

8015 - Honorary Associate Degree Policy

Washtenaw Community College wishes to recognize through the extraordinary contributions of community persons to the advancement of Washtenaw Community College and its mission by the award of an Honorary Associate Degree in Community Services. Recipients will symbolize the true meaning of the College and the community college movement. Through their extraordinary and long-term commitment they have helped to make Washtenaw Community College an outstanding institution of higher education. They are worthy role models for our students and for the citizens of Washtenaw County.

The Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service is the highest honor given by Washtenaw Community College and parallels the honorary degree that is offered by baccalaureate institutions. It may be given to one or two persons per year at the annual commencement exercises. The granting of this Honorary Associate Degree is an important way of reinforcing the philosophy, mission and goals of the College. The following criteria will be used to determine Award of Honorary Associate Degree recipients:

- Outstanding contribution to the development and advancement of Washtenaw Community College as a comprehensive institution.
- Dedication and devotion to the idea of education for all people and strong advocacy of the community college mission.
- Extraordinary long-term service to society which directly relates to Washtenaw Community College or the mission it represents.
- Extraordinary achievement in a vocation which relates directly to Washtenaw Community College or the mission it represents.
- A humanitarian who is committed to the democratic ideals of equal opportunity for all.

The Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service may be bestowed at the May Commencement and the recipient may be invited to make brief remarks.

Selection Process

The Board of Trustees will make the selection of the person or persons to be recognized with the Honorary Associate Degree. At the discretion of the Chair, an advisory committee made up of former recipients, current trustees and others may be appointed to assist in the process.

Please list anyone you wish to nominate for an Honorary Associate Degree *(please include their business and any contact information you may have)*:

First Name	Last Name	Business	Contact Information

This nomination is submitted by Trustee: _____
 Please return form to Vanessa by April 1, 2019.

Washtenaw Community College/Commencement Past Honorary Degree Recipients

- Saturday, May 19, 2012
 2012 Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service Congressman John D. Dingell

- Saturday, May 18, 2013
 2013 Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service Mr. Michael A. Finney

- Saturday, May 17, 2014
 2014 Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service Mr. Gary M. Owen

- Saturday, May 16, 2015
 2015 Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service Ms. Mary "Molly" Dobson

- Saturday, May 21, 2016
 2016 Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service Congresswoman Debbie Dingell

- Saturday, May 20, 2017
 2017 Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service State Representative Adam Zemke

- Saturday, May 19, 2018
 2018 Honorary Associate Degree in Community Service Pastor George W. Waddles, Jr.

Previous Award of Merit and Honorary Degree Nominees

Award of Merit/Honorary Degree Recipients are noted in bold and are starred (*).

Recipients who received the Award are noted with year of nomination are italicized

Date Nominated	Nominations	Merit Notation
1999		
1999	Bruce Clyde	Prior WCC Foundation President
1999	Elizabeth Chesky	WCC student, employee; donor to disability fund
<i>1999</i>	<i>William Davis, Jr (Awarded – 2003).</i>	<i>BOT member 1/93-12/98, WCC Foundation Board Member</i>
1999	Beulah Elving	Donor to Foundation strong WCC supporter
1999	George Goodman	Prior WCC Foundation Chair
1999	Larry McPherson	Former WCC Foundation Board President
1999	Joe O’Neal	Education Plus Endowment, former WCC Foundation Board President
*1999	Jean Campbell	Honored for her work with the Foundation, College and Community
2000		
2000	Joetta Mial	Principal of Huron High School when dual enrollment was established
<i>2000</i>	<i>Nancy Margolis (Awarded – 2002)</i>	<i>BOT member—selected 2001; WCC Foundation Board member</i>
*2000	Ruth Moorman	BOT member
2001		
2001	Lana Pollack	Faculty member (dance), community activist; former State Senator
*2001	Griff McDonald	Honored for his work as a Trustee and WTMC Director.
2001	Rita Wertman	WCC student
2002		
2002	Judy Dow Rumelhart	Music Theater supporter; prior WCC Foundation Board member
<i>2002</i>	<i>Bill Kinley (Awarded – 2008)</i>	<i>Pres, Foundation Board</i>
2002	Barbara Meadows	WCC Foundation member; community activist
2002	Lynn Rivers	Consistent willingness to participate in College’s activities, supporter; State Representative
2002/05	Alma Wheeler Smith	Supporter of community college
2002	Nancy Francis	Washtenaw County Probate Judge
*2002	Nancy Margolis	See 2000 for reasons for selection
Date Nominated	Nominations	Merit Notation
2003		
2003	<i>Richard W. Bailey (Awarded 2004)</i>	<i>BOT member for many years, BOT chair 6 times</i>
2003	Tom McMullen	WCC Foundation Director, College donor
*2003	William J. Davis, Jr.	Board of Trustees, Foundation director, community and College supporter (selected 03)
2004		

