

Resolution 2003-12. In Appreciation of Faculty Marshal, Professor Ron Hyatt

Whereas, Professor Ron Hyatt has a long-standing love affair with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, dating from his time as a student who received a masters degree in 1959, and

Whereas, Ron devoted himself to assisting Governor Terry Sanford establish the North Carolina Advancement School (a school for underachieving students) before moving back to Carolina as intramural sports director and assistant professor of physical education in 1966, and in 1970 earned his doctorate here, and

Whereas, he remained a committed senior professor in the Department of Exercise and Sports Science since those days, and has served as the director of the Program for Public Policy in Sport, and

Whereas, Ron was a driving force in the establishment of “The Farm,” Carolina’s Faculty and Staff Recreation Association, negotiating a 99 year lease for \$1, clearing kudzu, picnicking, and serving as the group’s first president, and

Whereas, Ron was named by the N.C. High School Athletic Association as one of the 50 most influential people in North Carolina high school sports in the last 50 years, and

Whereas, Ron has lifted the tone of the athletics-academics debate, by speaking on such topics as the poetry and prose of sports literature in North Carolina, and

Whereas, Ron was named as Faculty Marshall in 1992 by Chancellor Paul Hardin and served with distinction in assembly and assisting the faculty to participate in the Bicentennial Celebration, University Day, Commencement, and other gatherings of note, and

Whereas, in 2002 Ron won the University’s C. Knox Massey Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes "unusual, meritorious or superior contributions" by UNC employees, and

Whereas, Ron has shared his life’s wisdom with members of the University community, putting up with liberals (he said—“I love them all, brother... Them’s my people), and the weather (observing as to rain on commencement—“When it’s raining on you, why cry... You only add to the water”), and

Whereas, Ron has been a role-model to generations of faculty who were gently and humorously herded by him into orderly columns that looked reasonably well-organized on commencement days, and

Whereas, Ron resigned his post as Faculty Marshall in September 2003 for personal reasons, and

Whereas, Ron’s leadership will be greatly missed, and

Whereas, Ron's warmth, dignity, and spirit will remain with all those he has touched forever,

NOW, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Faculty Council that, on behalf of our colleagues and legions of students, families and friends, we

Advise Ron that the University community returns his deep love,

Commend Ron for his distinguished service and leadership, come rain or come shine, and

Commit ourselves to carry on the University's proud traditions of gathering together in times of need for comfort and in celebration to rejoice in our proud history and our shared vision for forging a better future.