



## OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

December 2, 2022

### Regular Meeting

On behalf of the board and the administration, President Wilson congratulated Governor Kelly on her re-election to the Board, and called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Secretary Miller called the roll. A quorum was present, with the following Board members in attendance.

**Present:** Governors Barnhill, Busuito, Gaffney, Kumar, Kelly, Land, Stancato and Thompson; President Wilson

**Also Present:** Provost Kornbluh, Vice Presidents Burns, Ezzeddine, Lindsey, Massaron, Poterala, Schweitzer, Staebler, Stemmler, Wright, and Secretary Miller.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Wilson advised that the Board agenda has been re-ordered, placing Public Comment at the beginning of the meeting. He advised that no requests for public comment were received for this meeting, and moved on to the next agenda item.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

President Wilson asked for approval of the consent agenda containing the following items:

#### **BOARD MEETING:**

- A. Approval of the Official Proceedings, September 30, 2022, Regular Board.

#### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS:**

- B. Change the Name of the Graduate Certificate in Alcohol and Drug Abuse Studies to the Graduate Certificate in Alcohol and Drug Use Studies in the School of Social Work (Academic Affairs)

*Authorizes the change in title of the Graduate Certificate in Alcohol and Drug Abuse Studies (CADAS) to the Graduate Certificate in Alcohol and Drug Use Studies (CADUS), effective fall 2023.*

- C. Discontinuance of the Education Specialist Certificate in Reading (Academic Affairs)

*Authorizes the discontinuance of the Education Specialist Certificate in Reading, effective fall 2023.*

#### **BUDGET AND FINANCE:**

- D. 3T PRISMA for Neuroscience Research Grant

*Authorizes the President or his designee to approve spending to approve a contract not to exceed \$3.23 million to Siemens Prisma to procure a 3T PRISMA scanner, a modern 3T human magnetic resonance imaging system (MRI) which will be housed in the MR Core Research Facility at Wayne State University.*

- E. DeRoy Reflecting Pool

*Authorizes the President or his designee to approve spending to design, solicit bids and award contracts for the repair of the Helen L. DeRoy Auditorium reflecting pool with a project cost not to exceed \$2,000,000. Funding for this project will be provided by the Deferred Maintenance Reserve and an expected contribution from philanthropic sources.*

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Governor Thompson and supported by Governor Land, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented. The motion carried.

#### **PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The next item on the agenda was approval of personnel recommendations submitted by Provost Kornbluh.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Governor Stancato and supported by Governor Thompson, the Board of Governors approved the personnel recommendations for tenure, promotion to full professor and administrative appointments other than those separately submitted. The motion carried.

### *School of Medicine*

Awoniyi O. Awonuga, for appointment as the Kamran S. Moghissi, M.D. Endowed Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

David Bryant, for appointment as the Frank P. Iacobell Endowed Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology effective September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2027.

Robert Lisak, for renewal as the Parker Webber Endowed Chair in the Department of Neurology effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Wilson began his report with highlights of recent milestones and celebrations at several schools and colleges. On October 25<sup>th</sup> the president joined with members of the Applebaum family and several other invited guests at the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences building to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the naming of the College. At the program, representatives from the Applebaum Foundation shared information about their next round of support for the College, including their vision for larger scholarship and entrepreneurship opportunities and additional study and quiet spaces at the college.

President Wilson advised that he also attended the 43rd annual College of Fine Performing and Communication Arts Achievement Award Ceremony at the Shaver Music Recital Hall. Five individuals were recognized for their achievements in the fields of art and art history, communication, music, theater and dance, and arts advocacy.

