55 05-GS-19 VOTED: The Twenty-fifth General Synod adopts the amended resolution "In Support of Ministries to our Campuses of Higher Education.

## IN SUPPORT OF MINISTRIES TO OUR CAMPUSES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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WHEREAS the United Church of Christ has been invested in the intellectual, spiritual and moral formation of future leaders, both lay and ordained; and

WHEREAS on a world scale only one out of 100 people has access to higher education and whereas that one person will make decisions that affect the other 99; and

WHEREAS the future leaders of our church, our country and, indeed, our world, can be found in our institutions of higher learning from community colleges to graduate and professional schools; and

- WHEREAS a plethora of competing voices are heard on those campuses and the church needs to have the resources to be there as an alternative voice of the loving, serving and healing way of
- 14 Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS the recent removal of all campus ministry staff in the national offices of the United Church of Christ in Cleveland was done without notification to date of such removal to United Church of Christ chaplains, campus ministers and students and with little regard for the connections between students, campuses, local churches and our ecumenical partners, or cooperation with them in anticipating this radical step,

WE HEREBY RESOLVE to urge our conferences, associations, and local churches to become knowledgeable about local campus ministries in their region and resolve that at every level of church life we offer our resources and hospitality to ministries of higher education and listen to the wisdom of those involved in campus ministry as they offer insights into the ways that such ministry might renew the church.

We also urge churches to share names of students and educational workers involved in higher education (with their permission) with campus ministries in order to develop a network of support.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage our conferences, associations, and congregations to support Local Church Ministries in its efforts to provide resources to our ministries in higher education through increased Our Church's Wider Mission giving.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-fifth General Synod of the United Church of Christ in Atlanta, Georgia urges the national settings of the church to explore opportunities for expanded ministries, including evangelism, to students and campuses of higher education.

Funding for the implementation of this resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.