

## RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DEBRA SAUNDERS-WHITE CHANCELLOR NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS, DEBRA SAUNDERS-WHITE lost her valiant fight against cancer on November 26, 2016, while in her fourth year of distinguished service as Chancellor of North Carolina Central University; and

WHEREAS, during her all-too-brief tenure, Chancellor Saunders-White proved herself to be a visionary and forward-thinking leader, tirelessly advocating for the institution's priorities and persuading NCCU's students, faculty, and staff to embrace change and commit to lives of Eagle Excellence; and

WHEREAS, she demonstrated a passionate commitment to helping all students succeed academically and reach their full potential, and she was ever willing to listen to the needs and aspirations of NCCU's students, whom she called her light and her inspiration; and

WHEREAS, she was a fixture at Eagle athletics and other campus events, a champion of all its teams, and NCCU's most visible and enthusiastic cheerleader; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Saunders-White was a valued resource to the UNC Board of Governors, providing important campus perspective and context to its Committee on Personnel and Tenure; and

WHEREAS, her legacy will live on in many ways—through NCCU's heightened national stature; the renewed confidence and pride she instilled in the NCCU family; the stronger partnerships she helped forge with the Durham community, business leaders, and other educational institutions; and the future physical facilities that were approved for construction on her watch; and

WHEREAS, friends and colleagues throughout the UNC system and all of higher education will long grieve the loss of this extraordinary leader, who left us far too soon;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina honors the memory of **DEBRA SAUNDERS-WHITE** and celebrates her outstanding contributions to North Carolina Central University, the UNC system, and the entire state; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Governors extends its condolences and deepest sympathy to her children, Elizabeth Paige and Cecil III; her mother, Irene Saunders; and other family members.

This, the 2nd day of December 2016.

W. Louis Bissette, Jr., Chairman

Joan Templeton Perry, Secretary