The president reported that several members of the Board of Governors joined him and other university officials at the naming ceremony for the Colonel Gregory Gadson Office of Military and Veteran's Academic Excellence in the Student Center Building. Colonel Gadson, who sustained injuries during his military service, is a double amputee above the knee and lost the use of his right arm in Iraq. Jim Anderson, chair of the Wayne State Foundation and chair of the College of Engineering's Board of Visitors, made a \$1M donation in 2011 to fund scholarships for military and veteran students. The ceremony renamed the office in Colonel Gadson's honor. The Colonel is an outstanding mentor and role model for returning veterans.

The president advised that Wayne State University's Thanksgiving Day festivities included a number of public events, with people enjoying refreshments and watching the parade from two campus viewing stations. About 350 alumni, donors and their families attended the event at the Welcome Center and another

150 friends of the Business School enjoyed the festivities from the Mike Illitch School of Business. President and Mrs. Wilson also were very pleased to resume their tradition, which had been on hold due to the pandemic, of hosting Wayne State students who do not have a place to go for Thanksgiving dinner. Eighty students joined the President and Mrs. Wilson at the Tierney House for dinner.

Moving on to bond ratings, the president reported that the Moody's Investors Service issued a report on November 1st, reaffirming Wayne State's current credit rating of AA3 on the University's outstanding bonds. The report revised the University's outlook from negative to stable. Future bond offerings are now in a much better position, with both rating agencies reporting the stable financial outlook for the University.

For the 2nd consecutive year, Wayne State was awarded the largest number of Detroit Promise scholarships, ahead of all other Michigan universities. This scholarship offers debt free education for eligible Detroit public school graduates and city residents at participating colleges and for trades, two year and four-year credentials. Funding from the Detroit Promise, administered by the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce and funded by the Michigan Excellence and Education Foundation, in partnership with Wayne State, covers the total cost of tuition and other fees, including enrollment, registration and student service fees. The award is noncompetitive and every student who meets the requirements and applies for the Detroit Promise receives funding. Wayne State enrolled 107 first year students and 18 transfer Detroit Promise students for fall of 2022.

Wayne State hosted its first career Expo on November 15th at the Fieldhouse. The job fair provided an opportunity for both the city of Detroit and Wayne State departments to fill vacancies by expanding outreach efforts to the Detroit community. Services included resume review and interview tips, job application submissions, on the spot hiring, immediate background checks for new hires, benefit overviews, and Wayne State University swag bags and photo opportunities for all new hires. Wayne State hired 16 individuals at the Expo, recommended 5 for hire and placed 26 individuals under review by departments. The city of Detroit sent positive feedback on the experience with the Expo and thanked Wayne State for its efforts. Because of its success, Wayne State Human Resources aims to make it an annual event. The president congratulated all involved, particularly Carolyn Hafner, the CHRO, for this event.

President Wilson concluded his report noting that Ibrahim Ahmad, who serves as a student senate representative on the Board's Budget & Finance Committee, has won a Charles B. Rangel Fellowship for prospective Foreign Service officers from underrepresented groups. The award, valued at more than \$100,000, funds two years of graduate study, living expenses, a congressional internship, and a one-on-one mentorship with a Foreign Service officer. The Rangel program is managed by the US Department of State and students who complete the program become Foreign Service officers. President Wilson believes this is the

first time a WSU student has won this award, and extended his congratulations to Mr. Ahmad.

## BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

Governor Gaffney advised that in addition to the Board's three standing committees, the Board has created three ad hoc committees to enable the board to assist with the important work being done by the staff and the University. He then called on the Chairs of those committees to talk about the work being undertaken.

The Advocacy Committee, chaired by Governor Land, meets almost every month with VP Patrick Lindsey and his staff in the Division of Government and Community Affairs. The board works closely with VP Lindsey and his staff utilizing board member contacts and experience with the legislature, tracking ongoing efforts and offering advice. Governor Gaffney thanked Governor Land for her leadership. Governor Land thanked the committee and advised that the legislature is very aware of Wayne State and the committee is working to keep it that way.

