

**Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 7, 2022**

**APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE FOR DOMINIC J. MOCERI, JR.
A Recommendation**

1. **Division and Department:** Academic Affairs, Office of the Executive 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.

Mr. Mocerri received a degree in finance from the University of Detroit-Mercy. He is the past president of the Building Industry Association of Southeast Michigan and sits on the board of directors for Rainbow Connection. In 1998, he was named by Crain's Detroit Business as a "40 Under 40" community leader.

Mr. Mocerri is a partner and director of finance and development at Mocerri Companies. His company builds new construction custom homes, new developments, independent senior living and luxury apartments in townships and cities throughout Southeast Michigan. The company's work can be found in Auburn Hills, Birmingham, Clinton Township, Macomb County, Oakland County, Oakland Township, Orion Township, Rochester Hills, and Rochester.

Mr. Mocerri has been instrumental in providing leadership and vision in an ever-changing market, building an earnest reputation for himself and the Mocerri family through dual traditions of hard work and dedication. Mr. Mocerri is known for his exceptional expertise in development vision, acquisitions, entitlements, approvals, and financing. He continues his company's 60+ year legacy of uncompromised structure, integrity, and tradition with a voice of fairness and transparency and an emphasis on environmental sensitivity and economic sustainability.

In 2014, Mocerri Companies was recognized by the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan for its development of Pinnacle, a community of luxury homes, seated within The Oaklands. The Oaklands is comprised of seven Mocerri neighborhoods, each with distinct architectural features and amenities, in Oakland Township. The company was awarded three top building awards, including Builder of the Year and Community of the Year. Mr. Mocerri, specifically, was named Developer of the Year.

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Mr. Mocerì is a donor to the Rainbow Connection, and his company is a major supporter of Beaumont Hospital and other community organizations.

Oakland University is also a grateful benefactor of Mr. Mocerì's and Mocerì Companies' financial support. In 2018, the Mocerì family created the Mocerì Scholars program in the Honors College. Mocerì Scholars represent the highest levels of academic achievement and civic commitment and are selected according to academic merit, evidence of visionary and aspirational thinking, and commitment to helping others. The Mocerì Scholars program cultivates the leadership skills of students in the Honors College and prepares them to make a positive difference in their communities.

Mr. Mocerì demonstrates the high level of achievement this award is meant to recognize, as evidenced by a distinguished career with Mocerì Companies. He is a visionary in his community and, along with the Mocerì family, is helping to build a bright future for students at Oakland University. His many outstanding achievements and civic leadership merit the conferral of an honorary degree from Oakland University.

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 Executive 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 Arts *Honoris Causa* to Dominic J. Mocerì, Jr.

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9. Attachments: None.

Submitted to the President
on 2/4, 2022 by



Britt Rios-Ellis, M.S., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommended on 2/4, 2022
to the Board for approval by



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
President

Reviewed by

