SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING UNLV COMMENCEMENT

WHEREAS, UNLV graduated their 100,000th student in Winter, 2017;

WHEREAS, UNLV continues to graduate more students every semester;

WHEREAS, spring commencement is now an all-day affair split into two lengthy ceremonies and winter commencement is a lengthy single ceremony;

WHEREAS, faculty attendance has regularly decreased due to length and the impersonal and informal nature of the ceremony;

WHEREAS, there is an embarrassing and steady exodus of students from the ceremony once they have crossed the stage and been recognized;

WE, THE FACULTY SENATE OF UNLV,

(1) affirm the celebratory nature of Commencement for graduates, families, faculty and staff, and its significance to our community;

(2) recommend that the University establish an abbreviated commencement celebration for all graduates featuring invited speakers, bestowing of honorary degrees, and recognition of NSHE and University award recipients;

(3) call on individual colleges/schools to stage their own ceremonies, in coordination with the University event, to individually recognize graduates and acknowledge honorees in a more personalized and intimate setting.

APPROVED UNLV FACULTY SENATE, NOVEMBER 14, 2017