The Health Affairs Committee, chaired by Governor Busuito, also meets monthly. The committee examines all aspects of the medical school, discusses funding issues and partnerships, and has made good progress. Governor Busuito added that as a nonprofit healthcare organization, the WSU Physicians Group is continuing to be proactive rather than reactive through all the ongoing changes in healthcare.

The final committee discussed, the Strategic Budget Committee, is chaired by Governor Barnhill. Through its work, the committee identified the goal of making Wayne State University first in the nation of urban Research 1 universities for social mobility. Governor Gaffney advised that President Wilson agreed this is an achievable stretch goal for the university. Governor Barnhill commented that much of the work being done by the administration helped prioritize resources allocated to fulfill the goal. Governor Gaffney thanked Governors Land, Busuito and Barnhill for their updates.

## BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

The President reported that three of the Board's standing committees and the Board's Executive Committee met earlier in the day, and called on each of the Committee chairs for a report.

### *Executive Committee* Update On Presidential Search

Governor Gaffney provided an update on the Presidential Search. The Board

has selected WittKieffer as the search consultant for this search. He advised that WittKieffer is a national firm that has worked with the University on several previous searches, most recently for the search for a new Provost, on the General Counsel search, and for several of the Dean searches. In addition to the selection of the search consultant, a 16-member search committee has been formed, and a set of principles and processes for the search were also created. The committee list and much other information will be posted on the newly created Presidential Search website. The Search committee has met, and WittKieffer is conducting a number of interviews with campus leadership throughout the month of December, which will help it as it begins drafting 'a job description from those interviews and from reviewing the videos of the four listening sessions held earlier in the Fall. It's anticipated that the job description will be completed in early to mid-January.

Governor Gaffney then thanked the Academic Senate, the Student Senate, the DEI office, the Foundation and Alumni Association, and the Division of Government & Community Affairs for setting up and co-hosting the Board's listening sessions. He added that the recordings of those sessions can be found on the search website @ [bog@wayne.edu/presidentialsearch](mailto:bog@wayne.edu/presidentialsearch) and advised that individual comments about the search can be sent to [search@wayne.edu](mailto:search@wayne.edu). Governor Gaffney then asked for ratification of actions taken by the Executive Committee since the Board's last public meeting.

## RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Governor Kumar and supported by Governor Kelly, the Board of Governors ratified three actions approved by the Executive Committee since its September 30, 2022 meeting. Those actions are:

1. Approval of the selection of WittKieffer as the search consultant for the Presidential Search, approved by the Executive Committee on October 26, 2022, by a vote of 8-0.
2. Approval of the Principles and Process of the Presidential Search, 2022-23, approved by the Executive Committee on November 3, 2022, by a vote of 8-0.
3. Approval of the membership of the Presidential Search Committee, approved by the Executive Committee on November 3, 2022, by a vote of 8-0.

The motion carried.

### *Academic Affairs Committee*

Governor Busuito presented the Academic Affairs Committee Report on Governor Stancato's behalf, as she was unable to attend the morning's meeting. The committee heard an update from Provost Kornbluh on faculty affairs and a presentation from Dean Sheryl Kubiak, of the School of Social Work. Dean Kubiak shared stories about her students, various initiatives, and an update on the Master of Social Work which, according to U.S. News and World Report, ranks 36th. She shared the background and work of the Center for Behavioral Health and Justice and the Center for Social Work Research. The school is increasing philanthropic support and research with more than \$24 million in funded dollars in the 2021-2022 academic year. Provost Kornbluh shared updates on changes put in place on the promotion factors for teaching faculty and additional background on the Advanced Years grant that the university received from the NSF.

