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4-12-2017

## WMU Board of Trustees Formal Session-Special Meeting, April 12, 2017

WMU Board of Trustees

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**Western Michigan University  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

***Wednesday, April 12, 2017***

**Formal Session – 11:00 AM, Heritage Hall Ballroom  
*Special Meeting***

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1. Acceptance of the Agenda – *Rinvelt*
2. Presidential Search Overview – *Johnston*
3. Remarks by the Chair – *Rinvelt*
4. Remarks by the President – *Dunn*

**Action Item – *Rinvelt***

5. Board of Trustees Presidential Appointment – *Johnston*

**PROPOSAL: Appointment of the Ninth President of Western Michigan University**

Background

A thorough and highly successful search has led to a recommended candidate to become Western Michigan University's ninth president—Dr. Edward B. Montgomery. Dr. Montgomery comes to our University with a long and distinguished career in the academy. As a Harvard-trained labor economist and preeminent public policy expert, he has considerable experience serving in executive roles at the highest levels of our nation's government.

Dr. Montgomery's higher education career spans more than 35 years as a professor and as an academic leader. His research has focused on state and local economic growth, wage and pension determination, savings behavior, productivity and economic dynamics, social insurance programs, and unions.

He has held faculty positions at Carnegie Mellon and Michigan State universities as well as the University of Maryland, where he also was a dean for many years. Dr. Montgomery is currently a professor of economics and dean at Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy in Washington, D.C.

Prior to being tapped in 2010 to lead McCourt, he was informally known as the nation's "car Czar" under former President Barack Obama. In the Obama administration, he was Executive Director of the White House Council for Auto Communities and Workers.

During the administration of former President Bill Clinton, Dr. Montgomery was elevated to Deputy Secretary of the Department of Labor, a department in which he had previously served in such roles as Counselor to the Secretary and Chief Economist.

Dr. Montgomery earned his bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University and his master's and doctoral degrees in economics from Harvard University.

Dr. Montgomery's dynamic experiences as a scholar, public policy expert and academic leader, combined with his commitment to transformational change, will serve this University extremely well as we advance to a new and exciting era.

Recommended Action

It is recommended the Board of Trustees approves Dr. Edward B. Montgomery as the ninth president of Western Michigan University.