

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

**APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE FOR KENNETH JANKE  
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.

Kenneth Janke joined Aflac in 1985 as Manager of Investment Relations. He has served as Senior Vice President, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and President of Aflac U.S. He also chaired Aflac's Corporate Disclosure Committee. Throughout his 30-year career at Aflac, his contributions to the company were noted and led to increasingly more responsibility. His work was also recognized externally. In 2002, Investor Relations magazine named the Investor Relations department the Best Overall Investor Relations Department for a large-cap company and in 2003 Janke himself was recognized by the same magazine as the Best Investor Relations Officer for a large-cap company. Prior to joining Aflac, Janke served as Director of Corporate Services for the National Association of Investors Corporation.

The Honorary Degree Committee recommends Mr. Janke for his record of outstanding achievement in business, his contributions to Oakland University's School of Business Administration and his philanthropy that have led to humankind's commercial, social and civic betterment.

- His leadership of a company that values diversity and development of its top talent. During his time at Aflac the company was recognized three times as a Top 50 Employers for Minorities and Working Mothers and was also recognized in Working Mothers magazine for one of 100 Best Companies for working mothers
- His progressive leadership opportunities within a single company indicating his contributions across numerous roles
- He is credited with playing a large role in the growth and success of Aflac, a company that now covers more than 50 million people world wide
- His recognized commitment to transparency and communication that allow investors to make better investment decisions
- His successful leadership of the Investor Relations Department at Aflac that was recognized as the Best Overall Investor Relations Department for a Large-cap company

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Oakland University  
Board of Trustees Formal Session  
April 6, 2020  
Page 2

- His recognition as the Best Investor Relations Officer for a Large-cap company
- His commitment to higher education and our work to educate the next generation of business leaders
- His commitment to philanthropy that has benefitted Oakland University and our sister institution, Ferris State University and our students

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 Science *Honoris Causa* to Kenneth Janke.

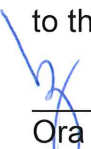
9. **Attachments:** None.

Submitted to the President

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

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

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.  
President