

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael T. Benson served as the 15th president of Southern Utah University since 2007; and

WHEREAS, he served as the 14th president of Snow College from 2001 to 2006; and at the time of his appointment, at age 36, he was the youngest college or university president in the history of the Utah System of Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, prior to his presidencies, Dr. Benson was a cabinet member of the University of Utah serving as the special assistant to President Bernie Machen and secretary to the university; and

WHEREAS, during his five years as president of Snow College he helped raise more money than the previous 117 years of the institution's history combined; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, Southern Utah University launched its most ambitious campaign, The Future is Rising, in September 2011, which has already reached \$90 of its \$100 million goal; and

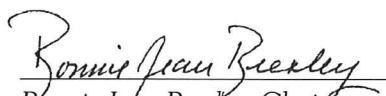
WHEREAS, Dr. Benson, an accomplished athlete himself, led Southern Utah University to join the Big Sky Conference in all sponsored sports in July 2012; and

WHEREAS, he holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Brigham Young University, a Doctor of Philosophy in Modern Middle Eastern History from University of Oxford, and a Master of Non Profit Administration cum laude, from the Mendoza College of Business, University of Notre Dame; and

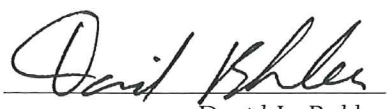
WHEREAS, Dr. Benson's tenure of presidency at two Utah System of Higher Education institutions will be remembered best not only for his keen ability to friend raise, but his enthusiastic support for the comprehensive education of students, in and out of the classroom, often making himself accessible to students, and attending student and athletic events; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Utah State Board of Regents, joined by the Commissioner of Higher Education and his staff, and institution presidents, faculty, staff, and students who have worked with Michael T. Benson, hereby extend sincere expressions of appreciation and respect, and wish him and his wife Debi the very best in their future endeavors.

Dated this 19th day of July 2013.


Bonnie Jean Beesley, Chair
State Board of Regents




David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education