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Office of the President
February 25, 2003

Members, Board of Trustees:

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Recommendation: that approval be granted to awarding the honorary degree of Doctor of Science to Mary Sue Coleman, Doctor of Laws to William S. Farish III, and Doctor of Letters to Michael Lee Mullins.

Background: The Committee on Honorary Degrees has recommended to the Graduate Faculty and the University Senate that honorary degrees be awarded to Mary Sue Coleman, William S. Farish III, and Michael Lee Mullins. These three bodies have expressed their approval of the recommendation.

Biographical sketches of the three recipients are attached.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____

Mary Sue Coleman
2003 Honorary Degree Nominee

Recently appointed as the 13th president of the University of Michigan, Mary Sue Coleman is at the pinnacle of her distinguished career in higher education. A native of Madison County, Kentucky, Dr. Coleman was formerly the president of the University of Iowa where she served for seven years. She has also served as provost and vice president for academic affairs (1993-1995) at the University of New Mexico and as vice chancellor for graduate studies and research (1992-1993) and associate provost and dean of research (1990-1992) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She served 19 years as a member of the biochemistry faculty and as a cancer center administrator at the University of Kentucky, where her research focused on the immune system and malignancies. From 1987 to 1990 she served as a faculty representative on the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees.

At the University of Michigan, Dr. Coleman holds faculty positions as a professor of biological chemistry in the U-M Medical School and professor of chemistry in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. She has a record of 77 publications in scientific and academic journals and has received more than two dozen grants totaling \$8 million for her research in cancer, genetic engineering and biology.

Elected to the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine in 1997, Dr. Coleman is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She co-chairs the Institute of Medicine's Committee on the Consequences of Uninsurance. Her extensive leadership positions in higher education include serving on the Association of American Universities executive committee, the American Council on Education Board of Directors, the National Collegiate Athletic Association Board of Directors, and the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics.

Dr. Coleman has also served on the Board of Trustees of Grinnell College, Board of Trustees of the Universities Research Association, ACE Task Force on Teacher Education and Commission on Minorities in Higher Education, Business-Higher Education Forum, Imagining America Presidents' Council, AAU Task Force on Research Accountability, NCAA Standards for Success Advisory Board, and Presidents Leadership Group of the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention.

Dr. Coleman earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Grinnell College and her doctorate in biochemistry from the University of North Carolina. She engaged in postdoctoral work at North Carolina and the University of Texas at Austin.

For her distinguished record of leadership in higher education and her research accomplishments, Mary Sue Coleman is recommended as a recipient of the 2003 Honorary Doctor of Science degree.

William S. Farish III

2003 Honorary Degree Nominee

Ambassador to the Court of St. James since Senate confirmation in July 2001, William S. Farish III has had a long and distinguished career with interests both in Texas and Kentucky. Ambassador Farish is the former president of W. S. Farish and Company, a trust management business in Houston. He is also the founder and owner of Lane's End Farm, a 2,000-acre commercial thoroughbred breeding facility near Versailles, and is the former chairman of the Board of Churchill Downs.

Ambassador Farish began his career as a stockbroker at Underwood, Neuhaus and Company in Houston. He later became president of Navarro Exploration Company and was a founding director of Eurus, Inc., a New York bank holding company, and of Capital National Bank in Houston. He is a past organizing member of the National Urban League-Houston Chapter, and chairman of the Houston Parks Board. He is also former chairman of the Ephraim McDowell Cancer Foundation and is currently a member of BritishAmerican Business Incorporated Board and the British-American Business Council International Advisory Board. Prior to becoming ambassador, Mr. Farish served on the boards of Houston Natural Gas, Pogo Productions, Galveston-Houston Corporation, Post Oak Bank, Zapata Offshore Oil, Baylor College of Medicine, Rice University and Transylvania University. He formerly served on the Board of Trustees of St. John's School in Houston and South Kent School in South Kent, Connecticut. He is the former chairman of the William Stamps Farish Fund, a charitable foundation, in Houston.

