

BOARD OF REGENTS
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

SECTION: 18
DATE: November 14, 2006

RECOMMENDATION

HONORARY DEGREE

ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Board of Regents award an honorary Doctorate of Humanities to Ingrid Saunders Jones, senior vice president of The Coca-Cola Company and chairperson of The Coca-Cola Foundation, at the Sunday, December 17, 2006 commencement ceremony.

STAFF SUMMARY

Ms. Saunders' biography follows on the next page.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.

University Executive Officer _____

Date _____

Ingrid Saunders Jones

Biographical sketch

Ingrid Saunders Jones is director of Corporate External Affairs and senior vice president of The Coca-Cola Company, and chairperson of The Coca-Cola Foundation. Ms. Jones directs the vision and involvement of The Coca-Cola Company in community, philanthropic and civic affairs.

As chair of The Coca-Cola Foundation, she leads the Company's philanthropic commitment to education. Under her leadership during the 1990s, The Coca-Cola Foundation contributed more than \$100 million to education, including scholarships and programs for students of color in higher education, and initiatives to increase the academic success of students in public and secondary schools.

In addition, Ms. Jones serves on the board of The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, which provides scholarships to high school students from across the country.

A native of Detroit, Ms. Jones earned a bachelor's degree in education at Michigan State University and a master's degree in education at Eastern Michigan University.

A teacher by training, Ms. Jones' commitment to education and community development extends beyond the doors of the Coca-Cola corporate headquarters. She chairs the board of directors of the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta and is the immediate past chair of the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta and the National Black Arts Festival. She also serves as a board member of the Council on Foundations, the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University, the Desmond Tutu Peace Foundation, the Woodruff Arts Center; and is a member of the downtown Atlanta Rotary Club and the Society of International Business Fellows.

In recognition of her work in the corporate world, as well as her many contributions to civic and community causes, Ms. Jones has been awarded honorary Doctor of Humanities Degrees from Michigan State University, the Atlanta College of Art and Morris Brown College in Atlanta.

Recognition of her work and contributions also include the 2001 National Action Network's Keepers of the Dream Award, NAACP - Atlanta Chapter's 1998 Jondelle Johnson Legacy Award; the 1998 "Woman of Achievement" from the YWCA of Greater Atlanta; 1998 "President's Award" from Morehouse College; The Ohio State University Foundation's 1998 John B. Gerlach Development Award; Georgia State University School of Business 1998 "Hall of Fame"; and the NAACP Legal and Education Fund's 1997 "National Equal Justice Award." Ms. Jones serves as chair of the Carter Center's Board of Councilors, a leadership advisory group that promotes understanding among opinion leaders and the broader community of The Carter Center and its activities. She was elected to the EMU College of Education Hall of Fame in 2005.