### *Budget and Finance Committee*

Governor Barnhill reported that the committee discussed four informational reports and three action items. The committee was briefed on the concept of a block tuition structure which has been adopted at institutions both nationally and in the state of Michigan and the committee approved the transition to Block tuition pricing for the 2023-2024 academic year. Block tuition assigns a flat rate for tuition based on a specific range of credit hours taken, which can incentivize students to take a larger number of credit hours for the same cost and can aid in increasing retention and improve graduation rates. The committee also discussed additional benefits and ways to provide support for students who do not enroll full time. The committee reviewed informational reports summarizing major capital projects and purchasing exceptions made since the board last met. Governor Barnhill advised that with the committee's recommendation that the administration proceed with the transition to block tuition pricing for the upcoming academic year, he is now forwarding that recommendation to President Wilson for action by the full Board. The following action was then taken.

### **BLOCK TUITION STRUCTURE**

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Governor Thompson and supported by Governor Kumar, the Board of Governors approved the recommendation that the administration proceed with the transition to block tuition pricing for the upcoming academic year 2023-2024. The motion carried.

### *Student Affairs Committee*

Governor Kelly reported that the committee heard several informational reports and received updates on new programs for first year students, including First Year Interest Groups (FIGS). FIGS are academic based learning communities that provide opportunities for first year students to

connect to each other within courses. The second program, the First Year Residential Experience, (FYRE), is a collaborative program for first year students living in Chatsworth residential suites, that is designed around a curriculum to help students settle into college life at Wayne State and make connections with one another. The committee heard from President of the Student Senate, Yousra Zouani who provided an update about the projects and initiatives the Student Senate is working on this year. The committee also heard from a representative from the South End, the University's student newspaper, on its activities and plans for the coming year. The final item on the agenda was the annual report on the Student Code of Conduct, which included a summary of code violations for the prior academic year.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

President Wilson called on members of the administration for divisional reports and asked whether they had anything to add or highlight to the written materials provided to the Board.

The first item on this portion of the agenda was a recommendation for renewal of the charter for the Center for Urban Studies and the following action was taken:

### *Center for Urban Studies Charter Renewal*

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Governor Stancato and supported by Governor Barnhill, the Board of Governors renewed the charter for the Center for Urban Studies (CUS) through June 30, 2028. The motion carried.

Provost Kornbluh advised that the renewal had the full recommendation from the Academic Senate. The Senate's renewal review process includes review by a Senate Committee, the Policy Committee and the full Senate, which makes its recommendation to the Provost and to the President of the University.

### **Academic Affairs Report - Update from the Provost**

Provost Kornbluh called on VP Ezzeddine to introduce the student speakers for this afternoon's meeting. VP Ezzeddine advised that the students present this afternoon were here to speak with the board about their experiences during the return to campus this fall semester. The two students are residents of the Chatsworth Residence Hall, and are members of the First Year Residential Experience, (FYRE), community. They are Maira Khan from Farmington Hills, who graduated from North Farmington High School and is majoring in political science with a minor in public relations, and Rue Radzinski, who is majoring in psychology with a minor in criminal justice and is a graduate of Divine Child High School.



Rue Rudzinski:

Hi, my name is Rue Rudzinski. I go by they/she/he pronouns and I'm the President of the hall council E-board for Chatsworth residential suites. Housing that's home as a phrase to me was such an insane thing to hear because I was like, but I'm moving away from home, so it's not going to be my home. I was trying to define what home was in my head. It was something I wrote my college essay about so I was already thinking about it. And I guess home is where my dog is and my mom and my brother. I don't know how that's going to be replicated. I was so scared and anxious to go somewhere new, especially in Detroit. I was a little scared and I chose Chatsworth because I have five friends so we can all fit in a six person suite and we'll all have a great time, and I wouldn't change it for the world. It genuinely has been such a positive and good experience. I don't know anywhere else on campus where I can walk next door and knock on the door and have something in common with someone. The first year experience is so incredibly different - having someone just next door who is going through the same things with you, having people in your building that are all in their 1010 classes for the first time, has been so helpful for me personally because I don't feel alone at all. Specifically, a person who has made this experience so good for me specifically is Hayden Johnson.. He's in charge of the whole Council Eboard. I love him so much. He has made my life so much better. He's encouraged us to make so many friends and he does mental health checkups frequently, which is something that I definitely needed moving into college. So I just want to thank him. I also want to thank Taylor Ross, who is another person who has been super super helpful in this transition process and I just love them both so much. I've met so many friends socially it genuinely has benefited me and I'm very appreciative of that. So thank you guys.

