

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL**

WHEREAS, a healthy democracy not only tolerates dissent but welcomes it to help test ideas and to promote policies benefiting the public good; and

WHEREAS, vigorous debate, frank disagreement, and appropriate individual expression, committed to critically engage the beliefs of others, rather than criticize personally, should proliferate in an open, democratic society – especially at its universities – while personal attacks and abuse -- including but not limited to harassment, racism, and bigotry -- undermine progress toward individual dignity, mutual understanding, and community welfare; and

WHEREAS, threats, bullying, and intimidation have no place in our educational system. Maintaining at least a base level of human respect is a standard for all members of our University community and is as important now as it has always been;

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is committed to leading by example, and each Trustee commits to civic duty, decency, and decorum in all that they do; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees adopts this pledge for itself, and the Board seeks to collaborate with students, faculty, staff, and other members of our University community to consider establishing such a pledge for our entire University community;

NOW, THEREFORE, to promote a collegial atmosphere on campus and beyond, the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill hereby adopts this commitment:

"To help foster the free exchange of ideas necessary to the search for truth, I pledge to treat all students, faculty, staff, and our entire University community with respect, dignity, courtesy, and generosity of spirit. I acknowledge the value of varying backgrounds, experiences, perspectives, and opinions among the members of our diverse university community. We are all fallible – and each of us born equally worthy. I commit humbly to the unending pursuit and advancement of knowledge, understanding, wisdom, acceptance, and mutual support as fellow Tar Heels first and last."

