President's Report **EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

Board of Regents August 24, 2022

Madam Chair and Distinguished Members of the Board of Regents:

I know I speak for most people at the University when I share my excitement for the start of the new school year. Most of our first-year residential students will start to move in tomorrow – and I am looking forward to visiting with our new students, parents, and families as I visit residence halls tomorrow.

I'll be in great company too – Swoop will join me as we make the rounds. While many students and parents enjoy meeting the President – I can tell you that the thrill of meeting Swoop is a much, much greater experience!

We have much to celebrate as begin the academic year. This includes Welcome Home 2025 – the construction of news residence halls underway this fall, and the renovation to all other residence halls. Our outstanding faculty, instructors and support staff are ready to support our students in every possible. Our students' success is the ultimate goal in all that we do.

It is also a time to celebrate our diversity – and the global classroom experience that Eastern Michigan provides our students. At Eastern, our students experience the interactions and the diversity of cultures in the work world they will enter when they graduate.

Please join me in acknowledging our labor partners in the clerical and secretarial unit, as well as the part-time and full-time lecturers' units for their work with the University administration in reaching the new labor agreements that were approved today. The employees covered by the agreements are highly valued and important to the University. I thank you for all you do to make the University better.

This is indeed, an exciting time of the year, and an exciting time to be an Eagle!

Thank you, Chair Jeffries.

James M. Smith, Ph.D. President

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