With ties to the Commonwealth of Kentucky since purchasing his first thoroughbred at Keeneland in 1963, Ambassador Farish has also been a longtime supporter of the University of Kentucky. He assisted with the establishment of the Markey Cancer Center and has been a generous supporter of other UK fundraising efforts. He has also served as chair of private giving for the Gluck Equine Research Center. A founding director and former chairman of the executive committee of Breeders' Cup Ltd., Ambassador Farish is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Keeneland Association. He was the winner of the Eclipse Award for Leading Breeder in 1992 and again in 1999, and his Lane's End Farm was named leading farm of 2002 by *Thoroughbred Times*.

As Ambassador to Britain, Mr. Farish represents the citizens of the United States and the people of the Commonwealth. His dedication to serving his country and promoting its interests abroad has also strengthened his adoptive home state. His work has and will continue to provide increased opportunities for U.S. interests internationally.

For his distinguished record of leadership in industry, educational contributions, and service to the people of the United States and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, William S. Farish III is recommended as the recipient of a 2003 Honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Michael Lee Mullins
2003 Honorary Degree Nominee

Through a quarter of a century of service as executive director of the Hindman Settlement School in Hindman, Kentucky, Michael L. Mullins has contributed significantly to education, as well as to the arts and humanities of the Appalachian region. Born in Hi Hat, Kentucky and educated at Berea College and the University of Cincinnati, Mr. Mullins has possessed the vision needed to transform a moribund institution into a thriving and useful community asset. At Hindman Settlement School, Mr. Mullins has been instrumental in the development of the East Kentucky Tutorial Program for children with dyslexic characteristics, the Adult Learning Center, that coordinates tutorial and testing services for adult basic education, and the Eastern Kentucky Teachers Network, an organization of 85 teachers who are using the Foxfire teaching approach. In addition, he has assisted in providing facilities and support for the Knott County Library and making a home for the Knott County 4-H program.

Mr. Mullins has continued to build on the artistic and literary heritage of the School through his creation of the annual Writers Workshop and Family Folk Week. The Writers Workshop has attracted professional and amateur writers from across the country to work with such authors as Gurney Norman, Lee Smith, Wendell Berry, Jim Wayne Miller, James Still, and Ed McClanahan. Similarly, people from all over the United States attend in Family Folk Week which features music, oral tradition, and crafts taught by such remarkable representatives of the culture as Jean Ritchie, Verna Mae Slone, Andrenna Belcher, Minnie Adkins, and Lee Sexton. These annual events are complemented by a wealth of activities such as Artists-in-the-Schools programs, musical festivals, community workshops and dances, and the establishment of the Marie Stewart Crafts Cabin, an outlet for the master craftspeople of the region.

Also important is his work with the Knott County Community Development Initiative. Mr. Mullins has been instrumental in the conception and implementation of \$20,000,000 in projects ranging from a branch of Hazard Community College and a technology center for distance learning, to associated water, sewer, parking, access, and environmental improvements at Hindman.

Michael Mullins represents the kind of leadership that Appalachia needs as it moves into the 21st Century. By his own actions, he has encouraged others to make a difference. He has applied knowledge, education, and pride in his own people as they work together to solve the problems facing his and many other communities in the Appalachian region. His list of service activities is a long one and includes the Knott County Chamber of Commerce, public library board, tourism committee, literacy council, Hindman Lions Club, Kentucky Citizens for the Arts, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, East Kentucky Leadership Conference, Leadership Kentucky, Appalachian Studies Association, Kentucky Arts Council, Forward in the Fifth, Jenny Wiley Theatre, the Orton Dyslexia Society, Kentucky Appalachian Advisory Council, Kentucky Appalachian Commission, Preservation Kentucky, and the Tracy Farmer Center for the Environment Advisory Board.

For his contributions to education and the arts and humanities in the Appalachian region, Michael Lee Mullins is recommended as a recipient of the 2003 Honorary Doctor of Letters degree.