

The University Council

Honorary Citation

March 26, 2024



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Presented to Teresa K. Woodruff

—in recognition of outstanding leadership, unwavering dedication, and profound commitment to excellence in higher education.

Throughout your tenure as Interim President of Michigan State University, you have exemplified integrity, vision, and passion for the advancement of learning and the betterment of our academic community—and, indeed, the broader local, state, national, and international community that MSU's work contributes to and impacts.

Your steadfast advocacy for diversity and inclusion has enriched our campus culture, fostering an atmosphere of respect, understanding, belongingness, well-being, and empowerment for all members of our university family.

Your tireless efforts in fostering partnerships and collaborations have expanded MSU's reach and impact, forging meaningful connections with local, national, and global communities.

Not only did you lead—and led well, thoughtfully, carefully, strategically, and seemingly tirelessly— during a series of traumatic events and institutional turmoil, you also moved us forward in a series of impactful successes. To name but a few of the successes we have experienced under your leadership:

- MSU's institutional response to the Covid pandemic as a national leader
- MSU's empathetic and people-centric response to a devastating campus shooting
- MSU's development and implementation of a strategic diversity initiative and plan that is a national referent
- MSU's development of the Spartan Tuition Advantage Scholarship plan as a component of enhanced student success
- MSU's construction of the Multicultural Center
- MSU's championing of programs to reduce the "graduation gap," enhancements to our student success initiatives, and new highs for our graduation rate
- MSU's achievement of our highest national ranking in history
- MSU's most diverse management group in the history of the institution

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- MSU's cultivation of a more stable campus environment—with community dialogues, medical and other partnerships, record fundraising and research grant funding—all despite ongoing social, medical, and economic turmoil locally and nationally.

We preface each item above with MSU to show our strength as a community and our commitment with the institution, and we recognize the role you had in fomenting, fostering, engaging, and supporting each of these successes.

In recognition of your exceptional leadership, profound impact, and enduring legacy, the University Council proudly and gratefully confers upon you this honorary citation.

Indeed, the University Council agrees that you should be recognized as more than an interim president serving from October 31, 2022, to March 3, 2024. We therefore support you being named by the MSU Board of Trustees as President Emeritus.

Presented on this 26th day of March 2024.

University Council

Michigan State University