*2004	Richard W. Bailey	BOT member for many years, BOT Chair – elected six times
2004	<i>Bill Kinley (Awarded in 2008)</i>	<i>Foundation Chair</i>
2004	Bill Broucek	Millage Committee Treasurer, Foundation Chair
2004	Barbara Meadows	Foundation Member, Millage Committee
2004	Joe O’Neal	Education Plus Endowment, former WCC Foundation Board President
2004	David Parsigian	Foundation President (two terms)
2004	David Rutledge	Board of Trustees Chair, Member
2005		
*2005	Richard Crane	Nominated for 2005 award
2005	Frances W. Deckard	Retired Willow Run High School teacher, Scholarship named in her honor, active in NAACP, former Ypsilanti District Library trustee
2005	Joe Fitzsimons	Has not been involved with College that much.
2005	Nancy Frances	Nominated in 2002 – not involved with College
2005	George Goodman	Citizen of the County – recognized for something other than work at College. Retired and need to bring back to College
2005	Robert Gunzel	His activities are job related – possible candidate
2005	Joe O’Neal	Has not work with College lately
2005	Alma Wheeler Smith	Also nominated 2002.
2006		
2006	<i>Margaret Talburtt (Award 2009)</i>	<i>Foundation Director and served on Executive committee, Helped create the Women’s Council –: has maintained an activity involvement with the College since 1992; Chairing the Child Care Center Campaign</i>
2006	Polly Miller	Served Foundation & WTMC
2006	Joe Scheuring	WTMC director
Date Nominated	Nominations	Merit Notation
2006	David Rutledge	Board of Trustees
*2006	Calla Fette	Found. Pres. Mardi Gr Chair: Foundation Treasurer Women’s Council Award –
2006	David Parsigian	Foundation President – Served as Mardi Gras Chair
2006	Judy Macklem	Served on Foundation Board – 1998- 2004
2007		
2007	<i>Margaret Talburtt (Award 2009)</i>	<i>Concerned that if Ms. Talbert was to re-run for the Trustee position, this nomination might be considered a conflict of interest. For her qualification, see 06 descriptions.</i>
2007	Stuart White	WTMC director. Currently serving on the Foundation Board of directors and on the scholarship committee.
2007	<i>Bill Kinley (Awarded – 2008)</i>	<i>Foundation Chair and Director, Mardi Gras Chair, and WCC Friend of the College</i>
*2007	Jerry Jernigan	Mr. Jernigan’s wife, Carey, accepted the award. The award recognized his services and commitment to the College.

2008		
*2008	Bill Kinley	A great champion of the College serving in many capacities. (See 2007 Merit Notations.)
2008	Betty Mc Donald	Foundation Chair, Mardi Gras participant, strong supporter of the college
2008	David Parsigian	Supports the College and Foundation. As a lawyer, does Pro Bono work for the Foundation.
2008	Margaret Talburtt (Award 2009)	Foundation Director, WTMC Director, and Trustee for a short period of time.
2008	John Barfield	Has had limited involvement with the College.
2008	Mike Rein	Foundation Board member, chair and donor, strong supporter of the College.
2008	Polly Miller	WTMC Director
2009		
2009	Howard & Norma Weaver	Donated to the Foundation & create an auto scholarship
2009	Richard & Marie Duke (Award in 2010)	Reading program and, Foundation Award Committee volunteer. Supportive of WCC because college had an important impact on daughter's education. Donors.
Date Nominated	Nominations	Merit Notation
*2009	Margaret Talburtt	Foundation director, WTMC Director and College Trustee for a short period of time. Strong supporter of College and Foundation.
2009	Alice Landau	Strong supporter of the college and participates in college events.