RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE JAMES G. NEAL

WHEREAS James G. Neal, after arriving at Columbia from Johns Hopkins in 2001 to serve as Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian (providing leadership for university academic computing and a system of twenty-two libraries) immediately took it upon himself to come regularly to Senate plenary meetings; and

WHEREAS Sen. Neal also served on the Senate Libraries Committee, faithfully providing thorough and compelling updates about the work of the University Libraries; and

WHEREAS he has always comported himself as a gentleman, with a ready laugh at the vagaries of librarianship, especially amid the upheaval of digitization, the emergence of open access and the looming power of Google; and

WHEREAS he has used his superb intellect to disseminate scholarly information in a manner accessible to all; and

WHEREAS Sen. Neal has reflected honor on Columbia as a prominent figure in American and international library associations, and as an expert witness on copyright issues and other matters before Congressional committees; and

WHEREAS Sen. Neal will truly be missed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate honor Jim Neal for 14 years of Senate service, and the devotion to the University that they express.

Proponent: The University Senate