

Resolution

WHEREAS *Dr. Elizabeth A. Fleming has served for eleven years as the ninth President of Converse College; and,*

WHEREAS *Dr. Fleming is an accomplished scholar who graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University, received a M.A. from the Royal College of Art in London, and a Ph.D. in the History of Art from Yale University; and,*

WHEREAS *Dr. Fleming's focus on academic excellence and student achievement has been transformative as Converse College has developed distinct and creative programs to best serve undergraduate, adult, and graduate students; added programs as diverse as musical theatre and genetic counseling among many others; increased athletic participation by expanding the number of sports programs from 5 to 11 and gaining full Division II membership; established the Converse International School and significantly enhanced the campus through numerous renovation and construction projects aimed at improving student and faculty living and learning environments; and,*

WHEREAS *during Dr. Fleming's fiscal stewardship of Converse College, the college's net assets increased by 20% and traditional undergraduate enrollment grew by 30%. She raised more than \$76 million, including \$31 million in endowment growth and reorganized the institution's operating structure and business model by launching bold strategic enrollment initiatives that reduced the cost of tuition by 43%; and,*

WHEREAS *Dr. Fleming is a recognized leader in independent higher education and has served unselfishly on many distinguished boards and commissions including the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (vice chair), SCICU's Council of Presidents (chair), the South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission (chair), the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Council of Independent Colleges Committee on the Future of Higher Education, and NCAA Division II Conference Carolina (chair); and,*

WHEREAS *South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities will miss the advice and counsel of a respected fellow Board member, colleague, mentor, and friend; and,*

WHEREAS *upon her retirement as President, we wish our friend and colleague Betsy Fleming great success, good health, happiness, and personal and professional fulfillment,*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED *that the Officers, Board, and Staff of the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities do salute Dr. Elizabeth A. Fleming and join our names among the many who celebrate her accomplishments and dedicated years of service.*

In Witness whereof we have signed our names this 11th day of February, 2016, at a special recognition ceremony at Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

*Jim Reynolds
Chair, Board of Trustees*

*Mike LeFever
President & CEO*

