



## Resolution No. 26-15

## Approval of Professor Emerita Designation for Retired Professor of Communication Disorders Dr. Jessica Bonner

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of Governors State University (the "Board" and "University," respectively) was created on January 1, 1996, by Public Act 89-4 to operate, manage, control, and maintain Governors State University in accordance with the rights, powers, and duties vested by law in the Board; and

**WHEREAS,** The Board is comprised of eight members, seven of whom are appointed by the Governor of Illinois with the advice and consent of the Senate, and one whom is a Governors State University student selected by student peers; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with University Professor Emeritus Policy 35, an individual's eligibility for the "Professor Emeritus" designation turns on three criteria: (i) having attained the rank of Associate Professor, Professor, or University Professor; (ii) having at least ten (10) years of service to the University; and (iii) being of retired status; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Policy 35, it is expected that designees "maintain a continuing interest in scholarly activity and in higher education, to have been a faculty member whose advice may appropriately be sought in professional matters affecting the university, and/or a faculty member who may serve as a mentor to faculty and students, and one to whom former students and colleagues can reasonably apply for personal letters of recommendation"; and

**WHEREAS,** Pursuant to Policy 35, the designation may be conferred upon recommendation of the President and approval of the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, The candidate for emeritus status must be voted upon by their colleagues in their respective colleges, supported by their Dean and Provost, and subsequently be recommended to the Board of Trustees for the title of Professor Emeritus by the University President; and

**WHEREAS,** There is one retired faculty member now recommended for *emerita* status (the "Candidate"); and

WHEREAS, The Candidate achieved the rank of full professor during her tenure, with plans to continue with scholarly activity in higher education and to provide advice to other professionals and students, and may continue to serve former students and colleagues and provide requested letters of recommendation; and

WHEREAS, The Candidate has been voted on by Unit A faculty members in her respective unit in her college and division by a majority vote (50% plus 1) of her peers, and she has the support and recommendation of her respective Dean, Provost, and the President; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees, upon consideration of all applicable information supports the designation of emerita status to Dr. Jessica Bonner.

Now, therefore, it is:

Resolved, that the Board adopts the recommendations of all parties involved.

Resolved, that the Board approves, recognizes, and grants Candidate Dr. Jessica Bonner the designation of Professor Emerita with all the rights and privileges of the Professor Emeritus distinction.

Approved October 27, 2025

James Kvedaras, Chair

**Board of Trustees** 

Karen Nunn, Secretary Board of Trustees