A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR NELSON CARBONELL, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (20/1)

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell has served for six years as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The George Washington University providing imaginative vision, leadership, creativity, strategic thinking, and energy leading to an era of unprecedented transformation of the University toward the top echelon in American research universities; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from The George Washington University in 1985 and has been giving back to the University ever since; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell was inducted in 2011 into the School of Engineering and Applied Science Hall of Fame, which honored his highly distinguished engineering career as an entrepreneur and innovator in advancing technology; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell had served on The Board of Trustees for eleven years prior to election as Chairman, including six years as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees; the Chairman of the Committee on the Science and Engineering Hall; the Chairman of the Committee on Governance, Compensation, and Nominations; Chairman of the Committee on Finance and Audit; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell has advanced the transformation of the University toward attaining top tier research university status by playing an instrumental role in the search and recruitment of both Presidents Knapp and LeBlanc, whose leadership resulted in excellent progress; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell’s tireless efforts have led to beneficial changes to important governing documents, a notable example being a major review and amendment of the Faculty Code which improved standards for tenure and promotion, dean search processes, and governing rules of the schools; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell made reality his vision of the Science and Engineering Hall by strategically persuading the Board of Trustees of the preeminence of science and engineering, resulting in the approval of the full Board of Trustees in the funding of construction of the Science and Engineering Hall, which was opened on March 4, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell has been a loyal and generous philanthropist in giving to GW and has created, with his wife Michele, the endowed Carbonell Family Professor in Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, the Nelson and Michele Carbonell Engineering Endowed Scholarship, and other major contributions to the University, and has actively encouraged others to follow his example; and,
WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell was a driving force in the unprecedented $1 billion “Making History” fundraising campaign, which was completed in March 2017, exceeding its goals before schedule by promoting his strategy that “…fundraising should connect a donor’s passion with an area of the university they can support…” and that “…philanthropic support can transform another person’s life”; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell’s leadership was instrumental in the reorganization of the University’s Medical Center, which resulted in the creation of three distinct schools with their own organizational structures (the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the Milken Institute School of Public Health, and the School of Nursing), as well as the expansion of their clinical services, producing many benefits in terms of improved student education and increased research emphasis concurrent with enhanced patient care; and,

WHEREAS, Nelson Carbonell was influential in enhancing the arts at the University by acquiring the Corcoran School of Design and the magnificent and historic Flagg Building; and,

WHEREAS, in May 2019, in accordance with Article VI Section 6 of the University Bylaws, Nelson Carbonell will complete the maximum term of six years as the Chair of the Board of Trustees and must step down from this role; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:

That the Faculty Senate hereby expresses its great appreciation to Nelson Carbonell for his six years of service as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The George Washington University, and his eleven prior years of highly influential service on the Board where his outstanding legacy will be long remembered.

That the Faculty Senate recommends honoring Nelson Carbonell with an honorary doctoral degree at Commencement 2020.

THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HEREBY EXPRESSES ITS DEEPEST ADMIRATION, APPRECIATION, AND GRATITUDE TO CHAIRMAN NELSON CARBONELL FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Adopted by Acclamation

Sylvia Marotta-Walters, Chair

April 12, 2019

Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate