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Trustee Oath of Office

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Welcome trustees, colleagues and guests. Thank you for being with us to welcome to Western Michigan University's Board of Trustees, a new member--Dana Debel--and to welcome back Ken Miller to a new term as a member of the board. Congratulations are in order for both of you, and I want you to know how pleased we all are at your appointments and the prospect of working with you over the coming years.

(May have to say the formal thank you to Bill Martin now, as Betty says he might not be there for the full board meeting.)

Also with us today is 9th Circuit Court Judge William G. Schma, who will administer the oath of office to both of our trustees. Accompanying Judge Schma today is his wife Gerry Schma, a longtime member of this University community, now retired. It is always a pleasure to see her, because I know there are literally thousands of WMU alumni out there who really owe their alumni status to the way Gerry reached out to work with them over some 30 years. (She was a faculty member in the Department of English, director of self-instructional programs, director of distance education and the person who established and was the first director of our Transfer and Military Advocacy Office. Also a 2004 Distinguished Service Award winner.)

Board Chair Larry Tolbert will now make a few comments and lead us into the formal part of this ceremony. We're all eager to have our new trustees officially on board and have them begin their work.

Trustee Tolbert.