

**AGENDA ITEM: C.2.a.3.**

**AGENDA TOPIC:** Resolution to Authorize Recommendation of Candidates for Honorary Degrees

**STAFF CONTACT(S):** Dr. Martin A. Abraham, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

**BACKGROUND:** YSU Guidebook Policy 1005.01 (Honorary Degrees) states that a list of no more than twenty (20) candidates be recommended for approval by the Academic Quality and Student Success Committee of the Board of Trustees to be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for action. The Academic Events Committee of the Academic Senate must approve individuals on this list.

**SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:** The Academic Events Committee of the Academic Senate has approved the following list of possible honorary degree recipients. In keeping with Board Policy, the following resolution is recommended for action at the Board of Trustees meeting.

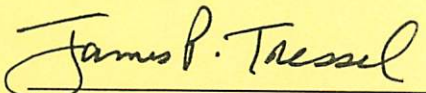
**RESOLUTION:**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE  
RECOMMENDATION OF CANDIDATES  
FOR HONORARY DEGREES**

**WHEREAS,** the *Policies of the Board of Trustees* provides for the recommendation of candidates for honorary degrees for the next academic year who are reviewed and recommended by the Academic Events Committee, the Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs, and the President of the University;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees of Youngstown State University does hereby authorize that the selection for honorary degrees in the 2015-16 academic year be granted from the candidates listed in the roster attached hereto.

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL:**



James P. Tressel, President

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

**June 17, 2015**

**YR 2015 -**

**Commencement Speaker Suggestions**  
**Academic Events Committee**  
Updated: 05/4/2015

**George Beelen-**

George Beelen is a graduate of Walsh University in Business Management and Finance. He is a Professor Emeritus of History and long-time chair of the History Department. He is the founder of the Ohio Cultural Alliance, which celebrates the ethnic heritage of the Mahoning Valley. He has been a recipient of the YSU Heritage Award, the most prestigious award given by YSU. He is currently the QlikView/SAP BI Analyst for Honda of the Americas Research & Development in Cleveland/Akron, Ohio area.

**Paul Brubaker-**

Paul Brubaker is a graduate of Youngstown State University in Political Science and Government. He has an MPA degree in Public Administration from Kent State University.

He has extensive leadership experience in the private sector and government. He was nominated by President George W. Bush to serve as Administrator of the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA). Mr. Brubaker previously served as CEO of Procentrix; a firm that helps organizations plan, manage and achieve measurable performance improvement through the effective use of process and technology. Prior to this role, Mr. Brubaker served as Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of *SI International*, one of the nation's fastest growing government contractors. Mr. Brubaker previously served as Deputy Assistant Secretary and Deputy Chief Information Officer at the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) where he was the Department's second highest-ranking technology official and supervised DoD's \$50 billion annual Information Technology expenditure. Before serving at DoD, Mr. Brubaker held various executive positions within the public and private sectors, including Vice President of Strategic Programs for Litton PRC, Vice President of Business Development for Federal Data Corporation, and in senior positions within the U.S. Senate and General Accounting Office. He has also won numerous awards including the Association for Information Resource Management's (AFFIRM) Government Executive Leadership Award in 2000. He was named to Federal Computer Week's Federal 100 in 1996 and 2002, and was appointed to the board of the Virginia Innovative Technology Authority in 1998 where he served as chairman from 2001 to 2003. He recently ended terms as chairman of the technical committee of the Armed Force Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) and president of its D.C. Chapter. He currently serves on the advisory board at Xceedium and the board of the Churchill Centre. He lives with his family in Oakton, Virginia.

**Joseph G. Carson-**

Joseph G. Carson is the Director of Global Economic Research. He oversees the Economic

Analysis team for AllianceBernstein Fixed Income and has primary responsibility for the economic and interest-rate analysis of the US. Previously, Carson was chief economist of the Americas for UBS Warburg, where he was primarily responsible for forecasting the US economy and interest rates. From 1996 to 1999, he was chief US economist at Deutsche Bank. While there, Carson was named to the Institutional Investor All-Star Team for Fixed Income. He began his professional career in 1977 as a staff economist for the chief economist's office in the US Department of Commerce, where he was designated the department's representative at the Council on Wage and Price Stability during President Carter's voluntary wage and price guidelines program. In 1979, Carson joined General Motors as an analyst. He held a variety of roles at GM, including chief forecaster for North America and chief analyst in charge of production recommendations for the Truck Group. From 1981 to 1986, Carson served as vice president and senior economist for the Capital Markets Economics Group at Merrill Lynch. In 1986, he joined Chemical Bank; he later became the chief economist. From 1992 to 1996, Carson served as chief economist at Dean Witter, where he sat on the investment-policy and stock-selection committees. He received his BA and MA from Youngstown State University and did his PhD coursework at George Washington University.

### **Richard Celeste-**

Celeste was born in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1959 he graduated from Yale University. Celeste then received a Rhodes Scholarship to attend Oxford University where he is an Honorary Fellow. After returning to the United States, Celeste served as staff liaison office in the Peace Corps. Celeste was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives from Cuyahoga County in 1970. He was subsequently elected the 55th Lieutenant Governor in 1974. In 1982, Celeste was elected governor of Ohio. Celeste is noted for opening many government positions to African Americans and women—he hired more women to cabinet positions than all previous governors combined. In 2002, Celeste was inaugurated as the 12th President of Colorado College. During his tenure as president, Celeste raised \$200 million for such things as capital improvements and scholarships to help disadvantaged and minority students. Celeste retired as President of Colorado College in 2011.

### **Denise DeBartolo-York-**

Marie Denise DeBartolo-York (born 1951 in Youngstown, Ohio) is the owner of the San Francisco 49ers. She is the daughter of late construction magnate Edward J. DeBartolo Sr. and Marie Patricia Montani DeBartolo.

DeBartolo grew up in a family famous for real estate development. She attended Saint Mary's College of Indiana. After graduation, she joined the family business, The DeBartolo Corporation, and became its executive vice president. In 1994, following her father's death, she became company chairman. Since acquiring the firm, she has diversified its assets, buying several retail and restaurant chains. In 1981, The DeBartolo Corporation purchased the National Hockey League's Pittsburgh Penguins. DeBartolo-York was president of the Penguins from 1988–1991, including their 1990–1991 championship season, and only the 2nd woman to serve as President

of a Stanley Cup winning team. In 1991, the year following the championship, The DeBartolo Corporation sold the Penguins. In 2000, DeBartolo York and her husband John York gained control of the 49ers and other sporting assets from her brother, Edward J. DeBartolo Jr. She currently resides in the Youngstown suburb of Canfield, Ohio.

Denise and John York have been major supporters with their resources and time to Youngstown State University and the athletic department. The Yorks helped in the development of Stambaugh Stadium's DeBartolo Stadium Club and in February 2002 made a contribution of \$500,000 to YSU's women's athletic programs. Their other recent contribution to the university was a \$1.5 million donation for the Wellness and Recreation Center. Also, the Edward J. DeBartolo Memorial Scholarship Foundation has provided thousands of dollars to area high school students to continue their higher education at YSU.

Among more than 25 years of experience in the field of sports management and real estate development and operations, Denise DeBartolo York has received accolades as one of the most successful businesswomen in the United States.

### **Dave Dravecky-**

Dave Dravecky is a motivational speaker, author, and former Major League Baseball player (San Diego Padres, 1982-87 and San Francisco Giants, 1987-89). A YSU graduate, Dave was an All Star in 1983 and pitched in the post season for both the Padres in 1984 and the Giants in 1987. In 1988, a cancerous desmoid tumor was found in Dravecky's pitching arm. He underwent surgery on October 7, 1988, removing half of the deltoid muscle in his pitching arm and freezing the humerus bone in an effort to eliminate all of the cancerous cells. Amazingly, he returned to the major leagues one year later. Unfortunately, after winning his first game, he was midway through his second when his arm snapped during a pitch. While recovering from the break a doctor examining Dave's x-rays noticed a mass in his arm. The cancer had returned. After two more surgeries, his left arm continued to deteriorate, and on July 18, 1991, less than two years after his comeback with the Giants, Dravecky's left arm and shoulder were amputated.

