



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN DEGRAFF

WHEREAS, John DeGraff has faithfully served the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater for ten years; and

WHEREAS, John DeGraff has served as Lecturer in the Department of Marketing; and

WHEREAS, John DeGraff received the Academic Staff Excellence Award from the College of Business and Economics in 2021 and the Teaching Excellence Award from the Whitewater Student Government in 2018; and

WHEREAS, John DeGraff has served as a co-advisor of the UW–Whitewater American Marketing Association student organization, which has achieved ten consecutive national championships, and helped start its first Social Impact Division, which has been adopted by hundreds of other AMA chapters around the world, supporting causes such as Combat Blindness International, Paralyzed Veterans of Chicago, and Coaches versus Cancer; and

WHEREAS, John DeGraff served for seven years as a co-advisor of the ENACTUS student organization, coaching students to their first national championship in 2021 and helping students design and execute a self-funding program that has conducted over 70,000 eye screening exams in India; and

WHEREAS, John DeGraff co-founded the Working for Inclusion, Leadership, and Learning (“WILL”) program, helped write a \$1.5 million grant for funding that was approved by the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, and presented as a keynote speaker at the first WILL conference in October 2020; and

WHEREAS, John DeGraff has served as an iMentor for the Whitewater University Incubation Program, coaching local, regional, and national companies and business leaders, including Forbes 30 under 30 Dustin Herte of Blueline Battery; and

WHEREAS, John DeGraff has served as Community Engagement Fellow for Tomorrow’s Hope, a non-profit organization based in Jefferson, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, John DeGraff has given talks and conducted workshops on innovation and competing values for numerous groups and organizations, including the Chancellor’s Leadership Council, the University of Wisconsin System, the University of Michigan, the U.S. Air Force, the Air National Guard, KPMG, Bosch Automotive, Honeywell Aerospace, Haworth Furniture, CEO’s of Tomorrow, and CCI Systems.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Academic Staff Assembly acknowledges John DeGraff’s ten years of service with appreciation and gratitude; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Academic Staff Assembly recommends emeritus status for our honored colleague and extends to John DeGraff our best wishes for a long, fulfilling, and well-deserved retirement.



Resolution Tracking:

Resolution submitted by Victor Barger on April 17, 2024, for department level approval.

Resolution submitted by Victor Barger on April 21, 2024, for Dean/Director level approval.

Resolution submitted by Dean Ambrose on May 6, 2024, to [Academic Staff Assembly](#) for consideration.

Action Date				
Action	Approved	Rejected	Tabled	Other
Vote Detail	Ayes	Nays	Abstentions	Other