Resolution

Establishing The McMahon/Pleiad Prize

WHEREAS, through a generous gift from the family of one of the Board of Trustees’ most distinguished emeritus members, The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama is pleased to announce the establishment of The McMahon/Pleiad Prize; and

WHEREAS, John J. McMahon, Jr., is a lifelong resident of Birmingham, Alabama, and served on The Board of Trustees from June 1998 until September 2013, including three terms as President pro tempore of the Board; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Trustee McMahon championed collaboration among the three campuses and the UAB Health System, believing that sharing ideas and resources will benefit the individual institutions and The University of Alabama System as a whole, as well as the citizens of Alabama now and for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, named in honor of our friend and colleague John McMahon, the Prize incorporates the word Pleiad to recognize the seven members of the McMahon family who have led this and other generous efforts to support The University of Alabama System and its institutions; and

WHEREAS, The McMahon/Pleiad Prize will be awarded annually, in the amount of seventy-five-thousand dollars ($75,000.00) to an eligible member of the faculty or staff of an institution or affiliate of The University of Alabama System, including The University of Alabama, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, and UAB Medicine, and will recognize a proposal and fund a project that promotes or advances collaboration among the institutions of the System, consistent with the vision and leadership of Trustee Emeritus McMahon; and

WHEREAS, the preferred goals of The McMahon/Pleiad Prize are to fund worthy projects (including salaries and/or sabbatical of employees who will lead or support the project) that will have lasting and substantial collaborative impact among UA System institutions, especially projects that will promote the integrity and excellence of the System; to incentivize innovation, including dreams and ideas that benefit the System; and to promote unity among the System and its institutions; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees, Chancellor, campus Presidents, and CEO of the UAB Health System will serve on (or designate an appointee) to a Committee charged with designing the application and selection process, which will be widely announced to faculty and staff, and the
Committee will annually select one proposal as submitted by an eligible faculty or staff member beginning in Spring 2018, in the exercise of the Committee’s discretion. While projects that benefit the System as a whole are preferred, the Committee will have total discretion to fund any project deemed worthwhile.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama that we hereby approve the establishment of The McMahon/Pleiad Prize in honor and recognition of the achievements of John J. McMahon, Jr., to promote collaboration, integrity, and excellence throughout The University of Alabama System; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we express our sincere gratitude to the McMahon family, particularly the seven family members who represent the Pleiad and have been generous and visionary supporters of our institutions and the students, faculty, and staff we serve.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the permanent minutes of this Board and also be sent to John J. McMahon, Jr., with our admiration for his leadership and our thanks for his enduring friendship.