Maira Khan

Hi I'm Maira Khan and I'm I go by she/her pronouns. I'm the public relations coordinator for the Chatsworth Residence Hall and from the day we first moved in to Chatsworth, I was terrified. I have a twin sister and I was for the first time living away from her. I was never an individual my entire life because I've had a twin sister. And for first time I was an individual, because of Chatsworth. They always encourage us and promote us to work together and communicate with one another. So the day that we moved in, we immediately had a group photo with the entire building, which was a bit rough because that's a lot of kids, but it was so fun and we immediately jumped into scavenger hunts. And we had volleyball every single day. It was crazy, but it was so much fun. Everybody in their building has a little way of like getting to know one another, but specifically, competition. Friendly little competition - we love it in Chatsworth. When Rue and I first met we had to run for election for Hall council. And we were running against each other. I didn't know Rue at all, and now I'd like to say she's one of my closest friends. Do you agree?

Cool, cool thank you. As well as our other Eboard members, we did not know each other at all. I like to say they're my closest friends just because of the competition that we had. And that is not something that is unique to just us. That's how everybody makes friends in Chatsworth. And I think it's the funniest thing ever because of that's not something you get by just going and studying. It's something you get by living together and communicating with one another and I also definitely agree with Rue. Hayden Johnson is amazing. He runs hall council. We love him so much. And I'm so glad I met him, and the rest of the RA's are amazing. I just love living in Chatsworth. It is amazing living in Chatsworth and the FYRE community. Thank you.

The President and members of the Board thanked the students for their presentations.

#### **New Research Awards Over \$200,000: September and October 2022**

Interim VP Stemmler had no updates to report.

#### **Research Report: Quarter Four - FY 2022**

Interim VP Stemmler had no updates to report.

#### **Government and Community Affairs Report**

VP Lindsey congratulated Governor Kelly on her re-election to the board. His team and the Advocacy Committee have invited newly elected members of the House to the Wayne State campus, and three have already visited. He advised there is a busy agenda ahead for next year.

#### **Economic Development Report**

VP Staebler recommend everyone attend Noel Night, which will be held on the upcoming weekend. There will be many events on campus, and all throughout Midtown. He encouraged the board to visit the downtown Detroit markets, which include eighteen shops, primarily owned by female and women and people of color entrepreneurs who are supported by TechTown. He also reminded the board to save the date for September 28th for the 2023 Toast Of The Town, TechTown's annual fundraising event.

## Development and Alumni Affairs Report

VP Burns advised that successful in-person events have continued through the fiscal year. In addition, virtual alumni events will also continue, and one example of such a program is a group of 400 alumni actively participating in an online Warrior book club that engages people from Southeast Michigan and those living out-of-state.

They are looking at opportunities to grow the alumni relations program, and some of those ideas include expanding the alumni affinity groups such as the Organization of Black alumni, adding the LGBTQIA alumni, and school and college alumni councils. They are also partnering with enrollment management on several efforts.

An alumni admissions program model has been developed to engage alumni on key student recruitment initiatives, and alumni volunteer opportunities are being expanded for alumni at the school, college and unit level. As an example, last year, 119 alumni mentors participated in the College of Engineering Industry Mentoring Program, providing guidance to 143 students, and they are looking at ways to expand this program to additional schools and colleges.

The fiscal year end goal of raising \$20 million more than the previous year has been exceeded, with a 38% increase over last year. A goal for next year of \$80 million has been set, which is an 11% increase over last year, and VP Burns believes this goal is reachable..

