

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education recognizes the significant accomplishments of Dr. Patricia “Pat” Maguire Meservey at the conclusion of her tenth year as president of Salem State University; and

WHEREAS, prior to coming to Salem State in 2007, Dr. Meservey served as provost and academic vice president at Suffolk University and held various higher education leadership and faculty positions at Northeastern University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meservey has transformed Salem State University into a vibrant campus rich in diversity and student success, with significant increases in graduation rates for first-time freshmen and transfer students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meservey championed the transition of Salem State from college to university status in 2010, led the campus through its first comprehensive fundraising campaign that exceeded its goal with a total of \$26 million in donations, and has overseen over \$250 million in capital investments, including new residence halls, the Frederick E. Berry Library & Learning Commons built in 2013, and a renovation of the Sophia Gordon Center for Creative & Performing Arts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meservey has expanded the university’s academic programs to address the changing needs of its community and workforce; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Meservey’s leadership, Salem State has received national recognition in many areas, including ranking in *US News and World Report*’s top 100 graduate programs in social work nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meservey renewed Salem State’s commitment to the City of Salem’s public school system, providing resources for student interns in teaching programs and personnel to assist the school system; and

WHEREAS, through her leadership in the nursing profession, Dr. Meservey worked with neighborhood health centers, providing learning opportunities for students and improved health care for members of the community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meservey’s leadership in higher education has also included service as chair of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE) of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, chair of the Northeast Consortium of Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts, and two-time chair of the Massachusetts State University Council of Presidents; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meservey’s further service to the community and Commonwealth includes positions on the boards of Bottom Line, Eastern Bank, the Health Care Workforce Transformation Fund Advisory Board, the Massachusetts STEM Advisory Council, the North Shore Chamber of Commerce, and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Meservey has worked tirelessly throughout her tenure and has demonstrated a profound commitment to what is best for students of the Commonwealth and its system of public higher education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

On behalf of the members of the Board of Higher Education, the Department staff, and the students and institutions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education honors and commends Dr. Patricia McGuire Meservey on the occasion of her retirement from the presidency at Salem State University.

Chris Gabrieli, Chairman
Massachusetts Board of Higher Education

Carlos Santiago, Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

March 22, 2017