

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM  
**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**  
**CHANCELLOR DENNIS J. SHIELDS**

**WHEREAS**, Dennis J. Shields has been one of the longest-serving Chancellors in the University of Wisconsin System, having dedicated 12 years in service as the 14<sup>th</sup> Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Platteville, from 2010 to 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, under Chancellor Shields’ tenure, UW-Platteville registered its highest enrollment totals in the University’s 156-year history, reaching a pinnacle of 8,950 students, reflecting his commitment to making the University affordable and accessible; and

**WHEREAS**, Chancellor Shields’ focus on serving diverse communities resulted in doubling the population of students of color during his tenure, and he substantially enhanced infrastructure to support equity and justice by creating the campus’s first full division focused on supporting a myriad of historically marginalized populations—the division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion led by an executive-level Chief Diversity Officer—as well as founding a Veterans and Nontraditional Student Center; University Bias Incident Team; Hispanic Outreach Program; Campus Climate Department; and Pioneers Helping Pioneers emergency grant program; and

**WHEREAS**, Chancellor Shields’ legacy includes an improved campus infrastructure, including the new facilities of Sesquicentennial Hall, Bridgeway Commons, Rountree Commons, and the Solar Array Panel as well as major renovations to Boebel Hall and Williams Fieldhouse, demonstrating his desire for high-caliber learning experiences for all students; and

**WHEREAS**, Chancellor Shields’ steadfast belief in being a Steward of Place has had a powerful, far-reaching impact on Southwest Wisconsin and the Tri-State Region, making UW-Platteville a hub of learning, research, and economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, Chancellor Shields’ belief in the University controlling its own destiny has led to record amounts of gifts as well as the creation of a corporate relations department; a real estate foundation; and 538% growth of the foundation from \$14 million to total net assets over \$90 million in 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Chancellors Shields’ consistent demonstration of being a values-driven leader, whose main educational focus is championing access, equity, and speaking his truth to support student success, has been obstinately evident in his advocacy efforts, founding of an Academic Support Programs student success center, engagement in Athletics, and championing of faculty who deliver high-impact practices to transform student experiences,

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System hereby commends Dennis J. Shields for his many achievements, offers thanks for his long-time service as Chancellor of UW-Platteville, and wishes him well in his next endeavor as President of the Southern University System and Chancellor of Southern University and A&M College.

*Edmund Manydeeds III*  
*President of the UW System Board of Regents*

*Stevens Point, Wisconsin*  
*This Eighth Day of April*  
*Two Thousand Twenty-Two*