As his baseball career ended, Dave went on to become a motivational speaker. He has written two books about his battles with cancer: *Comeback*, published in 1990, and *When You Can't Come Back*, published in 1992.

### **Dr. Darrell Lynn Grace-**

Dr. Darrell Lynn Grace, a local osteopathic physician, has devoted her life and her career to helping treat people of color in Youngstown.

She has received numerous awards for her work and dedication. She is commonly recognized for founding Grace Place, a facility that offers medical treatment and outreach to members of the African-American community in Youngstown. Her work goes far beyond and much deeper than that singular accomplishment.

In an article describing her own philosophy about medicine, she described her ideals:

I have committed my career to community education. I speak at local health fairs, churches, and family reunions, when asked. My goal is to educate the community at every opportunity. I know that I cannot be all things to all people, nor can I be everybody's physician. However, I can provide information that educates the community and provides patients with information to help make their office visits meaningful.

She educates health providers about anything from how to interact with patients, to convincing them to seek treatment.

“Carefully listen to your patients without passing judgment,” she urges. “Do not mimic pronunciation. Do not use slang or stereotype people. Do not give preferential treatment.”

Grace is board-certified in Internal Medicine and has received numerous awards, including the Richard L. Alper award for community service from Michigan State University's College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Grace completed a one-year Osteopathic Heritage Health Policy Fellowship from the American Osteopathic Association, The Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine and the New York Institute of Technology.

She was awarded the Riland Medal for Community Service by the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine on September 17, 2007.

She helped establish Grace Place Medical Service for the under-served, uninsured, and the under-insured. She has served as the chair of Community Outreach for the National Osteopathic Medical Association.

### **Ron Jaworski-**

Ron Jaworski is a YSU alum and former pro football player. Born in Lackawanna, NY, Ron was a three-sport standout in high school. After an outstanding career at YSU, he was drafted by the Los Angeles Rams in the second round of the 1973 draft. He spent 4 years with the Rams before being traded to the Philadelphia Eagles. Ron led the Eagles for 10 years including a trip to the 1980 Super Bowl. Ron retired in 1990 with a career total of 28,190 passing yards and 179 touchdowns.

His leadership continues in his various business ventures. He owns 4 golf courses and a professional sports team. In addition, his Jaws Youth Playbook works with United Way and delivered more than \$3 million in 10 years to more than 100 non-profit organizations providing varied services to children ranging from the ages of 7-18.

Aside from his business ventures, Jaworski is also a regular on ESPN, NFL Films and Eagles Television Network (Philadelphia) and has become one of the most distinguished NFL analysts on television. He frequently mentions his experiences at YSU and has returned to campus where he shares his enthusiasm.



### **David Hume Kennerly-**

Kennerly was sent to Saigon in early 1971 as a combat photographer for UPI. During that year, starting with the last assignment before he left the states, the Ali-Frazier fight, he took the pictures that won him the Pulitzer Prize. Kennerly became the photo bureau chief for UPI in Southeast Asia a few months later, but still spent most of his time in the field. In September 1972, he was one of three Americans to travel to the People's Republic of China to cover the state visit of Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka. He joined Life magazine in 1972 as a contract photographer and stayed as a contract photographer for Time magazine. He covered many stories while in Asia, one of his most memorable being the release of the last American prisoner of war in Hanoi on March 30, 1973. Kennerly returned to the United States in the midst of the Watergate crisis and photographed the resignation of Vice President Spiro Agnew, and the selection of Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford as Agnew's replacement. This ultimately led Kennerly's appointment as Personal Photographer to the President, the day that Ford took office after Nixon's resignation as the chief executive on August 9, 1974. Kennerly was only the third civilian to ever have that position. Kennerly left the White House the same day and time as President Ford.

