COMMENDING Vicki Templeton-Cornell upon the occasion of her retirement, after a total of 23 years of distinguished service to The State University of New York at Potsdam, having served 19 of those years as a valued member and leader in College Advancement:

WHEREAS, It is the consensus of this Potsdam College Foundation, Inc. Board of Trustees to recognize and pay tribute to those singular individuals who devote their purposeful lives and careers to the betterment of SUNY Potsdam; and

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life of countless alumni, faculty, staff and students of the SUNY Potsdam community have been positively impacted and enriched by the selfless and dedicated efforts of Vicki Templeton-Cornell; and

WHEREAS, This Foundation Board is justly proud to commend Vicki Templeton-Cornell upon the occasion of her retirement; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Templeton-Cornell started her fundraising career at SUNY Potsdam in 1998 as the director of the annual fund, then became a major gift officer and finally served for the past 17 years as the Vice President of Advancement and the Executive Director of the Potsdam College Foundation, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Templeton-Cornell led all fundraising, alumni relations, communications, public relations, marketing and government relations work at the College; and

WHEREAS, SUNY Potsdam completed two successful comprehensive fundraising campaigns under her leadership, generating more than $45 million in gifts and pledges to the College; and

WHEREAS, Throughout a career of distinguished leadership, Vicki Templeton-Cornell participated in a College rebranding effort, organized numerous government affairs visits and coordinated major alumni and donor events across the State and country; and

WHEREAS, Her advice, guidance and leadership was instrumental in the College’s successful Bicentennial Celebration in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Respected by alumni, colleagues and elected officials alike, Vicki Templeton-Cornell has worked to help secure both state and private funding for initiatives and facilities such as the College’s award-winning Performing Arts Center, the Combined Heat and Power Plant, the Crane Institute for Music Business, funding for the Steinway Initiative that resulted in the historic purchase of 147 pianos, and countless additional fundraising and legislative priorities and efforts; and

WHEREAS, Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Vicki Templeton-Cornell, SUNY Potsdam boasts one of the most successful fundraising programs among its peers in the SUNY system; and
WHEREAS, Vicki Templeton-Cornell served as a trusted advisor and friend to numerous members of the SUNY Potsdam family; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership and guidance of Vicki Templeton-Cornell, the metric establishing the “Love of Potsdam”—which she herself embodied—was nourished and developed; and

WHEREAS, Her true love of Potsdam was directly demonstrated when Vicki Templeton-Cornell endowed a family scholarship in support of students, and also encouraged and supported her two daughters as they attended and graduated from SUNY Potsdam; and

WHEREAS, Vicki Templeton-Cornell was granted Honorary Lifetime Membership by the SUNY Potsdam Alumni Association in 2016 during the College’s Bicentennial Reunion Weekend, which is presented to non-alumni who have made exceptional contributions to the College; now, Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Foundation Board pause in the work of the Board to commend Vicki Templeton-Cornell upon the occasion of her retirement after 23 years of distinguished service at The State University of New York at Potsdam, including 17 years as Vice President of College Advancement and Executive Director of the Potsdam College Foundation, Inc., and to extend its sincere gratitude for her contributions to the SUNY Potsdam community and family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Vicki Templeton-Cornell.

October 14, 2017

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Lynne Boles, President
Potsdam College Foundation, Inc.