

**Faculty Senate Resolution in Honor of Provost Peter Starr
June 14, 2023**

Whereas Peter Starr has served American University since 2009 in a series of high profile, critically important leadership roles, including as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Provost and Chief Academic Officer of the University, and will step down from this role on June 30, 2023;

Whereas he has a distinguished career as a scholar of French and Comparative Literature and is the author of two traditional academic books, a multimedia project, and a blog on wisdom and culture;

Whereas he served as the Dean of AU's College of Arts and Sciences for 11 years, in which capacity he co-led the development of the AU Core curriculum, made significant contributions to the path-breaking Reinventing the Student Experience (RiSE) project, and raised almost \$100 million for CAS;

Whereas, also as Dean of CAS, he was instrumental in the development and launch of the Hall of Sciences and the growth of the AU museum into a leading home for the arts, including the acquisition of the \$30 million Corcoran Legacy Collection and worked with faculty experts to launch groundbreaking research entities, including the Antiracist Research and Policy Center, the Center for Neuroscience and Behavior, and the Center on Health, Risk, and Society;

Whereas he became Provost of American University in 2020 and has led the university through the disruption of the pandemic, our carefully planned and successful return to in-person learning, and the growth and evolution of AU's approach to experiential learning as a way of enhancing the student experience;

Whereas he has, during his time as Provost, advanced key university priorities such as increasing the university's external research funding, which is now double the amount from three years ago, and launched the Office of Global and Immersive Studies to consolidate AU's effort in study abroad and international recruitment;

Whereas he worked to enhance faculty hiring and retention and advanced our commitment to inclusive excellence, with increased diversity among new faculty hires in each of the last three years, and was critical in the development of the university's new Continuing Appointment status for term faculty;

Whereas he has shown deep commitment to faculty by supporting multiple research initiatives and collaborating with the Faculty Senate by sponsoring the Working Group on Faculty Engagement and the Task Force on Service;

Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate, on behalf of the faculty of American University, **commends** Provost and Chief Academic Officer Starr; **expresses** its gratitude for his leadership, innovation, and commitment to the common good of the university community;

declares that American University is a better place to learn, teach, and work because of him; and **wishes** him well in all his future endeavors.