### **Ikram Khawaja-**

Dr. Ikram Khawaja joined the University's faculty in 1968 and served for over 17 years as the Chair of the Department of Geological Sciences. During his tenure as the chair, he also served as the Director of Faculty Relations from 1997 to 2000. Prior to retiring in 2002, he served as the Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 2001-2002. Upon retirement, he volunteered in Pakistan from 2003-2005, spending spring semesters at Fatima Jinnah Women's University (Pakistan) as a visiting professor in Environmental Sciences. In July of 2005, he returned to YSU once again, serving as the Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences, and subsequently moving to the Provost's Office. In 2008, after serving one year as the University's Interim Provost, he was named as Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. In March of 2014, he was named Interim President. He finally retired in June 2014 to spend more time with family and pursue selected activities in Pakistan.

He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Karachi in Pakistan, a master's degree from Southern Illinois University and a Ph.D. from Indiana University.

### **Don Lewis-**

Don Lewis is president of SCA's Americas Business Unit, responsible for this global company's businesses in North and Latin America, which generates more than two billion dollars annually in sales.

Lewis joined SCA in 2001 as Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing for the company's away from home tissue business and was named president of that division in 2008. Under his leadership, SCA introduced the global Tork® away from home tissue brand to North America. Today, SCA holds a top three position for this category in the North American region.

In 2012 he became president of SCA's Americas businesses. In this role he leads SCA's Americas businesses in the categories of feminine care, baby care, incontinence care, consumer tissue and away from home tissue, which include a number of market-leading brands. He oversees the operations of 23 manufacturing facilities that employ more than 8,000 in locations spanning Canada to Chile. Lewis is a member of SCA's global senior management team.

Earlier in his career, Lewis held general business, finance, sales and marketing and worked in companies such as Fort Howard Paper Company in Green Bay, WI, and Encore Paper in New York. He is a graduate of Youngstown State University and lives with his family in Youngstown, Ohio.

### **Samuel Roth-**

Sam Roth is a Northeast Ohio native who currently resides in Canfield. After graduating with a Mechanical Engineering degree from Ohio State University in 1966, he joined the family business, Roth Bros. Inc., a diversified engineering and contracting corporation, where he worked for more than 30 years. He served as president of Roth Bros. Inc. until 1999. The company was sold to FirstEnergy in 1997. Sam served as president of the FirstEnergy Facilities Services group until 2002. Since January 2003, he has been a consultant to businesses, specializing in turnarounds, planning, mergers and acquisitions. During his career at Roth Bros. Inc., Sam employed numerous individuals from Youngstown State University and is grateful to the University for the quality and caliber of people that worked for him at Roth Bros. Inc. His wife Judy Roth has a master's degree in counseling from Youngstown State University and completed a post-master's program in clinical counseling at YSU.

Sam Roth has been a member of the Northeast Ohio Medical University Foundation Board of Directors since 1989. He served two terms as president, first in 2008 and again in 2009. Additionally, he has served in a number of other leadership roles on the Foundation Board including chair of the development committee and most recently as immediate past president.

Sam and Judy Roth established a scholarship endowment with a gift of \$50,000 to the Foundation and in 2013 they added an additional \$50,000 bringing their scholarship endowment to \$100,000. Their scholarship will benefit a financially deserving student in the College of Medicine who has earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Youngstown State University. The scholarship will be awarded to a student who desires to practice as a primary care physician. "Creating this scholarship is a way Judy and I can give back to a community we are proud to be a part of," said Sam.

### **Maciek Sasinowski-**

Dr. Sasinowski, MD, Ph.D. has completed his undergraduate degree at Youngstown State University and earned a Ph.D. in computational plasma physics from the College of William and Mary and an M.D. from the VCU School of Medicine (Medical College of Virginia).

He established the Bioinformatics Center at the Clemson University Genomics Institute, where he served as the Director of Bioinformatics.

