

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Dr. Donald R. Bobbitt, President of the University of Arkansas System, has expressed his intention to step down after providing exceptional leadership for the System and its 20 campuses, divisions and units for the past 13 years; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Bobbitt's leadership, the UA System not only experienced growth and expansion through adding new institutions, but also capitalized on leveraging its collective resources to operate more efficiently and effectively as a system; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bobbitt spearheaded numerous systemwide initiatives, including implementation of the Workday platform to manage finance, human resources and academic and student information functions, as well as the use of collective contracting, launching the UA System solar energy project and creating the UA System Workforce Development Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bobbitt led the expansion of the System's online learning offerings through the successful launch of the University of Arkansas System *eVersity*, in 2015, which later merged and expanded with the system's acquisition of the University of Arkansas Grantham in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bobbitt served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Texas at Arlington from 2008-11 and dean of the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, after serving as an administrator and professor of chemistry at the Fayetteville campus for 17 years; and

WHEREAS, the inaugural holder of the Charles E. Scharlau endowed chair in presidential leadership at the UA System, Dr. Bobbitt's many honors include earning the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation Teacher-Scholar Fellowship; induction into the National Academy of Inventors based on patenting, innovation and entrepreneurship; the University of Arkansas Alumni Association Award in Teaching, and the Fulbright College Master Teacher Award; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bobbitt earned his bachelor's in chemistry from UA-Fayetteville and his Ph.D. in chemistry from Iowa State University and conducted research supported by numerous national corporations and organizations during his career as a faculty member; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bobbitt and his wife Susan have dedicated more than three decades of service to the UA System in their various roles, engendering the gratitude of countless trustees, chancellors, faculty, staff and generations of students whose lives and careers were marked by their kindness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS THAT the Board bestows upon Dr. Bobbitt the title of President Emeritus, effective January 15, 2024.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in recognition of the years of service provided by Dr. Donald R. and Susan Bobbitt to the UA System, the Board, pursuant to Board Policy 720.1, hereby names the President's House on the Cammack Campus "The Bobbitt House."**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board directs that this resolution shall be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a copy shall be provided to Dr. Bobbitt.