2012-06
Resolution on General Education
Approved by the UNC Faculty Assembly
November 30, 2012

Whereas, the education of North Carolina students for effective living is the fundamental goal of the University of North Carolina system; and

Whereas, effective living is only possible with a grounding in the social, cultural, civic, and economic aspects of the human environment and the natural environment; and

Whereas, for the study of nature and human culture, tools for understanding them are crucial; and

Whereas, higher education is an efficient tool for preparing students for effective living and for understanding both nature and human culture; and

Whereas, a general comprehensive education enhances the human experience in and with the world at-large; and

Whereas, the Continental Congress of 1787 articulated the essential need for public education when it stated that "knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged;" and

Whereas, North Carolina General Statute 116-1(b) states that "teaching and learning constitute the primary service that the university renders to society" and that "the mission of the university . . . is accomplished through instruction, which communicates the knowledge and values and imparts the skills necessary for individuals to lead responsible, productive, and personally satisfying lives;" and

Whereas, the University of North Carolina is committed to equip its students with the highest quality of Higher Education;

Therefore, Be It Resolved That all students in the University of North Carolina system receive an education that affords the broadest possible vision of the natural world and of the human condition in its social, cultural, civic and economic forms; and

Be it Further Resolved That the University of North Carolina system takes steps to insure that such education be provided in a form envisioned by the academic faculties of its various constitutive universities.