State Board of Regents

Board of Regents Building, The Gateway 60 South 400 West Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1284 Phone 801.321.7101 Fax 801.321.7199 TDD 801.321.7130 www.higheredutah.org

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, David L. Buhler, PhD, has served as the Utah Commissioner of Higher Education since August 2012 and announced on January 29, 2019, that he will conclude his service this year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buhler has been employed in the Office of the Commissioner since 2000 as Associate Commissioner until 2012, serving as the legislative voice for the State Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buhler has had an illustrious career in government and politics, starting with serving as an aide for Senator Orrin G. Hatch in the United State Senate, and has worked in a number of capacities in Utah's political arena. From 1995-1999, he served as a Utah State Senator representing Salt Lake City. He was elected in November 1999 to serve a four-year term on the Salt Lake City Council, and was re-elected in November 2003 to a second term. He was elected by the Council to serve in 2002 and again in 2006 as Council Chair; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buhler's other government and community experience has included working as a staff member for Governor Norm Bangerter (1985-1989), as executive director for the Utah Department of Commerce (1989-1992), and as Chairman of the Governor's Task Force on Workers' Compensation Reform (1993). He has also served as a member of the University of Utah Board of Trustees, Utah Heritage Foundation Board of Directors, Chairman of the Utah Privatization Policy Board, member of the Board of Governors of Salt Lake City School Volunteers, as a trustee of the Sugar House Community Council (1991-1994), member of the Board of Directors of the This Is The Place Foundation, member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water Board of Salt Lake City and Sandy; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buhler's service as Commissioner includes a focus on increasing the rate of college completion in Utah, a tireless advocate for increased funding for public higher education institutions, and participating in the selection of seven presidents; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buhler guided the Board of Regents through a strategic planning process, which included a focus on Affordable Access, Timely Completion, Workforce, and Efficient Use of Resources; and

WHEREAS, he has prioritized making college accessible for more Utahns and, most recently, he saw the Utah Legislature's adoption of the state's first needs-based scholarship program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Utah State Board of Regents, joined by the Commissioner's staff, and institution presidents, faculty, staff, and students who have worked with David Buhler, hereby extend sincere expressions of appreciation and respect for the many years of service and advocacy of higher education in Utah, and wish him and his family the very best in their future endeavors.

Dated this 17th day of May, 2019.

Harris H. Simmons, Chair

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Nina R. Barnes, Vice Chair







