

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education recognizes Keith J. Peden on the occasion of the conclusion of his more than four and a half years of service as a member of the Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Peden, a product himself of public higher education, has been committed to lifelong learning, first as an educator, and more recently as a member of the Wheaton College and Wentworth Institute of Technology Boards of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, in his first months on the Board of Higher Education, Mr. Peden brought a keen awareness and sense of urgency to the Board and Department with respect to its fiscal responsibility in overseeing and managing different retirement programs and portfolios for thousands of employees across the system, ensuring that all understood the risk and accountability involved in properly handling large assets; and

WHEREAS, from his position as Senior Vice President of Human Resources for Raytheon Company, Mr. Peden worked collaboratively, along with other major employers in the Commonwealth, to establish the “Learn and Earn” cooperative education program in partnership with Bunker Hill Community College, providing key internship experiences to students that can lead to permanent employment; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Peden has also been deeply engaged with the Association of American Colleges & Universities’ National Leadership Council, serving with other educational, business, community and policy leaders who exercise strong leadership for liberal education in their own spheres of influence and advocate for an empowering, inclusive and public-spirited liberal education for all students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Peden has placed great emphasis on the need for public higher education to produce the highly skilled talent that the Commonwealth’s employers need to recruit and retain to remain competitive; and

WHEREAS, while serving on the Board of Higher Education, Mr. Peden has been a consistent advocate for students and institutions, from cultivating talented leadership for our institutions to ensuring that the system learns from itself through a comprehensive approach to campus-level strategic planning; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Peden passionately believes in the mission of public higher education, always reminding the Board of the profound importance of our work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education commends Mr. Keith J. Peden on the occasion of the completion of his tenure on the Board and for his leadership and the diligence with which he has served the Board.

Chris Gabrieli, Chairman
Massachusetts Board of Higher Education

Richard M. Freeland, Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

April 28, 2015