### *Establishment of Endowment Funds*

Vice President Burns submitted a recommendation to establish endowments, which included information about the donor and the purpose of the endowment. The following action was taken.

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Governor Kumar and supported by Governor Thompson, the Board of Governors established endowment funds that total \$250,000, for the purposes presented. The motion carried.

1. The Rudolph and Joan Armbruster Memorial Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress and provide assistance to students financing their education in the College of Education. \$25,000
2. The Dr. David W. and Rosemary M. Colburn Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress and provide assistance to students financing their education in the College of Education. \$25,000

3. The Harold Cruger Memorial Early Childhood Center Endowed Support Fund to provide general support to the College of Education's two early childhood centers: the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute Early Childhood Center and the College of Education Early Childhood Center. \$100,000
4. The Louis R. and Katherine M. Giannasi Endowed Scholarship in Labor History and Contemporary Labor Practices to provide for the Labor School and Labor@Wayne in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. \$25,000
5. The Dr. Robert E. Matthews Memorial Endowed Support Fund to provide support or educational programming at the Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies. \$75,000

#### **Establishment of the Eugene Driker Award for Distinguished Service**

President Wilson noted that the last two items on the agenda are special items. The first item is to establish a special award for Distinguished Service to honor Eugene Driker. He advised that Eugene was a dear friend, mentor, supporter and former member of the Board of Governors. Before Eugene's passing, the university had been in the process of identifying a mechanism to recognize the considerable contributions he made to the university and to the Detroit community. Eugene Driker will be the first recipient of the award, with the understanding that it will be given posthumously. Eugene's wife Elaine, their son Stephen and his wife Jennifer were present for the award presentation.

The president then provided context about the creation of the award, prior to showing a short memorial video. President Wilson's statement follows below:

Eugene grew up in a Detroit home of Ukrainian immigrant parents. He was a proud two-time alumnus of Wayne State and was fond of telling Wayne State stories, especially how his father allowed him to attend any university he wished, so long as he could get there on the Dexter bus. That was a favorite. His other favorite story was how at Wayne State he received not only a great education, but met the woman who would become his wife, Elaine, herself an alumna and tireless ambassador for the university. Eugene's service and support to the University was extraordinary. Starting with the Law school, where he funded the Driker Forum for Excellence in Law, chaired the Law School Board of Visitors and was a member of the Carl Levin Center for Oversight and Democracy at Wayne Law, he also lent his considerable talents to Law school fundraising, including

chairing the campaign to fund the new Law school. He even taught evening law classes for three years after he graduated. His service to the university extended far beyond the Law school. He served for 12 years on the university's Board of Governors and was chair of the Wayne State University Foundation. He was a longtime financial supporter, giving consecutively for more than five decades and establishing numerous endowed funds that encouraged and inspired students. In the broader community, Eugene was enormously influential in helping his home city of Detroit through some of its most daunting challenges. In 2013, Eugene was selected as one of the mediators in the city of Detroit bankruptcy. That mediation team, thanks in great part to Eugene's contributions, successfully negotiated a resolution in record time to the largest municipal bankruptcy in history. What a legacy Eugene has left us! It is extraordinary to think how one man, while managing a successful career in an unbroken record of public service, somehow found the time to touch so many lives and help so many people with just the right advice. Just the right words. Just the right story. I was one of those people and will be forever grateful for him and even more his friendship. In the time when people talk about making an impact or leaving the world a better place, Eugene actually did it. He is an inspiration and today with the establishment of the Eugene Drucker Award for Distinguished Service, we honor his memory, today and forever into the future. This award will recognize individuals who, like Eugene, have performed extraordinary service on behalf of both the university and community and whose selfless approach to service leaves a lasting impact. This is a special award to be granted to only a few at the discretion of the President, with concurrence from the Board of Governors. It is our honor to present it to Eugene posthumously as the inaugural recipient of this award.

