

**Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 13, 2026**

**APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE FOR ROBERT SCHOSTAK
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.

Robert "Bobby" Schostak truly exemplifies the high level of achievement and service this honor is meant to recognize, with a strong track record of success and leadership across multiple industries. He is President of the Templar Baker Group (a strategic consulting firm), General Partner and Fund Manager of MadDog Venture Capital (investing in cloud-based technologies), Executive Chairman of Resolute Building Intelligence (a building analytics software firm), and Co-CEO of Schostak Brothers & Company, Inc. (a leading real estate enterprise). Through these ventures, which range from commercial real estate and restaurants to technology startups, Bobby has demonstrated remarkable entrepreneurial leadership and innovation.

Bobby earned his Bachelor's degree in General Studies from Oakland University in 1978. He has since shown a deep devotion to his alma mater through extensive volunteer leadership. In 2002, he began serving on the College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board (2002-2009), and in the years following he took on numerous roles in support of OU's mission: member of the OU Foundation Board of Directors (2005-2008); member of the President's Campaign Council (2006-2009); member of the Judaic Studies program advisory board (2009-2015); and member of the CAS Ambassadors Leadership Board (2009-2015). In recognition of his exemplary service, Bobby received the Oakland University Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Spirit Award in 2007.

**Approval of Honorary Degree for Robert Schostak
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 13, 2026
Page 2**

Bobby's service culminated in his appointment by Governor Rick Snyder to the Oakland University Board of Trustees in 2015, a capacity in which he served until 2024. He was elected Chair of the Board of Trustees from 2021 through 2024. During his tenure as chair, Oakland University achieved several significant milestones. Notably, the university successfully concluded its largest-ever comprehensive campaign, *Aspire. Advance. Achieve*, which surpassed its \$150 million goal more than six months ahead of schedule. Under Bobby's leadership, the Board helped guide the university through the challenges of the post-pandemic landscape; OU President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz praised his "dedication and invaluable expertise," noting that Bobby's insight was vital in positioning the university for ongoing growth. Bobby's commitment to service extends well beyond the OU campus, into the broader community and state. A former Chairman (and Finance Chairman) of the Michigan Republican Party (2011-2015), he has lent his leadership to numerous civic and business organizations. He serves as a Director of the Schostak Family Support Foundation and as Chairman of the Urban Land Institute's Michigan Advisory Board. He is also a member of the Republican Jewish Coalition's Board of Directors, the Quantum Ventures of Michigan Advisory Board, and the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital Congenital Heart Center National Advisory Board. In each of these roles, Bobby has worked to bridge business, government, and community interests, reflecting his belief in civic engagement and economic development as tools for building community.

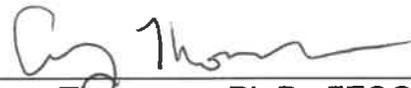
Together with his wife, Nancy, Bobby has been a generous philanthropic leader. In 2022, Bobby and Nancy were honored by Hillel Day School as the Rabbi Jacob E. Segal Award and "Dream Maker" Honorees. At Oakland University, the Schostaks have been key partners in philanthropy. Their gifts have resulted in naming a new conference room in Wilson Hall, providing support to OUWB and OU's Judaic Studies program, and the creation of the Dennis Muchmore Public Policy Series. This annual series, launched through OU's Center for Civic Engagement, brings together diverse voices to discuss critical issues in a constructive and civil forum.

Bobby Schostak has dedicated his life to civic engagement, entrepreneurial leadership, and collegial discourse in service of the greater good. He has combined sharp business acumen with strong leadership skills to positively transform the world around him. Through volunteerism and philanthropy, he has made a lasting impact on Oakland University, the region, and the state of Michigan. Bobby is not only a proud OU alum but also a conduit for positive change and a role model for our community. We recommend that Robert "Bobby" Schostak be awarded a Doctor of Business, *honoris causa*, from the School of Business Administration at the 2 PM ceremony on May 1, 2026.

Approval of Honorary Degree for Robert Schostak
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 13, 2026
Page 3

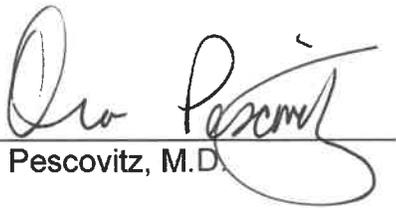
3. **Previous Board Action:** The Board of Trustees periodically awards honorary degrees at its Formal Sessions.
4. **Budget Implications:** None.
5. **Educational Implications:** The awarding of honorary degrees is an established tradition in academe, by which the University reaffirms its scholarly, 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 award the honorary degree of Doctor of Business *Honoris Causa* to Robert Schostak.
9. **Attachments:** None.

Submitted to the President
on 1/27, 2026 by



Amy Thompson, Ph.D., FESG, CHES
Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommended on 1/27, 2026
to the Board for Approval by



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
President

Reviewed by



Joshua D. Merchant, Ph.D.
Chief of Staff and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees