LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the death of Dr. Richard D. Trent, inaugural President of Medgar Evers College, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard Darrell Trent of Brooklyn, New York, died on Saturday, June 9, 2012, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, Born on November 23, 1925, in Detroit, Michigan, Richard D. Trent was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate from Michigan State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, and a Master’s and Doctoral degrees from Columbia University in Social Psychology; and

WHEREAS, Richard D. Trent also served his country as a member of the United States Armed Forces during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard D. Trent distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, Following graduation from Columbia in 1955, he served as Senior Research Scientist at Warwick School of Warwick, New York; Dr. Richard D. Trent was eminently successful as the Director of Research for the Puerto Rican Institute of Psychiatry in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and as Principal Research Officer for the National Institute of Health and Medical Research for the Ghana Academy of Sciences in Accra, Ghana; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard D. Trent was the founding President of Medgar Evers College of The City University of New York, in Brooklyn, New York, assuming his duties on March 1, 1970 until 1982; he then retired as Professor Emeritus in 1992; and

WHEREAS, President Richard D. Trent never overlooked the importance of involving the community in the life of Medgar Evers College; he selected the 28 member Community Council, the first Council of its kind in the United States, signing its Certificate of Incorporation on February 9, 1972; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard D. Trent became the College's first President following a distinguished career as an outstanding professor, eminent writer, international researcher, and the founder and managing editor of an international interdisciplinary professional journal with offices in Africa and London; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding educator successfully administered the first Educational Opportunity Program at Brooklyn College where he was popular with the students and deeply respected by his colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard D. Trent is the author of 29 scholarly publications in professional journals such as CHILD DEVELOPMENT, PSYCHIATRIC QUARTERLY, GHANA MEDICAL JOURNAL, and the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard D. Trent served as a consultant to the Minneapolis Public School System and as a Master of the United States Southern District Federal Court on Education; he was also a member of the Board of Directors of the New York Urban League; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard D. Trent is survived by his wife, Cynthia, and their three children, Giselle, Stephen, and Bradley; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Dr. Richard D. Trent leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to
mourn the death of Dr. Richard D. Trent, inaugural President of Medgar Evers College, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Dr. Richard D. Trent.