The President then asked members of the board for a motion to establish the award, which was taken as follows:

**ACTION:** Upon motion by Governor Kelly, supported by Governor Kumar, the Board of Governors established the Eugene Driker Award for Distinguished Service, in recognition of the tremendous contributions of Eugene Driker to Wayne State University, to be awarded to individuals who have performed extraordinary service on behalf of both the university and the community. The motion carried.

The President asked the members of the Driker family present to come forward to receive the award. Following photographs, Elaine Driker gave the following comments:

**Elaine Driker:**

Thank you all very, very much. My only wish is that Eugene were here to accept this himself. You all know how much he loved this university. He called it the portal to the American dream and felt so strongly that because it was that for him. He wanted it to be that for others who were fortunate enough to attend school

here. And I believe that's why he worked so tirelessly on behalf of the university. I want to mention two things. One is seeing this beautiful video and hearing you Roy, speak about all of his contributions to the university and to the city. I want everyone to know that in addition to that, he was a remarkable husband, an incredible father, and a devoted, underlined in neon letters, grandfather, or as our grandchildren called him, Zadio. The other thing is, I do want to acknowledge the fact that he courted me in the basement of Old Main, that is a true story and one for which I am eternally grateful. My daughter could not be here today. She's home battling one of these crazy viruses that's moving through our community, but she wrote something. It's one sentence and I wanted to read that on her behalf because I thought it was so appropriate. It is actually two sentences. She said this is so lovely and meaningful and exactly what I think Dad hoped for as his legacy. Thank you all very much.

#### **Board of Governors Tribute: Dana R. Thompson**

As the last actions of the day, President Wilson advised that Governor Dana Thompson will be completing her term of service on the Board of Governors on December 31st of 2022. There are two action items to be taken in recognition of her service, which will be followed by a statement of appreciation from the Chair of the Board, Governor Mark Gaffney.

#### **Approval of Emeritus Status:**

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Governor Busuito and supported by Governor Stancato, the Board of Governors named Dana R. Thompson as Governor Emeritus. The motion carried.

#### **Establishment of Endowed Scholarship Fund:**

**ACTION:** Upon motion made by Governor Busuito and supported by Governor Land, the Board of Governors established the Dana R. Thompson Endowed Scholarship (Fund Functioning as an Endowment) (\$25,000) to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress and to provide assistance to students in financing their education at Wayne State University. The motion carried.

The President then called on Governor Gaffney.

Governor Gaffney:

Statement of Appreciation - Governor Dana Thompson

Thank you, President Wilson. As you know, of course today is Dana's last meeting. Her term of office concludes December 31<sup>st</sup>. I'm pleased to offer some words of reflection and speak on behalf of the board as we recognize Dana's service. Dana was elected to the board November 2014, began her term of office on January 1, 2015. We were speaking earlier about how fast that seemed to now have gone by. This service, as a member of the board, was not Dana's first relationship with the university, as she served as a faculty member in the Wayne Law School, and while there, founded and directed Wayne Law's Small Business Enterprises and Nonprofit Corporations Clinic.

She also served as the director of the Damon J. Keith Law collection of African American legal history. Her time at Wayne Law gave her a unique perspective on the university and her role as a faculty member, both here at Wayne Law and at the University of Michigan Law School, where she currently teaches, have provided Dana with a clear understanding of the critical importance of faculty, and the relationship of the faculty to the university and shared governance at our institution.

Throughout her term of service, Dana has been focused on the needs of minority students at Wayne State and the support programs and initiatives that the institution has put in place over that time to help students succeed. Each time new programming, student support services, enrollment numbers or graduation rates have been discussed, Dana Thompson has posed questions and encouraged initiatives that respond to the needs of those students.

I think that I can say you were the best voice they had over these years. While all members of the board have supported these initiatives, we have appreciated Dana's concentrated focus. Under these initiatives, the university has seen nationally award-winning recognition of improvements in graduation rates now above 60% and significant improvement in narrowing the graduation gap between black and white students.

