

BOARD OF REGENTS

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

RECOMMENDATION

SECTION: 12

DATE:

February 16, 2010

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS AND HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS:

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve Daniel J. McClory, successful business executive, entrepreneur, financial investor and EMU alumnus, as Commencement Speaker at the Sunday, April 25, 2010 morning commencement ceremony. In addition, it is recommended that the Board award an honorary Doctor of Public Service to Mr. McClory.

It is also recommended that the Board of Regents approve Timothy Dyer, emeritus EMU Board of Regent and alumnus, as Commencement Speaker at the Sunday, April 25, 2010 afternoon commencement ceremony. In addition, it is recommended that the Board award an honorary Doctor of Public Service to Dr. Dyer.

It is further recommended that the Board of Regents approve the awarding of an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree to Kenneth "Red" Simmons, emeritus coach/teacher/mentor and EMU alumnus, at the April 25, 2010 morning Commencement ceremony.

Mr. Simmons has been recommended by Dr. Jack Kay, Provost and Executive Vice-President, by the EMU Alumni Association, and members of the Eastern Michigan University E-Club.

SUMMARY

Mr. McClory's and Mr. Dyer's biographies follow on the next pages. Descriptive summary of Mr. Simmon's professional involvement and contributions, as well as his involvement and service to Eastern Michigan University follows.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

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

University Executive Officer
Provost and Executive Vice President

2/15/2010

Date

Biographical Sketch – Daniel J. McClory

Daniel J. McClory '81, '82, is a successful business executive, entrepreneur, financial investor and an EMU alumnus who attributes his career success to being a member of EMU's track and cross country teams.

McClory became a part of EMU's great track tradition in 1977 after graduating from Royal Oak Dondero High School.

While attending EMU, McClory was a three-time captain and four-year letterman on the men's track and field and cross country teams. He was also a writer for The Eastern Echo and a founding member of the University Ambassadors Society.

He turned in his top performance for EMU as a junior cross country runner in 1979 when he was the top EMU runner and 45th overall at the NCAA District Championship. That same year, he finished 19th overall as EMU's third runner at the Mid-American Conference Men's Cross Country Championship.

As an alumnus, McClory said he is most proud of his three years as captain of the men's track and field and cross country teams. He has long been an advocate and supporter of EMU athletics, in particular track and field.

"The Eastern experience and participation on the track and cross country teams has been a difference-maker in my life," McClory said. "It's time to formally recognize that and give back to EMU and the athletic programs to maintain prominence of these nationally-ranked teams."

For more than a decade, McClory has provided U.S.-European-Asian corporate finance and administrative services. For the last seven years, he has served as a managing director for Hunter Wise Financial Group, LLC, in Irvine, Calif., which provides mid-market investment banking services from offices in the U.S., the United Kingdom, China and Canada. McClory leads the Hunter Wise Small Cap Equities practice, which has assisted more than 50 American, Chinese and European companies in finding growth capital through the public markets, and acting on merger and acquisition opportunities.

For nearly 30 years Dan and his wife, Florentina (also an EMU graduate) and three children, have resided in Laguna Niguel, California.

Biographical Sketch - Timothy J. Dyer

Timothy J. Dyer, distinguished EMU alumnus, has served in the educational field as a teacher, junior high school principal, high school assistant principal, superintendent, member of EMU Board of Regents and executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Dr. Dyer was superintendent of Wayne-Westland Community Schools from 1973-1983. The school system's community education facility was named the Timothy J. Dyer Educational Social Service Center in recognition of his support for life-long learning. He also served as principal of Adlai E. Stevenson Junior High School, Westland; assistant principal, Wayne Memorial High School, Wayne; a teacher and department head, Wayne Memorial and John Glenn High Schools.

In 1983, Dr. Dyer was appointed as superintendent of the 12-school Phoenix (Arizona) Union High School District for six years before being appointed executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the nation's largest school administrator organization. During his tenure in Phoenix, he oversaw development of a magnet school program which received national recognition, along with the restructuring of a large inner-city high school where teaching loads were significantly reduced allowing teachers to work with families, community agencies and an improved academic performance. The restructured school had co-principals that coordinated the internal and external operations of the school – the only such restructured comprehensive high school in the country.

A native of Michigan, he was mayor of Ypsilanti from 1968-70 and was elected to the city council in 1964, at the age of 30. He was appointed by Michigan Governor William G. Milliken to the Eastern Michigan Board of Regents in 1972. Dr. Dyer served EMU as regent and chairman of the Finance Committee for 12 years. In addition, he was appointed commissioner of the Education Commission of the States by Arizona Governor Rose Mofford in 1986 and was named Arizona Superintendent of the Year for 1989.

He received his bachelor's degree in Political Science from Eastern Michigan University in 1961, and his master's degree in educational administration from Eastern in 1965. Dr. Dyer earned his doctorate in curriculum development from Wayne State University in 1974. He has taught at Arizona State University, Eastern Michigan University and Wayne County Community College. As an EMU student, Tim Dyer was active in student government, forensics and debate, and president of the National Newman Student Federation.

Dr. Timothy Dyer has received many honors and recognition from a variety of national and state organizations, including EMU College of Education Hall of Fame, EMU Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award, Michigan Adult Education Association's Distinguished Service Award, Arizona School Administrator's Superintendent of the Year Award and more.

Kenneth "Red" Simmons
Class of 1933
Michigan State Normal College

Kenneth "Red" Simmons' love of sports began at a young age and led him to success as a competitor, coach, mentor and motivator.

His dedication to school was such that he hitchhiked to classes at Michigan State Normal College. A championship athlete at Detroit Redford High School, he also enjoyed success at MSNC, winning three varsity letters in track, the intramural boxing championship and the wrestling championship (three times). He ran on an undefeated mile relay team which also won that event at the Penn Relays.

After retiring from the Detroit Police Department, Simmons began teaching at the University of Michigan, served as the assistant track coach, and started the first Ann Arbor women's track club – the Michigammes – because of his belief in women's right to compete in athletics.

The team won numerous state AAU championships and Simmons was asked to start a U of M women's track team. This team won seven national championships and 19 state championships. He coached multiple members of the U of M Women's Track and Field Hall of Fame, Olympic track team members, a seven-time Big Ten champion runner, an Olympic gold-medal diving champion and the first woman to win the Boston Marathon.

Simmons credits his knowledge of anatomy (which he studied under EMU's Elton Rynearson) for some of his success. His athletes used weights before they were an accepted fitness technique.

Each year, the University of Michigan hosts the Red Simmons Indoor Track and Field Invitational.

A long-time Senior Olympics competitor, Simmons earned five gold medals at the U.S. competition in 1991 and has set state and national records.

A former member of the EMU Alumni Association's Board of Directors, he was elected to the EMU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978 and was the first person elected to the U of M Women's Track and Field Hall of Fame. He received the Senator Philip A. Hart Award for his contributions to women's sports, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the U of M School of Kinesiology and a special tribute from the state of Michigan for his contributions to athletics in the state.

Red was recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus at the 2009 Alumni Awards Dinner by the EMU Alumni Association.

Red Simmons is 100 years old in 2010.