

**RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE NAME OF
THE SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION
TO THE SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL AND
CROSS-DISCIPLINARY STUDIES**

WHEREAS, the School of Continuing Education inherited its name from the former Division of Continuing Education, which offered only non-credit and non-degree programs; and,

WHEREAS, the School was established in 2002 so that in addition to offer M.S. degree and post-baccalaureate certificate programs that are applied and professional in their orientation; and

WHEREAS, the School's instructional portfolio is now dominated by its thirteen M.S. degree programs and post-baccalaureate certificate programs and will continue to migrate in this direction; and

WHEREAS, the School has accordingly embraced an educational agenda driven by a clear and compelling mission statement, "to transform knowledge and understanding in service of the greater good, which the School defines as a just, sustainable, and compassionate society"; and

WHEREAS, the School will create innovative programs that integrate knowledge across disciplines and broaden the academic compact by bringing together faculty, students, administrators, and sector professionals to deliver multifocal programs of study and practice that address today's compelling programs; and,

WHEREAS, the School aspires to be a model of cross-disciplinary and professional education in the 21st century, anticipating the evolving needs of diverse and talented students who strive to advance their careers; and

WHEREAS, the School will draw upon Columbia's vast intellectual resources and leverage partnerships with leaders in business, industry and government to create multifocal programs that prepare our students to have an impact on the world"; and

WHEREAS, thorough research was conducted and the faculty were extensively consulted in the selection of a new name that is meaningful to faculty, students, and alumni, that appropriately describes the School and that aligns with the University's tradition of excellence; and,

WHEREAS, faculty, students, and administrators rejected the term "continuing education" as no longer descriptive of the School's mission, goals, and rigorous academic offering; and,

WHEREAS, research and faculty consultation strongly favored the terms “cross-disciplinary and professional” in the name of the school;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the School shall henceforward be named the School of Professional and Cross-Disciplinary Studies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Trustees for their approval.

Proponent: Education Committee