

University Senate

Proposed: May 3, 2019

Adopted: May 3, 2019
by acclamation

**RESOLUTION TO HONOR JOHN H. COATSWORTH
FOR HIS SERVICE AS PROVOST**

WHEREAS John Coatsworth, after nearly four decades as a distinguished professor of Latin-American history at the University of Chicago and Harvard, came to Columbia in 2007, serving as SIPA dean and, through his elevation to the provostship in 2012, achieving the ultimate prize—membership in the University Senate; and

WHEREAS this provost’s University-wide initiatives to diversify the faculty, to establish the Center for Teaching and Learning, and provide grants to spur pedagogical innovation have animated the work of several Senate committees and the practice of Columbia teachers; and

WHEREAS this provost’s office has developed innovative interactive ways to present demographic and other faculty data on the web, and has collaborated diligently and openly with data-gathering efforts of Senate committees, most notably the Commission on the Status of Women’s project to count female faculty at the Medical Center; and

WHEREAS this provost has taken faculty grievances seriously, always considering their policy implications, responding directly and fairly to Faculty Affairs Committee recommendations, usually with reasoned rejections but also occasional vindications; and

WHEREAS on the many occasions when this provost had to explain something to a Senate audience, in a plenary, a committee, or just a conversation, he deployed a special synoptic gift, conveying complex imbroglios or policy nuances quickly in short words, with humor;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate honor Provost Coatsworth for his transparent and forthright engagement with the Senate over the past eight years, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate uphold this provostial legacy as a standard for his successors to maintain.

**Proponent:
The University Senate**