

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
BOARD OF REGENTS
JUNE 16, 2020
THOMAS E. MACFIE, JR. RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, as resolved by the Board of Trustees at their annual meeting on October 10, 2019, the Very Reverend Thomas E. Macfie, Jr., first came to the Mountain from his hometown of Greenville, SC, as a freshman in the fall of 1976, fully embracing his Sewanee experience as a member of the Student Assembly, a member of Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, a member of the Red Ribbon Society, and a member of the Kappa Alpha Order; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from the College of Art and Sciences with a degree in English in 1980, Tom, seeking to “find his calling,” traveled throughout the country, working as a “roughneck” on an oil rig in Louisiana and as a teamster in Maine; and

WHEREAS, he settled in Maine to pursue an early career in teaching, counseling, and administration at the Deck House School in Edgecomb, ME, and the Pine Island Camp in Belgrade, ME; and

WHEREAS, he followed a call to return to his *alma mater* in 1984, first serving as Assistant Director of Admission at the University and then, following a call from his Lord, as a seminarian at the School of Theology in the fall of 1985; and

WHEREAS, during this formative time in his life back in Sewanee, Tom met Pamela Royston, an alluring and exciting new faculty member in the department of English, mutually falling in love and planning for a lifetime together; and

WHEREAS, Tom and Pamela married in 1987 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Towson, MD, bringing together two exceptional individuals into a strong and devoted union; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from the School of Theology, Tom admirably served from 1989 to 1997 as deacon, priest, and then rector of St. Barnabas’ Episcopal Church in Tullahoma, not far from his beloved Sewanee; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, Tom was once again called home to Sewanee to serve as rector of Otey Memorial Parish, revitalizing programs, restoring buildings, expanding outreach, and increasing the staff for ministry; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, Tom was elected as a presbyter trustee by the Diocese of Tennessee serving his *alma mater* in this way until 2003; and

WHEREAS, responding to another call from the University, Tom was elected by the Board of Trustees in 2006 to serve as University Chaplain, continuing a long line of distinguished, scholarly, and devoted servants of the church and the University; and

WHEREAS, as Chaplain and Dean of All Saints' Chapel, Tom has served not only to deepen and sustain the Episcopal identity of the University, but also to serve as a student mentor, a community pastor, a respected senior University administrator, a trusted advisor to colleagues, and a devoted friend; and

WHEREAS, throughout his ministry, Tom has consistently served as a worthy example of steadfast Christian faith, common sense, and good humor; and

WHEREAS, throughout their lives and association with Sewanee, Tom and Pamela have exemplified decency, mutual affection, and love for their University,

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of fourteen years of service to the University, the Board of Regents adopts this resolution in full,

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents expresses its gratitude for Tom's exceptional service as Chaplain and friend during the pandemic in the Easter Semester 2020, providing daily inspiration through the Chaplain's Minute and through pastoral outreach via technology to the broader Sewanee and University community,

AND, the Board of Regents expresses its deep appreciation, respect, and every good wish on the upcoming retirement of Thomas E. Macfie, Jr., Chaplain and Dean of All Saints' Chapel on June 30, 2020.

June 16, 2020

Robert S. Skirving
Chancellor

Reid Funston
Chair of the Board of Regents