

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK, MAY 26, 2016

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that at the regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the Legislative Chambers of Old County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 26th day of May, 2016, a proclamation was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

WHEREAS, Mary Harley Gresham recently retired from her position as University at Buffalo Vice Provost for Educational Collaboration and Engagement; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Gresham has accomplished a career so flavored with academic excellence and pursuits and accomplishments lavishly applied to the University at Buffalo and community educational capacity it is difficult to single out where her impact was greatest felt or where her legacy of collaboration will long be missed; and

WHEREAS, achieving a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy and Psychology and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and serving as a Psychotherapist with expertise in multicultural issues has allowed Dr. Gresham to excel wherever her efforts led her; and

WHEREAS, Mary Gresham has served as Chair of the National Federation for Just Communities of Western New York, Chair of the Buffalo Urban League, Vice President for Public Service and Urban Affairs –UB, Executive Director of the Office for University Preparatory Programs, Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Vice Provost for Educational Collaboration and Engagement, among others; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gresham has received numerous awards and honors for her contributions in the areas of Humanitarianism, Human Rights and Dignity, Leadership in Education, as a Woman of Distinction, a Pathfinder, Sojourner for Truth, Educational Public Service and many others of National and International repute; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Gresham's leadership the Graduate School of Education was recognized as a top school of education in the nation among public universities, after Dr. Gresham established a global agenda for the school and a partnership with the Center for American Education in Singapore, launching the first school counseling Master's Degree program in that country. The global agenda under her leadership has been enhanced by the creation of distance-education degree programs extending UB's reach beyond U.S. borders, and Dr. Gresham's strong interest in China provided an opportunity as an invited keynote speaker at the International Forum on Teacher Education Asia-Pacific Conference on International Education. Under her leadership, GSE continued to pursue opportunities for the involvement of faculty from all four UB GSE departments in China supporting a national and international presence for UB to showcase its leadership in international education and diversity; and

WHEREAS, it will come as no surprise that the Educational Opportunity Center sponsored by the University at Buffalo will honor Dr. Mary H. Gresham this June 2016 for her contributions to opening and moving forward educational opportunities for all the diverse members of our community in Western New York.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature pause in its deliberations to acknowledge the pursuit of educational excellence Mary Healey represents and further acknowledge the professional commitments of Dr. Mary Healey Gresham that have grown our university and our community during her tenure. We wish Dr. Mary Healey Gresham the best retirement after a job well done.

Hon. Thomas A. Loughran
Minority Leader,
Erie County Legislator, 5th District

Karen M. McCarthy
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature