

In honor of Dr. Robert K. Neely and in recognition of his distinguished service

Whereas, you willingly embraced faculty and leadership roles over the past 26 years at Eastern Michigan University, directing institutional growth and guiding major initiatives in such roles as Associate Provost and Vice President for Research, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Department Head of Biology, Graduate Program Director of Biology; and

Whereas, you willingly accepted the role as interim provost from 2007 to 2008 and served in that role with distinction; and

Whereas, your professional accomplishments merited numerous prestigious awards, in particular the State of Michigan Teaching Excellence Award in 1991, and you have brought distinction to yourself and to Eastern Michigan University; and

Whereas, your professional activities and community involvement, notably your service on numerous boards and agencies throughout the State of Michigan, the Community of Ypsilanti and Eastern Michigan University, have had a lasting impact; and

Whereas, you and fellow colleagues in the College of Arts and Sciences were instrumental in obtaining the funding for the establishment of the Jean Noble Parsons Center for the Study of Art and Science; and

Whereas, you provided the leadership for the planning and funding of \$137 million in renovations to instructional buildings, and worked with colleagues from across the University to create and execute a Swing Space plan, such that there was minimal disruption to faculty, staff and students during what had the potential to be a time of extreme upheaval; and

Whereas, your leadership of EMU's research efforts from 2005 to the present resulted in substantial growth in external funding to an all-time high of \$16 million, almost doubling the amount of federal funding from \$6.9 million in FY2005 to \$12.9 million in FY2010; and

Whereas, your leadership efforts in establishing a technology transfer capability have resulted in 39 invention disclosures, 21 patent applications, four option agreements, and one license agreement since FY2005, in addition to EMU receiving its first patent from the U.S. Patent Office; and

Whereas, your unending commitment to student excellence, faculty support and EMU programs has benefited students, faculty, colleagues and the University as a whole;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that members of the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents call upon the University community to join them in expressing

the esteem in which we hold Dr. Robert K. Neely and our sincere gratitude for his longstanding dedication and commitment to the Division of Academic Affairs, the Ypsilanti community, and Eastern Michigan University.