

Office of the President
February 17, 2023

Members, Board of Trustees:

UNIVERSITY STAFF EMERITUS BE CONFERRED UPON D. MICHAEL RICHEY

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees confer upon D. Michael Richey the title of University Staff Emeritus in recognition of his many years of service, dedication and loyalty to the University of Kentucky.

Background: Mike Richey served the university for nearly 50 years and in doing so, built a remarkable career, which has made an indelible and lasting impact on his alma mater. Mike came to UK as a freshman student and never left. He earned two degrees in agriculture and began his long career in 1973, spending several years in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment establishing model programs in student affairs, alumni relations and fundraising.

In 1998, he moved to central campus to help create and expand fundraising initiatives for the university's first \$1 billion campaign. Most recently, he served as Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement and was responsible for all the university's philanthropy and alumni programs. During his tenure, Mike helped raise more than \$2.5 billion to support scholarships, national awards and university-wide recognition.

Upon Mike's retirement, the Alumni Association restored the Founders Day Award which has not been given since 1958, and recognizes individuals who personify goodwill and demonstrate, through their work, service, mission and spirit, a dedication to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and its residents.

Mike has received national recognition for building one of the elite agricultural advancement programs among land grant institutions, and for his leadership in student development. He likewise was awarded the prestigious Sullivan Medallion for his service to the University of Kentucky community.

Mike has distinguished himself and brought great distinction to the University of Kentucky and the Commonwealth of Kentucky during his tenure and is truly deserving of the honor of University Staff Emeritus, as conferred by the Board of Trustees.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____