

**Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
April 9, 2018**

**APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE FOR TED LINDSAY
A Recommendation**

1. **Division and Department:** Academic Affairs, Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.

2. **Introduction:** In accordance with Article IX of the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees, honorary degrees may be awarded by the Board of Trustees in recognition of distinguished accomplishment and service within the scope of the arts and letters, sciences, professions, and public service as recognized and supported by the University. The awarding of honorary degrees reaffirms Oakland University's scholarly, creative, and humanitarian values and ties the University to the community at large.

Robert Black Theodore Lindsay, also known as Terrible Ted Lindsay, is a former professional hockey player and philanthropist. Born in 1925 in Renfro, Ontario, Lindsay came to Detroit in 1944 to play for the Detroit Red Wings where he played until 1957. He was part of the "Production Line" with Gordie Howe and Sid Abel and over his career he won four Stanley Cups, was a nine-time All-Star with eight of those honors as First Team, he played in almost 1100 regular season games, scored 379 goals and had 472 assists. Lindsay was the first player to lift the Stanley Cup and skate around the rink. The Red Wings retired his No. 7 jersey in 1991 and in 2010 the National Hockey League Players Association reintroduced the award given to the NHL's most outstanding player in the regular season as the Ted Lindsay Award.

Lindsay was a fighter both on and off the ice. He and several other players attempted to organize the NHL Players' Association in 1957 with the goal of setting a minimum salary for rookie players, covering the expenses of players who were traded and an appropriately funded pension plan. After the owners undermined the effort, Lindsay filed an antitrust lawsuit that was ultimately settled out of court. Lindsay's refusal to attend his 1966 induction into the Hockey Hall of Fame because only men could attend, led to the event being opened to women the following year.

Following his playing career, Lindsay worked as a play-by-play announcer for the New York Rangers and later was a color analyst for NBC. In 1977 he returned to the Red Wings as General Manager, and was named Executive of the Year.

Ted has built a career on fighting for what he thought was fair and right in the eyes of the public. From the time he was a player to now, he has continued that mentality. In 2001, Ted created the Ted Lindsay Foundation to battle autism after learning that his trainer's son had autism. The Foundation has raised over \$3,000,000 for many local and regional organizations battling autism. The Foundation partnered with Beaumont to create the space for the Lindsay Foundation Hope Center. The mission is to support research and educational programs focusing on the cause and management of Autism Spectrum Disorders. The Foundation works to raise and dispense funds to new and existing research projects that focus on the cause and

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treatment of autism, providing funds for training programs, educational programs and social services for children with autism.

Ted Lindsay's nominator said, "Ted has been an inspiration to anyone who comes in contact with him. Through every adversity, Ted rallies to continue to fight for the individual, to bring people together, to never give up on moving forward." The Honorary Degree Committee concurs that Ted Lindsay has spent a lifetime fighting for causes that improve the lives and chances of individuals and recommends that Theodore "Ted" Lindsay receive the Honorary Degree Doctor of Humanities *Honoris Causa*.


3. **Previous Board Action:** The Board of Trustees periodically awards honorary degrees at its Formal Sessions.
4. **Budget Implications:** None.
5. **Educational Implications:** The awarding of honorary degrees is an established tradition in academe, by which the University reaffirms its scholarly, creative, and humanitarian values and its ties to the wider community.
6. **Personnel Implications:** None.
7. **University Reviews/Approvals:** The Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost has recommended approval of the recipient to receive an Honorary Degree.
8. **Recommendation:** RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees awards the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanites *Honoris Causa* to Ted Lindsay.
9. **Attachments:** None.

Submitted to the President

on 3/29, 2018 by


James P. Lentini, D.M.A.
Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommended on 3/29, 2018
to the Board for Approval by


Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
President