

October 1, 2025

Joi M. Cunningham Vice President for Human Resources Oakland University

Dear Joi,

I am writing to nominate Glenn McIntosh for staff emeritus status posthumously, and request that the Board of Trustees review and consider this nomination at their October 17, 2025 meeting.

It is impossible to list all the reasons that Glenn deserves this honor, but let me start by saying Glenn dedicated more than half of his life to Oakland University, nearly 32 years in all, in various roles of increasing responsibilities. That is a remarkable achievement and one to be recognized and celebrated.

Even though we remember him most recently as the Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer, Glenn came to OU with more than seven years of higher education experience in housing and advising roles at Bowling Green, Eastern Michigan University and Wayne State. Once at OU, Glenn found his home. He served as Director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives (formerly the Office of Equity), as Founding Director of the Advising Resource Center, as Dean of Student Life and AVP for Student Affairs, and as the interim and then, Vice President for Student Affairs.

While we lovingly called him "Mr. OU" and students knew him as "Dean Mac," Glenn proved to be a steadying and reassuring force for all that crossed his path. Maybe it was part of his training in counseling showing through. Maybe it was because he was a transformational leader who lived the virtues of advancing student success, being inclusive to all, and serving as a champion for mental and physical well-being throughout the campus community and beyond. Maybe it was just because he cared about people, all people.

Glenn was known for his integrity and compassion and for creating programs and opportunities that uplifted generations of Oakland University students. He served as a mentor, advocate, and friend to thousands of faculty, staff, and students on our campus. Personally, Glenn was one of my most trusted advisers and I truly valued his thoughts, his opinions and his approach to problem solving.

Glenn led by example - giving of his time, talent and treasure to make a difference in individual lives and for the campus as a whole. He was an instructor for Project Upward Bound, he founded the Veterans Support Services Office, he founded the Gender and Sexuality Center, he expanded our CMI programming and he expanded our student housing opportunities. He was a vital part of the OU/Pontiac Initiative, and established the award-winning Oakland University Trustee Academic Success Scholarship Program, a program that yields some of the highest student retention and graduation rates for underrepresented students in the country. In addition, he established two

(248) 370-3500

oakland.edu

Fax: (248) 370-3504

scholarships for OU's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Keeper of the Dream Scholarship Awards Celebration - one in honor of his sister, Lynn and the other to honor his wife, Lia. Being a former athlete and bodybuilder, Glenn also took an active role with OU athletics as a strength, conditioning, and nutrition coach. He also played a significant role in our move to Division I athletics.

You'd think with all those campus contributions, Glenn wouldn't have time for anything else. However, that was not the case. He also was a dedicated family man. He was a minister at his church, wrote a self-improvement book, was a motivational speaker, and often served as a consultant on educational, business, health and spiritual topics. He also made time to stay active with his national fraternity and with organizations like the American Heart Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and the NAACP.

With this request for emeritus status, I want us to move from the grief we all feel, to a feeling of pride in honoring and celebrating Glenn's life and legacy at our university. I want his dedication to service, kindness, and unwavering commitment to our community to continue to shine through all of us and keep his memory alive. Thank you for your consideration to confer upon Glenn a staff emeritus title, signifying his perpetual relationship and impact on Oakland University.

Respectfully submitted,

Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.

President

Vc:

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