercise of the freedom to teach, to learn, and otherwise to seek and speak the truth. It is the policy of Western Carolina University to support and encourage full freedom, within the law, of inquiry, discourse, teaching, research, and publication for all members of this institution's academic staff. Members of the faculty are expected to recognize that accuracy, forthrightness, and dignity befit their association with this institution and their position as men and women of learning. They should not represent themselves, without authorization, as spokespersons for Western Carolina University.

C. Western Carolina University shall not penalize or discipline members of the University

because of the exercise of academic freedom in the lawful pursuit of their respective areas

of scholarly and professional interest and responsibility.

D. Faculty and students of this institution shall share in the responsibility for maintaining an environment in which academic freedom flourishes and in which the rights of each member of the academic community are respected.

E. Students, staff, faculty and administrators, as members of the University community, are committed to creating an atmosphere of collegiality, professionalism, collaboration and shared governance of the institution. Professional behavior represents a respectful, reciprocal relationship among all members of our institution, and a value system that views diverse members of this community as critical for the progress and success of its academic mission. Collegiality involves appreciation of and respect for differences in expertise, ideas, and background, in addition to mutual trust. Respect for the intrinsic dignity of each member of the University community is the basic cornerstone governing all institutional activities. These principles guide our behavior, leadership, and work at Western Carolina University.