Resolution Regarding House Bill 4632
The “Charleston University” Bill

February 18, 2014

WHEREAS, the drafting of the “Charleston University” bill (H.4632) for the merger of College of Charleston and the Medical University of South Carolina appears not to have carefully considered and involved study of the following critical issues:

• the type of university being proposed, its mission, and its structure;
• the cost to expand existing programs and create new research capacities and administrative structures, and the source of funds;
• impacts of the change in mission and identity on student recruitment, alumni engagement, and faculty retention;
• impacts of the change in mission on student learning and educational opportunities;
• impacts on resource reallocation and student enrollment for existing research universities in the state;
• impacts on funding and productivity from losing designation as a PUI (primarily undergraduate institution) among granting sources;
• constraints on space for further expansion on the Charleston peninsula;
• implications of an altered mission for faculty whose training and expertise are in undergraduate and targeted graduate instruction; and

WHEREAS, the filing has disrupted the College of Charleston's Presidential search process and its critically important capital campaign, and its sponsors have disregarded the recommendations (White Paper) of the Institutional Organizational Review Committee convened by faculty and administrators from both institutions;

THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the College of Charleston opposes the Charleston University Bill.