

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, John Lynn Dougan, former member of the USHE Board of Regents and economist, educational activist, philosopher, philanthropist and mentor, died February 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, he was appointed to the USHE Board of Regents in 1973 and served until 1983; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dougan worked toward necessary public education reforms during his time with USHE and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Dougan also served on the Higher Education Act National Student Loan Board where he led development of the innovative computer-enabled algorithmic modeling and tracking capabilities for Utah which were later adopted widely across the United States; and

WHEREAS, he worked on primary and middle school reform and combined efforts with Dr. Terrel H. Bell, former US Secretary of Education, to found The Academic Technology Foundation in 1993, now known as the Education Reform Foundation, which fostered collaborative programs directly involving teachers and principals at local "at risk" schools in Utah; and

WHEREAS, he also worked on the Utah Democratic Party Steering Committee as a strategist, coalition builder and fundraiser for candidates. He continued his activism in Utah politics throughout his life, most recently by mentoring U.S. Representative Ben McAdams of Utah; and

WHEREAS, he served as a U.S. Naval Reserve Officer early in his career; and

WHEREAS, he also served as Chairman of the Utah Film Center, which would become a nationally acclaimed model for curating and screening films to engage and expand dialogue and initiative at local community levels and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dougan was involved in retinal research and philanthropy after his daughter, Elena, was diagnosed with a degenerative retinal disease as a teenager. Dougan served on the national Foundation Fighting Blindness board and as chair the pivotal Scientific Liaison Committee. He also co-founded Visionize, now IrisVision, which develops leading-edge technology and algorithms to cost effectively develop customized vision enhancement devices to improve the mobility and functionality of the growing number of Americans with increasingly debilitating retinal diseases; and

WHEREAS, he earned degrees in Economics and Philosophy from the University of Utah;

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 J. Lynn Dougan's entire family, including his wife, Diana Lady Dougan, children Gavin and Elena Dougan, grandchildren, and countless others who were affected 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