

September 10, 2021

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Committee on Academic Affairs  
**Subject:** Revisions to Policy 01-01-08 (Trustees Emeriti)

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Trustee Committee on Academic Affairs recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the revisions to Policy 01-01-08 (Trustees Emeriti) shown in Attachment A hereto.

**RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby approves the revisions to Policy 01-01-08 (Trustee Emeriti) shown in Attachment A hereto.

**BACKGROUND**

The Trustees of Michigan State University are publicly elected by Michigan voters for staggered eight-year terms. If a vacancy occurs, the Governor of Michigan appoints a Trustee to serve the remainder of the existing eight-year term. The title "Trustee Emeritus" is an honorific award that grants certain privileges to former members of the Board of Trustees upon completion of their term of service.

Policy 01-01-08 regarding Trustees Emeriti was adopted on March 31, 1978 to define Trustees Emeriti and delineate the benefits and resources available to them. Currently, the Trustee Emeriti title applies to any former member of the Board of Trustees. The proposed revisions to Policy 01-01-08 are intended to enhance and distinguish the privileges available to board members who make significant contributions to the university by awarding Trustee Emeriti status only to those who complete a minimum term of service. Those who do not complete the minimum term of service may be awarded emeriti status upon approval by the Board. The revisions also include language clarifying the available benefits and language explicitly allowing for the revocation of emeriti status under exceptional circumstances.



**Board of Trustees**

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cc: Board of Trustees, S. Stanley, T. Woodruff, M. Woo, N. Beauchamp,  
L. Frace, B. Quinn, M. Zeig, B. Beekman

**TRUSTEES EMERITI**

01-01-08

Trustees Emeriti are former members of the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University who have completed at least one full elected term of service.<sup>1</sup> Members who do not complete a full term of service for reasons other than death or disability, including those who are appointed to fulfill an unexpired term, may be awarded Trustee Emeriti status upon approval of the Board.<sup>1</sup>

The University benefits when Trustees Emeriti continue to function as advocates for the University with donors, alumni, government officials, representatives of business and labor, members of the media, and Michigan's citizens. The Office of the Secretary will work with University officials to make sure that information about the University and higher education generally is provided regularly to Trustees Emeriti. This information will include copies of the President's letters to supporters of the University, the Alumni Magazine, the magazines published by the Colleges, athletic booster group mailings, and Wharton Center materials, along with complimentary subscriptions to *The State News* and to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

To facilitate activities by Trustees Emeriti on behalf of the University, the following will be offered to Trustees Emeriti: library card; university email address; car registration permit; parking lot gate pass; the option to purchase up to four tickets to Wharton Center events; the option to purchase up to four season football and up to four season men's and women's basketball tickets, in the same seat locations they had the previous season, with the obligation to pay any seat premiums normally mandated for that seat location<sup>2</sup>; admission to the indoor section of the Spartan Club prior to and during each home football game for themselves and up to three guests; the option to purchase up to two season hockey tickets in the same seat location they had the previous season, with the obligation to pay any seat premiums normally mandated for that seat location<sup>1</sup>; the option to purchase one parking pass per sport in zone 1 for home football and basketball games and lot J(67) for hockey games; the option to purchase up to four tickets to the University of Michigan/Michigan State football game when that game is played at the University of Michigan; the option to purchase up to two tickets to the Notre Dame/Michigan State football game when that game is played at Notre Dame; and the option to purchase up to four tickets to any post-season game in any sport.

In addition, Trustees Emeriti may receive complimentary tickets to athletic contests and Wharton Center events, and a free pass to use the Forest Akers golf courses, when, upon the request of the President or the Vice President for Advancement, the tickets/pass will be used for entertainment purposes to benefit the University. Information about the University purpose for which the tickets/pass will be used must be provided to the Office of the Secretary at the time the complimentary tickets/pass are requested.

Trustee Emeriti status may be revoked by vote of at least three-fourths of the members of the Board under exceptional circumstances where conduct occurring or discovered after being awarded emeritus status is deemed to be substantially inconsistent with the university's mission or values.

<sup>1</sup>This shall not apply to Trustees who began their term of service prior to the effective date of this amendment (9/10/21).

<sup>2</sup>Access to special seating areas in athletic venues is contingent solely upon donor status and is not covered under this policy.

Enacted: 3/31/78

Amended: 12/1/83, 2/3/84, 6/7/91, 9/18/98, 7/17/06, 4/16/10, 9/10/21