

**Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 12, 2013**

**APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE FOR BARONESS CAROLINE COX
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.

Oakland University wishes to recognize Baroness Caroline Cox for her exceptional character as a distinguished humanitarian, educator and writer. For more than thirty years, Baroness Cox has worked tirelessly to better the lives of the neglected and oppressed. She began her humanitarian career in the 1980s with work that has transformed policies and procedures at the government level to improve the lives of hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children around the world. Her work and contributions, as the founder and CEO of an organization called the Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust, has been phenomenal. Baroness Cox was appointed Life Peer in 1982 for her contributions to education and has served as a Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords from 1985 to 2005. Baroness Cox also was founder of Chancellor of Bournemouth University, 1991-2001 and is now Chancellor of Liverpool Hope University and Vice President of the Royal College of Nursing. Additionally, she was a non-executive director of the Siberian Medical University and a founder Trustee of MERLIN (Medical Emergency Relief International). Baroness Cox serves as a non-executive director of the Andrei Sakharov Foundation and is the Chairman of the Executive Board of the International Islamic Christian Organization for Reconciliation and Reconstruction (IICORR), a charity which she helped to set up to promote stronger relationships between Muslims and Christians. In recognition of her work in the international humanitarian and human rights arenas over the past twenty years, she had been awarded the Commander Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland; the prestigious Wilberforce Award; the International Mother Teresa Award; the Mkhitar Gosh Medal; and the anniversary medal. She has been appointed as Special Representative for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Freedom of Religion Panel.

Baroness Cox's humanitarian aid work has taken her on many missions to conflict zones, allowing her to obtain first hand evidence of human rights violations and humanitarian needs.

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An Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Baroness Cox is author of a number of publications and a recipient of numerous honorary awards from British and overseas universities. Her global humanitarian efforts have led the Oakland University School of Nursing's (SON) REACH (Research, Education and Advocacy for Children's Health) Institute to name an endowed chair in her honor. As part of SON's partnership with Lady Cox, REACH is working to establish a partnership with the American University in Armenia to provide student-faculty exchanges.

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.

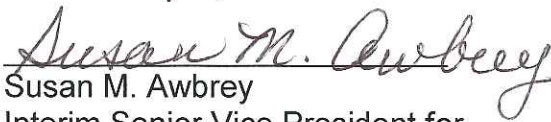
8. **Recommendation**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees awards the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities *Honoris Causa*, to Baroness Caroline Cox.

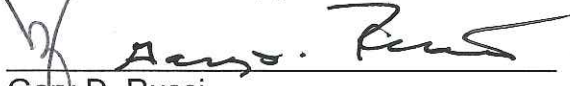
9. **Attachments:** None.

Submitted to the President

on 2/7, 2013 by


Susan M. Awbrey
Interim Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommendation on 2/7, 2013
to the Board for Approval by


Gary D. Russi
President