Resolution Endorsing Higher Education’s 66% Goal and the Utah System of Higher Education 2013-14 Budget Priorities

WHEREAS, we recognize that education is the foundation critical to Utah’s success, well-being, and prosperity; and,

WHEREAS, K-12 public education provides a foundation in social interaction, citizenship, knowledge, understanding, and basic life skills including reading, math, science, and history; and,

WHEREAS, higher education enhances opportunities for employment, service, leadership, quality of life, and economic success by as much as 80% or an estimated $650,000 in lifetime earnings; and,

WHEREAS, it is well-documented that individuals with higher levels of education enjoy greater health and are more engaged in civic life, which is our hope for all Utahns; and,

WHEREAS, K-12 public and higher education in Utah must be strengthened and empowered to improve the educational attainment of all Utahns through new levels of excellence and innovation; and,

WHEREAS, it is projected that by 2018, 66% of all jobs in Utah will require post-secondary education while only 43% of adults in Utah currently hold a higher education degree or certificate; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor, the State Board of Regents, the Utah System of Higher Education, the Utah College of Applied Technology, and Prosperity 2020 have adopted a goal that 66% of Utah’s adults will hold a post-secondary degree or certificate by the year 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Utah Valley University unanimously supports the 66% goal and will work to achieve it by advocating for increased innovation and investment, and endorses the Utah System of Higher Education budget priorities for the 2013-14 Utah Legislative Session.

Signed this 7th day of February, 2013