The purpose of this resolution is to support Chancellor Dorothy Leland’s proposal to amend the UC Merced Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) to incorporate recommendations by the Urban Land Institute (ULI).

1) Whereas, due to the economic recession and slow-down, the State of California has been unable to sustain the demand for increased UC Merced Campus growth, which includes capital projects like buildings and infrastructure;

2) Whereas, demand for UC Merced is continually growing year over year with this past year receiving 15,054 undergraduate applications;

3) Whereas, without the development of more student support, academic, research, and administrative space UC Merced will have to decrease its number of new freshmen and transfers;

4) Whereas, new innovative ways to support UC Merced’s growth are required for the institution to continue to achieve its mission based on diminishing state funding support, increasing student population, and increasing demand by increasing applications;

5) Whereas, the ULI conducted an extensive survey of all UC Merced Facilities and proposed facilities which culminated in two key recommendations:
   1) Consolidation of off-campus administrative units to a single facility or facilities grouped together and 2) to increase construction on the current 104 acre “golf course footprint” through developing multiuse buildings rather than the current single use process now underway;

6) Whereas, the ULI further recommended the creation of a public-private partnership to better facilitate development at a more rapid rate and to build a stronger economic connection to the region;

7) Whereas, multipurpose facilities and public-private partnerships hold true to UC Merced’s principles of innovative collaboration, mutual cooperation, and sustainability;

Be it resolved, that the UCMAA supports Chancellor Dorothy Leland’s proposal to amend the UC Merced Long Range Development Plan to include the Urban Land Institute’s recommendations to create much needed campus facilities;

Be it further resolved, that the UCMAA requests the following criteria be used in evaluating potential firms for public-private partnerships:

1) Positive ties to the local Merced and San Joaquin Valley economies & communities
2) Commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship
3) Commitment to higher education and research excellence
4) Social responsibility with respect to their workforce and communities in which they enter and do business
5) Responsiveness to adverse issues and meaningful corrective actions to resolve such issues

Be it finally resolved, that UCMAA shall transmit this resolution to the UC Merced Chancellor, UC Office of the President, UC Board of Regents, and any other persons or organizations deemed appropriate by the UCMAA President.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by the University of California, Merced Alumni Association Board on April 13, 2013.