

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Robert Heiner Garff, a staunch supporter of education in Utah and husband of Katharine B. Garff, a former Regent of the USHE Board of Regents, died March 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Garff was committed to education and inspiring Utah students. He and his wife founded the Keys to Success program and the Success in Education Foundation. He also funded major education initiatives, especially at the University of Utah; and

WHEREAS, he was a distinguished alumnus of the University of Utah and served on the university's Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, he was also heavily involved in civic matters for many years as the former Speaker of the House of Representatives for the State of Utah and chaired the Salt Lake Olympic Organizing Committee for the 2002 Winter Games; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Garff was also a member of many non-profit boards that shared his interests, including the Intermountain Healthcare Board and the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, which he formerly chaired; and

WHEREAS, his contributions and service on many civic, professional, and non-profit boards had a huge impact on the lives of the citizens of Utah; and

WHEREAS, he was also the CEO of the Ken Garff Automotive Group and Chairman of the Board for that organization, as well as the former chairman of the board for Deseret Book Co.; and

WHEREAS, his contributions and service on many boards, large and small, for various other civic, professional and non-profits were freely given and genuinely appreciated, and he was awarded the Distinguished Utahn Award by the Salt Lake Chapter of the BYU Management Society in 2008; and

WHEREAS, he received a bachelor's degree in accounting and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Utah; and

WHEREAS, he dedicated much of his professional life to better Utah communities and made significant impacts to higher education in the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the USHE Board of Regents, joined by the Commissioner of Higher Education and his staff, and institution presidents, faculty, and staff, hereby extend sincere condolences to Robert Heiner Garff's entire family including his wife Katharine Bagley Garff, their five children, 21 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and countless others who have been impacted by his life's work, and express respect for the many years of service on behalf of education in Utah.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2020.



Harris H. Simmons, Chair
USHE Board of Regents



Dave R. Woolstenhulme
Commissioner of Higher Education