

Resolution No. 26-33**Approval of Professor Emeritus Designation for Retired Full Professor of English, Dr. Kerri Morris, and Retired Associate Professor of Social Work, Dr. Vickii Coffey**

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of Governors State University (the “Board” and “University,” respectively) was created on January 1, 1996, by Public Act 89-4 to operate, manage, control, and maintain Governors State University in accordance with the rights, powers, and duties vested by law in the Board;

WHEREAS, The Board is comprised of eight members, seven of whom are appointed by the Governor of Illinois with the advice and consent of the Senate, and one of whom is a Governors State University student selected by student peers;

WHEREAS, In accordance with University Professor Emeritus Policy 35, an individual’s eligibility for the “Professor Emeritus” designation is contingent upon three criteria: (i) having attained the rank of Associate Professor, Professor, or University Professor; (ii) having at least ten (10) years of service to the University; and (iii) being in retired status;

WHEREAS, Emeritus status carries the expectation that recipients may continue to engage in scholarly activity, mentorship, and service to the University community, including advising students and colleagues and providing professional recommendations;

WHEREAS, Candidates for emeritus status must be voted upon by their colleagues in their respective colleges, supported by their dean and provost, and subsequently recommended to the Board for the title of Professor Emeritus by the University President;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Policy 35, the designation may be conferred upon recommendation of the President and approval by the Board;

WHEREAS, There are two retired faculty members now recommended for emeritus status (the “Candidates”);

WHEREAS, Dr. Morris achieved the rank of full professor during her tenure and retired effective May 31, 2026 and Dr. Coffey achieved the rank of associate professor during her tenure and retired effective January 31, 2026;

WHEREAS, The Candidates have been approved by a majority vote (50% plus one) of the Unit A faculty members in their respective units and have the support and recommendation of their respective Deans, the Provost, and the President; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees, upon consideration of all applicable information, supports the designation of emeritus status to Dr. Kerri Morris and Dr. Vickii Coffey.

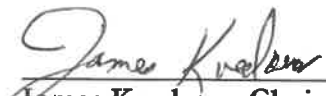
Now, therefore, it is:

Resolved, that the Board adopts the recommendations of the President to award emeritus status to Dr. Kerri Morris and Dr. Vickii Coffey.

Resolved, that the Board approves and confers upon Dr. Kerri Morris the title of Professor Emeritus, with all the rights and privileges associated with emeritus status.

Resolved, that the Board approves and confers upon Dr. Vickii Coffey the title of Associate Professor Emeritus, with all the rights and privileges associated with emeritus status.

Approved June 22, 2026


James Kvedaras, Chair


Karen Nunn, Secretary