We, the members of the Division of Academic Affairs, understanding the importance of the liberal arts and sciences in the education of all our students, hereby declare that Academic Year 2007-2008 will be a year of exploration and study, of understanding and learning, of discussion and celebration of teaching and learning the general education curriculum at our college.

What does it mean to be human? How do we live on this planet and safeguard its future? How do we respect and understand tradition and create, select and embrace innovation? How do we encourage reflective quantitative reasoning and critical thought? What is culture and how do we understand, support and embrace cultural diversity? How do we cross linguistic and cultural borders? What does it mean to be a global citizen in the twenty-first century? How do we faculty, as educators, engage these questions in ways that are meaningful, deep and transformative for our students? How do we know that we are teaching our students—and they are learning—to assume their place as global citizens who are caring, responsible and responsive to change in a world where we can affirm with certainty, as others have done in the past, that the only immutable truth is that change is constant?

In this, the Year of General Education, faculty members through the Center for Teaching and Learning will engage these questions and set the foundation for deeper exploration of teaching and learning on our campus.

Signed by

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
This 10th day of September, 2007, Academic Council Meeting