

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

GARY KARNER

WHEREAS, Gary Karner has served 24 years as the Commissioner of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC), a Division III conference consisting of eight institutions from within the University of Wisconsin System; and

WHEREAS, the WIAC solidified its status as the premier Division III conference in the country as evidenced by the 76 NCAA National Championships the conference captured during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, prior to becoming WIAC commissioner, Gary spent nearly eight years with the National Collegiate Athletic Association national office, playing a key role in developing the institutional compliance review process as well as the NCAA Division I Athletic Certification Program, and serving as a liaison to NCAA committees; and

WHEREAS, Gary served as the president of the National Association of Division III Athletic Administrators, a member of its Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct Committee, a member of the executive committee of the NCAA Division III Commissioner's Association, and a member of the NCAA Interpretations and Legislation Committee and Division III Baseball Committee; and

WHEREAS, Gary was selected as an Outstanding Commissioner-of-the-Year by the All-American Football Foundation in 2007, and is also the 2011 recipient of the Division III Commissioner's Association Meritorious Service Award, as well as the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Division III Athletic Administrators in 2003 and 2011; and

WHEREAS, Gary spent nearly 13 years in public education as a teacher, coach, and administrator in Wisconsin and Colorado, earning his bachelor's degree from UW-Stevens Point and his master's and doctorate from UW-Madison; and

WHEREAS, Gary helped the WIAC celebrate its 100th anniversary during 2012-13, conducting numerous activities to recognize one of the most successful conferences in NCAA Division III, including creating a centennial documentary and calendar, hosting a banquet attended by more than 1,400 guests from all corners of Wisconsin as well as 22 other states and Canada, commissioning a piece of centennial artwork by premier photo-realism artist Tim Cortes, selecting All-Time Teams for every sport the conference has sponsored during its 100 years, and personally engaging in a statewide centennial speaking tour;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System hereby offers thanks to Gary Karner for his outstanding service as the longest-serving commissioner in the history of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and commendation for his many life achievements.

Edmund Manydeeds III
President of the UW System Board of Regents

Oshkosh, Wisconsin
This Eighth Day of October
Two Thousand Twenty-One