Today, I want to recognize Dana Thompson's important contribution to these successes and to thank you for that. You will always have that as something that you know you were part of. Dana has served in a variety of roles on the board throughout her term, including as the, I would add often, very important chair of the Audit Subcommittee, thank you very much, and the Personnel Committee, as well as a member on the Student Affairs, Academic Affairs and the Budget and Finance committees. She has also served as a board representative on the Executive Committee of Tech Town, bringing her important perspectives to this critical area for economic growth in the city.

Over these last eight years, during the term of Governor Thompson, there have been a large number of major accomplishments at the university, including completion of the university's \$750 million capital campaign, the Hilberry Gateway Project, which will open in February, the Ilitch School of Business, the STEM Innovation Center, the new university apartment complex and the new University Fieldhouse. Four years ago, of course, midway through Dana's term of office, we all celebrated the university's sesquicentennial, the 150th year of our existence as an important and critical institution for southeast and all of Michigan.

New programs have been approved. New faculty, new Deans, the new Provost, a new CFO and a new VP and General Counsel have joined the university during Dana's service on the board. Dana Thompson has been an active and influential member of the board during her term. We counted on her to always raise questions for the constant decisions on the myriad of issues facing our university, and we would often wait for your questions because we knew they would come. In closing, we want to collectively thank Dana Thompson for her service to Wayne State University and extend our best wishes to her and her family as you embark on your next chapter.

President Wilson asked for additional comments before the presentation of a gift for Governor Thompson.

Governor Land:

Sure, as the newbie here it was kind of nice to have Dana be here and she was always helpful. So, I just want to put that out there too. She would take my calls and answer my questions. So not only questions to the board Mark, but from the rest of us too, so thank you and we wish you the best.

Governor Busuito

If anybody walks the walk, it's Dana. Because of my acquaintance with her, my personal bar has certainly been raised and I just want to tell people here that this university is a much better place because of Dana. Thank you.

Governor Kumar

Dana, I would also like to thank you for all the questions and all the intrigue that you came up with because I learned a lot from that and we're surely going to miss you. Thank you again.

Governor Kelly

Yes Dana, it's been a pleasure working with you eight years.



Governor Stancato

I also want to thank you for all the questions, but when oftentimes when those questions are intense, you always end with a smile. So thank you very much for that.

Governor Barnhill

I mean, everyone said it all. But I mean also, just go to the questions. They really showcase your level of preparedness and diligence as a board member and you know, in your absence we all have to step it up.

President Wilson

Let me just add my thank you for your support of our students and for your contributions to Wayne State.

President Wilson then presented Governor Thompson with a traditional gift of a rocking chair, engraved with her name and the dates of her service, on behalf of the University and the Board

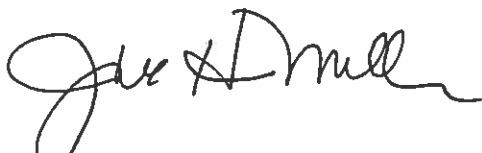
After receiving the gift, and posing for pictures, Governor Thompson closed the meeting with the following comments:

Governor Thompson: Can I just say that despite the Emeritus title hopefully, I'm not being put to pasture, but it's been my incredible honor and privilege to serve the university these past eight years. To work with Marilyn the longest as my running mate eight years ago, but with all of you.. This is an incredibly important and valuable university, it's a gem, and it's a university that I strongly believe in and will continue to support after my time here, which is ending today. But I continue, I will continue to be involved and continue to advocate for the students and talk about all of the fantastic things that this university is doing, not only for the city of Detroit but for the state and for the nation. So, thank you all. It's been a pleasure and I know my colleagues are going to step up and do the right thing for the university. Thank you.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m. .

Respectfully submitted,



Julie H. Miller  
Secretary