Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
October 31, 2011

APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE FOR R. HUGH ELLIOTT A Recommendation

- **1.** <u>Division and Department</u>: Academic Affairs, Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.
- 2. <u>Introduction</u>: 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.

Oakland University wishes to recognize Mr. R. Hugh Elliott for his exceptional character as a leader and his dedication to and support of education within our region. His belief in the importance of quality, integrity, social responsibility and global and cultural diversity has guided the management of his successful company, Elliott Group International, for more than three decades as it produced adhesives to leading tier one automotive suppliers in Metropolitan Detroit and abroad. Mr. Elliott's role as a visionary leader has been noted by many, including a nomination by Ernst Y. Young as Entrepreneur of the Year, the honor of "Des Chevaliers du Testevin" by the French Government, and the Gary D. Russi Community Service Award here at Oakland University. His philanthropy is extensive and includes many major gifts to Oakland University including a substantial gift to the School of Business Administration leading Oakland University to recognize his gift by naming the school's new building in his honor. Mr. Elliott supports higher education in part because he believes that education is important to staying competitive in the global marketplace. Reflecting values that are at the core of the academic mission of Oakland University, Mr. Elliott's pursuit of excellence is exemplified by his company's focus on producing superior products, collaboration with universities to innovate the product line, and his support of education in order to create the next generation of leaders marks him as a distinguished individual of outstanding achievement.

3. <u>Previous Board Action</u>: The Board of Trustees periodically awards honorary degrees at its Formal Sessions.

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- 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. <u>University Reviews/Approvals</u>: 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 Science, *Honoris Causa*, to R. Hugh Elliott.

9. Attachments: None.

Submitted to the President

on Oct. 24, 2011 by

Virinder K. Moudgil

Senior Vice President for Academic

Affairs and Provost

Recommendation on October 25 , 2011

to the Board for Approval by

Gary D. Russi

President