Sasinowski started the Institute for Computational Genomics or INCOGEN in 1998 to tap the scarcely exploited market of "Bioinformatics." The company develops software used to make sense of the ocean of genetic data biologists are unraveling from projects like the Human Genome Project, which launched in 1990 to map the trillions of combinations of some 100,000 human genes.

Over the last two decades, Dr. Sasinowski has been actively involved in technology and policy development at the national and statewide level by serving on numerous boards, including the Governor's Technology Transition Policy Committee, and serving as Chairman of the Virginia Biotechnology Association (VaBIO) for two years

In 2001, he was chosen by Genome Technology magazine as one of the 15 most influential people in the field of genomics under age 30 and, more recently, was voted Top 40 under 40 by Richmond's Style Weekly.

### **Ted Strickland-**

Former Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland is planning a run for the U.S. Senate in 2016 and has been endorsed by former President Bill Clinton.

Strickland is known as a strong Democratic fundraiser. He has ties to the Clintons and is seen as key to parts of the Appalachian regions of Ohio. He is a former minister and psychologist. He was a one-term governor and was unseated by current Ohio Gov. John Kasich.

He is 73 years old and is close political allies with some still serving on the Ohio Board of Regents. He and Eric Fingerhut, former chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, were close political allies and had strong opinions about the university system of Ohio and were big believers in avoiding duplication of services and believed in universities being able to distinguish themselves.

He came to YSU numerous times during his term as governor, including when Obama spoke.

### **George Voinovich-**

George Victor Voinovich was born in Cleveland, OH in 1936. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in government from Ohio University in 1958 where he served as President of the Student Body and the Men's Dormitory System. Voinovich received a Law degree in 1961 from the Moritz College of Law at the Ohio State University.

He was a United States Senator from the state of Ohio from 1999 to 2011. Voinovich, a member of the Republican Party, served as the 65th Governor of Ohio from 1991 to 1998 and as the 54th Mayor of Cleveland from 1980 to 1989.



George Voinovich spent more than 46 years in public service – first as assistant attorney general of Ohio in 1963, and finally as the senior United States Senator representing Ohio. He is the 15th person to serve as both governor of Ohio and U.S. senator and one of only two people to be mayor of Cleveland, governor of Ohio and United States Senator; the other was Frank Lausche, who like Voinovich was Slovenian. George Voinovich has been elected to more public offices than any other Ohioan. He is the only person to have served as both chairman of the National Governors Association and president of the National League of Cities.

In his 2004 re-election to the U.S. Senate, Voinovich garnered more than 3.4 million votes, nearly 64 percent. No other candidate in Ohio's recorded history has received as many votes as Senator Voinovich did in 2004. Also in 2004, Senator Voinovich won all 88 of Ohio's counties, a feat accomplished only once before – more than 100 years before.

### **Brian Wolf-**

Brian Wolf is the Executive Director at the Marion G. Resch Foundation. The Foundation has given over \$2 million to YSU and focuses on students who live in the tri-county area. Mr. Wolf has been the Executive Director since 2001 and meets with the scholarship recipients on a semi-annual basis in order to help keep them on track within the scholarship requirements.

Brain Wolf is a graduate of Liberty High School. He earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Education from the College of William and Mary and his Master's Degree from Youngstown State in 1972. He is a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He served as the principal of Poland High School from 1986-2003.

### **Andrea Wood-**

Andrea Wood is the founder and publisher of the Business Journal. Published in 1984, the Business Journal was created to highlight positive growth of businesses in the area during an economically repressed time in Youngstown. Ms. Wood has been a publisher for 30 years with the Business Journal. The Business Journal covers five counties: Mahoning, Trumbull, and Columbiana counties in Ohio and Mercer and Lawrence counties in Pennsylvania.

In 1974, Andrea Wood served as the first television newswoman at WYTV Channel 33 in Youngstown and became the company's investigative reporter, chief anchor, and executive producer in 1979. Ms. Wood earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1972 from Penn State.