

**Agendum  
Oakland University  
Board of Trustees Formal Session  
APRIL 6, 2020**

**APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE FOR TOM KIMBLE  
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.

Tom Kimble is an engaged civic leader who has a long and deep association with Oakland University's College of Arts and Sciences and who has demonstrated a high level of achievement and leadership in General Motors, the Michigan AARP Executive Council, and as the founder of his own consulting company. He has served on many boards including Baker College, Oakland County Workforce Development, Hospice of Michigan, Arts League of Michigan, Girl Scouts USA, Oakland Family Services, Character Education Organization and the Oakland Country Bar. He has served the College of Arts and Sciences since 1998 as an advisory board member, as an ambassador, and as a member of the Dean's Campaign Council. He also has provided significant philanthropic support to support the education of Oakland University's students in the College through his gifts to scholarship funds. Notably he has been a driving force behind the Oakland University Pontiac Initiative serving as a member of the Core Group and Initiative Co-chair.

The Honorary Degree Committee recognizes Mr. Kimble for his record of accomplishment in business, civic, cultural and academe. Through his work he has made significant contributions to humankind, cultural, commercial, social and civic betterment. The committee notes the following in support of his recognition.

- His civic leadership is strong; he is exemplary in community engagement
- Lead positions within GM with philanthropic focus
- AARP executive council serving older adults
- Served on boards that have significant impact including OU-Pontiac Initiative, OU advisory boards (College)
- Financial gift for scholarships and endowment
- That he is actively engaged in giving back to his community seeking to improve the area in which he has lived and worked
- His service to OU has been deep and meaningful and was recognized through the Honorary Alumni Award
- Gift of time and talent in addition to his philanthropy

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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 Humanities *Honoris Causa* to Tom Kimble.
9. **Attachments:** None.


Submitted to the President

on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 by

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

Recommended on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020  
to the Board for Approval by



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Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.  
President