Resolution Number: RS08-266
January, 2008

RESOLUTION COMMENDING MARILYN VERHEY

Whereas Marilyn Verhey prepared brilliantly for her career at San Francisco State University, showing great foresight by preparing for and working in the fields of library science and psychiatric nursing; and

Whereas Marilyn Verhey has served San Francisco State for seventeen years as a faculty member, campus assessment guru or â czar, and Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development; and

Whereas Within the School of Nursing, Marilyn Verhey was the ultimate scholar, placing students at the center of her work, supporting faculty, and providing leadership for the first community health clinic operated by San Francisco State University; and

Whereas Marilyn Verhey has for all these years been a university citizen par excellence; and

Whereas Marilyn Verhey has been a role-model for both faculty and administrators in her dedication to complete and open consultation with faculty on a broad range of matters from developing a revised university form for student evaluation of teaching effectiveness to devising reasonable processes to actualize the often-impenetrable language of the Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

Whereas Marilyn Verhey, as Dean of Faculty Affairs, has consistently made herself accessible to faculty who needed advice, sought an informed view about issues important to them, or simply wanted to talk to her, thereby demonstrating her view of the role as a resource for faculty and her respect for faculty in general; and

Whereas Under Marilyn Verhey’s guidance, the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development realized an enlarged vision of its purposes and has now become a rich source for faculty seeking professional growth whether in the classroom or in scholarly/creative pursuits -- a perspective that invites faculty to enlarge their knowledge and expand their teaching repertoire; and

Whereas Marilyn Verhey has modeled for all of us a way of coping with major or chronic illness, transforming theory into praxis in her frankness about her experience, her straightforwardness and honesty about it, her lack of self-consciousness in acknowledging it, and her gentle sense of humor in describing some of its effects on her daily life; and

Whereas Marilyn Verhey comes to work each day with enthusiasm, energy, an inclination to solve problems, an even-handed pragmatism, and a humaneness that becomes the Office of Faculty Affairs; and

Whereas In short, Marilyn Verhey has epitomized in all her roles the ineffable quality of “being there” for faculty and for the entire University; and

Whereas It is Marilyn Verhey’s plan to challenge the American pioneer spirit and Horace Greeley (who urged, “Go west, young man!”), reversing the traditional course of American geo-history by moving to the â right coast, to the ultimate gain of LL Bean, Hannaford Brothers, Boskov’s, OrangeOnions, the Burlington Coat Factory
and the great and independent State of Maine; therefore let it be

RESOLVED That the Academic Senate of San Francisco State University vigorously applaud the many and diverse contributions to this campus of Marilyn Verhey; and let it further be

RESOLVED That on behalf of all San Francisco State University faculty the Academic Senate of SFSU hail Marilyn Verhey as a model of the caring, cultured, humane, respectful, and superbly competent scholastica cum administrator; and let it further be

RESOLVED That the Academic Senate of San Francisco State University urge Marilyn Verhey to explore the many pleasures of Deer Isle and its more-or-less immediate environs, from the marine surroundings, “calm harbor,” granite quarries, and ever-changing skies to the local fruits de mer, bookstores, arts and crafts galleries, celebrations like the Lupine Festival in spring and Winterfest in January, good restaurants like Le Domaine in Hancock, and the eleven rabbitries sprinkled across Maine; and let it further be

RESOLVED That the Academic Senate of San Francisco State University share with Marilyn Verhey best wishes from the entire university community for a long life, a pleasurable and peaceful retirement, and the best of all worlds.