

## BOARD OF REGENTS

Granting of Honorary Degree to Mark PigottRECOMMENDED ACTION

It is the recommendation of the administration that the Board of Regents approve the granting of an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Mark Pigott, CEO of PACCAR, Inc. and a global philanthropic leader in education, libraries and the arts.

BACKGROUND

RCW 28B.20.130(6) grants to the Board of Regents, upon recommendation of the faculty, the authority to confer honorary degrees upon persons other than graduates “in recognition of their learning or devotion to literature, arts, or sciences.” The faculty Special Committee on Honorary Degrees is responsible for recommending candidates for honorary degrees. On March 13, 2014, the Special Committee recommended to President Young that Mr. Pigott be awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the University of Washington June commencement ceremony. President Young concurs with the recommendation and brings it to the Board of Regents on behalf of the faculty.

Mr. Pigott embodies the values of the University of Washington: he is a global citizen, an innovator, and a champion of educational access. He strongly believes that success in business denotes a responsibility to give back to society, and to demonstrate this belief, he has made a profound commitment to improving the lives of people in both his home community and abroad.

Mr. Pigott represents the fourth generation of his family to lead 108-year-old PACCAR Inc., a Bellevue-based global leader in the design, manufacture and customer support of premium trucks. The fourth-largest publicly traded company based in Washington state, PACCAR has more than 20,000 employees worldwide and annual revenue of more than \$16 billion. In 2006, Mr. Pigott and PACCAR received the National Medal of Technology, an award established by Congress as the nation’s highest award for innovation. For six consecutive years, *Forbes* ranked Mr. Pigott among the top 10 best-performing North American CEOs. Harvard Business Review named him as one of the top 50 CEOs in the world in 2009. He was named CEO of the Year by Washington CEO magazine in 2004.

With a conviction that education is paramount to the growth and success of individuals and society, through his philanthropy Mr. Pigott has supported educational pursuits around the globe. He has funded lectureships, professorships, graduate fellowships and scholarships at Cambridge University, Stanford University, Trinity College, the UW and many other institutions. The impact of his support has been far-reaching, helping countless students achieve their

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academic goals and advancing important research. He also volunteers to teach business seminars regularly at Cambridge, the Foster School and other institutions.

His philanthropy extends to the world of libraries, as well. He once noted, “Everything revolves around libraries.” A self-proclaimed bibliophile, he understands the importance of preserving the cultural record, promulgating public access to libraries, and educating the next generation of readers. His life-long study of Elizabethan theater is reflected in his significant engagement with the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., and the British Library in London, particularly his support for building collections and enabling exhibitions that have broadened library audiences. He has advanced the conservation of rare and historically significant materials that would otherwise be lost through supporting environmentally sound archival storage and treatments at such institutions as Trinity College Dublin. His support for local libraries in the community in which he lives, and in communities in which PACCAR operates, has been his hallmark commitment to libraries worldwide.

Mr. Pigott is keenly interested in the arts and history and served on the board of directors for the Royal Shakespeare Company America from 2000 through 2010, underwriting a variety of productions and funding a technology center for the RSC in Stratford. He co-developed and funded a project to restore historically significant Armada paintings for the House of Lords and helped restore St. Paul’s Cathedral in London. The Pigott Education Center at the National Gallery in London welcomes more than 80,000 schoolchildren a year to nurture their appreciation for art. And he has helped advance the work of the UW’s Burke Museum and Henry Art Gallery, even lending works from his private collection.

Mr. Pigott’s exceptional professional accomplishments and community service have been recognized around the world. His good works have earned royal titles in Belgium, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Last year, he was awarded honorary knighthood from Great Britain at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C., in recognition of his role strengthening business and cultural ties between the United States and the United Kingdom. His Ellis Island Medal of Honor was bestowed to “exemplify outstanding qualities in both personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of his particular heritage.” He has been awarded honorary doctoral degrees from Trinity College Dublin, Gonzaga University, Lehman College in New York and Seattle University.

Mr. Pigott’s impact on business, education, libraries and the arts, and, in turn, the economy and society, are profound and worthy of deep and thoughtful consideration. Given how closely his own values of global citizenship, innovation and educational access reflect those of the UW, it is a fitting time to add him to

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the University's distinguished list of Honorary Degree recipients to recognize the difference being made by this local leader and international humanitarian. He has made the most of his opportunity to create opportunities for others, which has helped strengthen Seattle and numerous communities around the world.

For his innovative leadership in business and for his generous support of the arts, libraries and education, it would be an honor to confer upon Mark Pigott an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the June commencement ceremony.