WHEREAS Ms. Laura Bender has served the University of Alaska Fairbanks with distinction from 1983 to 2017; and

WHEREAS Ms. Bender capably assisted fisheries and marine sciences students from 1983 to 2004, rising to the position of Graduate Program Coordinator for the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences; and since 2004 has been dedicated to the success of graduate students across all of the University of Alaska Fairbanks in her roles at the Graduate School; and

WHEREAS Ms. Bender knows more about graduate programs, Graduate School policies and procedures, and graduate students than any other person at the University; and

WHEREAS Ms. Bender is warmly remembered by generations of students as a compassionate person, a good listener and a problem-solver, who nonetheless gives her honest assessment and frank advice when needed; and always approaches any task or problem with her primary concern being the welfare of students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the University of Alaska Fairbanks expresses its deep appreciation to Ms. Laura Bender for her extensive contributions to the State of Alaska and to the University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Alaska Fairbanks, in further recognition of the invaluable services rendered by Ms. Bender and as evidence of the University’s desire that her identification with the University be maintained, hereby salutes the appointment of Ms. Laura Bender as Director of the Graduate School and Interdisciplinary Programs, Emeritus; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be appropriately engrossed and signed by the Chancellor of the University of Alaska Fairbanks as further evidence of the esteem and respect in which he holds Ms. Laura Bender, and conveyed to Ms. Bender on this 6th day of May, 2017.