

**RESOLUTION TO GRANT EMERITUS STATUS TO
ERIC R. GILBERTSON**

WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University grants emeritus/emerita status to retiring faculty/administrators who have served the University community with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Eric R. Gilbertson served as President of Saginaw Valley State University from August 1989 until February 2014, providing exemplary leadership for an unprecedented twenty-four years; and

WHEREAS, Eric R. Gilbertson directed several private fundraising campaigns to increase opportunities for students and to attract distinguished scholars to serve both students and SVSU's community partners throughout the region and the state; and

WHEREAS, Eric R. Gilbertson was dedicated to promoting leadership development programs to benefit SVSU's population as well as members of the community, believing such initiatives would enrich lives and bolster the region. Among the programs created during his presidency were The Gerstacker Fellowship Program, The Roberts Fellowship Program, The Vitito Global Leadership Institute, and The Great Lakes Bay Youth Leadership Institute; and

WHEREAS, Eric R. Gilbertson was particularly committed to international education exchanges, believing these lift student aspirations and change lives and perspectives in dramatic and extraordinary ways. In consequence, the University during his tenure developed and expanded sister-institution relationships with universities in Japan, Great Britain, India and Taiwan, providing opportunities for hundreds of students from SVSU to participate in these and other international exchanges, and for dozens of SVSU faculty to develop professionally through collaborative research projects or presentations overseas on topics of bilateral interest. Similarly, the University during this period hosted hundreds of international visitors for short and long-term stays that enhanced the global awareness of the campus community; and

WHEREAS, Eric R. Gilbertson served as president during a period that included major construction projects such as Curtiss Hall in 1996, the Doan East building in 2001, the Regional Education Center (later named Gilbertson Hall in his honor) in 2003, and the Health & Human Services building in 2010. Zahnnow Library, Pioneer Hall and student housing also experienced major expansions during his presidency; and

WHEREAS, Eric R. Gilbertson contributed immeasurably to other facets of the campus community; and his accomplishments have been unsurpassed in achievement and leadership for the university,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University bestow on Eric R. Gilbertson the title of "President Emeritus" with all the rights and privileges appertaining to this distinction.