

## **Resolution to Re-Name the School of Arts and Sciences**

**Whereas** in Spring 2014 the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematical Sciences, and Physics and Earth Science left the Carol A. Ammon School of Arts and Sciences to merge with the School of Engineering and Technology and form a STEM School;

**And whereas** the departments remaining in the Ammon School—Anthropology, Art, Communication, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Design, Economics, English, Geography, History, Journalism, Modern Languages, Music, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychological Science, Sociology, and Theatre—are those in the liberal arts and social sciences;

**And whereas**, while the Ammon School as it is now constituted does offer students preparation for a wide variety of careers, it differs from CCSU's three other undergraduate schools in that it does not focus primarily on a particular career path or related set thereof but instead offers a broad, interdisciplinary education to its own students and those of the other three schools;

**And whereas** in higher education the term “school” most often designates a unit focused on a particular discipline and career trajectory or related set thereof, while the term “college” most often designates a unit that provides a general or liberal arts education rather than a technical or professional credential;

**And whereas** the Ammon School, more so than the other three schools, provides a combination of General Education courses and a wide array of majors and minors typical of a college;

**And whereas** the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system has in its Transform CSCU 2020 plan underlined the centrality of the liberal arts core to all of its schools and degree programs and called for its enhancement;

**And whereas** the Ammon School has affirmed its commitment to providing this sort of education by adopting the following Mission Statement:

Building upon a rigorous curriculum in the liberal arts and social sciences, we empower students to become curious, critical, and creative thinkers and researchers who graduate with the interdisciplinary skills and knowledge necessary for 21st-century global societies. From a dedication to our individual disciplines as scholars and teachers, we offer all students, majors and those in general education classes, a multi-dimensional perspective on their worlds by guiding them through the critical foundations of knowledge that are central to preserving and influencing culture, creating an educated citizenry from which will emerge leaders for both the present and the future. (Approved May 16, 2014 by the chairs of the 17 departments in the Ammon School)

**Be it resolved** that the CCSU Faculty Senate endorses the renaming of the Carol A. Ammon School of Arts and Sciences as the Carol A. Ammon College of Liberal Arts and Social

Sciences (CLASS), in recognition of its newly changed membership and its central role in providing both the core of CCSU's General Education liberal arts curriculum and a broad, multidisciplinary array of major and minor programs.

**Be it further resolved** that the designation “college” confers no special rights or privileges beyond those afforded to CCSU's undergraduate schools, but rather is meant to recognize and make students aware of the different programs and emphases—curricular, pedagogical, and professional—offered by CLASS, to wit:

- An emphasis on the liberal arts core and its relationship to both career preparation and the general education curriculum at the heart of a university education
- An emphasis on the reading, writing, communication, and critical thinking skills important to all career paths and to the intellectual and professional flexibility required by the 21<sup>st</sup>-century global economy
- An emphasis on the importance of interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinary
- An emphasis on citizenship and cultural awareness that at once complements and transcends professional preparation
- An emphasis on the interactive, exploratory, student-centered, open-ended pedagogy typical of the liberal arts and social sciences