

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education recognizes the significant accomplishments of Dr. Dana Mohler-Faria at the conclusion of his thirteenth year as president of Bridgewater State University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohler-Faria was the first member of his family to go to college and has served public institutions of higher learning in Massachusetts for more than forty years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohler-Faria served as a part of the Bridgewater campus community for a quarter of a century and as Vice President of Administration and Finance for eleven years before ascending to the presidency; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohler-Faria has led Bridgewater State University through a period of tremendous growth and development, with:

a 50% percent increase in enrollment, making BSU the 10th-largest four-year college or university, public or private, in Massachusetts;

a 70% increase of total number of degrees conferred;

and a 600% increase in the University's private endowment; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohler-Faria has overseen a near-total transformation of the Bridgewater campus with the addition of eleven new buildings, more than \$400 million in construction and renewal, and the addition of permanent satellite campuses in Attleboro, New Bedford and Cape Cod; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohler-Faria has served in leadership roles at the state level, including as a special advisor on education to former Governor Deval Patrick, in which capacity he assisted in the establishment of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohler-Faria helped establish forty dynamic partnerships around the world to provide global experiences for Bridgewater students, and was also instrumental in the creation of the University of Cape Verde, the first public university in the African island nation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohler-Faria has shown tremendous dedication and commitment to hundreds of at-risk youth in Southeastern Massachusetts, creating a range of academic enrichment and social support programs to help prepare them for college; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohler-Faria has been a tireless advocate for all students, especially those who face opportunity gaps and deserve every chance to succeed in higher education and the career of their choosing;

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. Dana Mohler-Faria on the occasion of his retirement from the presidency at Bridgewater State University.

Chris Gabrieli, Chairman
Massachusetts Board of Higher Education

Richard M. Freeland, Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

June 16, 2015