George S. Shirley Resolution

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate of The University of Alabama wishes to honor the memory of Trustee Emeritus George S. Shirley, an exceptional member of The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama representing the Sixth Congressional District, and to express its gratitude especially for his expert focus on the fiscal well being of the University; and

WHEREAS, George S. Shirley was elected to The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama in April 1987 and retired in June 1998. During his 11-year tenure, he held many key leadership positions, including nine years as chairman of the audit committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shirley’s financial expertise was matched only by his passionate love for The University of Alabama. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the School of Commerce and Business Administration in 1949. He was a member of the UA President’s Cabinet from 1982 -- 1988; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shirley retired in 1998 after serving 10 years as city board chairman of AmSouth Bank of Tuscaloosa. He joined First National Bank of Tuscaloosa in 1960 and rose through the administrative ranks, named president in 1970 and chief executive officer in 1979. His banking and financial services background was an important asset to the Board, particularly his work on the Executive, Finance, Investment and Physical Properties Committees; and

WHEREAS, he was also extremely active in the Tuscaloosa community, was a philanthropist, and was called a “civic giant.” He served in such organizations as United Way, the Tuscaloosa Exchange Club, the YMCA, the Tuscaloosa Chamber of Commerce, the city school board and many others. He was honored in 1971 as the Tuscaloosa Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shirley is survived by his wife, Betty B. Shirley, his daughters, Betsy Gary, Allison Pritchard, and Evelyn Pritchard, and several grandchildren. Mr. Shirley and his wife are particularly well known for their support of UA’s RISE program, a model early-childhood educational facility housed in The Stallings Center on campus;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Faculty Senate of The University of Alabama that it extends its heartfelt sympathy to the family of George S. Shirley and expresses its admiration and gratitude for his outstanding accomplishments as a member of The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama; and let this
resolution be so noted in the Minutes of the Faculty Senate and forwarded to the Board of Trustees.

Adopted by the Senate August 29 2000.