

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, 1861-2003¹

Philo Parsons	1861-1865	Lavina Masselink	1938-1943
Charles Rich	1861-1867	James J. Jakway	1938-1943
Silas Yerkes	1861-1867	Melville B. McPherson ⁸	1940-1945
Justus Gage	1861-1869	Forest H. Akers	1940-1957
David Carpenter	1861-1871	Winfred G. Armstrong ⁹	1944-1954
Hezekiah G. Wells	1861-1883	Sarah Van Hoosen Jones	1944-1955
A. S. Welch	1863-1869	Frederick H. Mueller	1945-1957
Abraham C. Prutzman	1867-1873	Ellsworth B. More ¹⁰	1948-1950
S. O. Knapp	1867-1873	Connor D. Smith	1950-1953
Oramel Hosford	1869-1875	Arthur K. Rouse	1954-1959
J. Webster Childs	1869-1887	Connor D. Smith	1954-1969
George W. Phillips	1871-1883	William E. Baker ¹¹	1956-1957
A. Smith Dyckman	1873-1879	C. Allen Harlan	1957-1969
Franklin Wells ²	1873-1903	Jan B. Vanderploeg	1958-1963
Milton J. Gard	1875-1881	Don Stevens	1958-1979
Henry G. Reynolds	1879-1885	Frank Merriam	1960-1975
Thomas D. Dewey	1881-1887	Warren M. Huff	1960-1977
Elijah W. Rising	1883-1889	Paul D. Bagwell ¹²	1964-1965
Henry Chamberlain	1883-1897	John S. Pingel ¹²	1964-1965
Cyrus G. Luce	1885-1891	Stephen S. Nisbet	1964-1971
William B. McCreery	1887-1890	Frank Hartman ¹³	1965-1973
Charles W. Garfield	1887-1899	Clair A. White ¹³	1965-1973
Oscar Palmer	1889-1891	Kenneth W. Thompson	1967-1975
Asa C. Glidden	1889-1895	Blanche Martin	1969-1985
Edwin Phelps	1891-1895	Patricia M. Carrigan	1971-1979
Ira Butterfield	1893	Aubrey Radcliffe	1973-1981
Charles F. Moore	1893-1899	Jack M. Stack	1973-1981
Charles J. Monroe	1895-1907	John B. Bruff ¹⁴	1975-1983
W. E. Boyden	1895-1897	Raymond W. Krolikowski	1975-1983
Arthur C. Bird	1897-1899	Michael J. Smydra ¹⁵	1977-1980
Thomas Frank Marston ³	1897-1909	Carole Lick	1979-1987
Edward P. Allen	1899-1905	Barbara J. Sawyer	1979-1994
Hollister F. Marsh	1899-1905	Peter B. Fletcher	1980-1985
L. Whitney Watkins	1899-1905	Elizabeth P. Howe ¹⁶	1981-1983
William H. Wallace ⁴	1903-1921	Thomas Reed ¹⁷	1981-1992
Aaron P. Bliss	1903-1910	Bobby D. Crim ¹⁸	1983-1984
Charles F. Moore ⁵	1903-1905	Patrick J. Wilson	1983-1989
Henry F. Buskirk	1905-1907	Malcolm G. Dade, Jr.	1983-1991
William Oberdorfer	1905-1911	Lawrence D. Owen	1984-1991
Robert D. Graham	1905-1919	Dean Pridgeon	1985-1993
Alfred J. Doherty	1907-1919	Kathleen Wilbur ¹⁹	1985-1991
I. Roy Waterbury	1907-1921	Joel Ferguson	1987-1994
William L. Carpenter	1909-1911	Robert E. Weiss ²⁰	1989-2002
John W. Beaumont ⁶	1912-1921	Dolores Cook	1991-
Jason Woodman	1912-1923	John Shingleton	1991-1999
Dora H. Stockman	1920-1931	Melanie Reinhold	1991-1993
L. Whitney Watkins	1920-1931	Russell Mawby ²¹	1992-1996
John A. Doelle ⁷	1921-1922	Dorothy Gonzales	1993-
Clark L. Brody	1921-1959	Bob Traxler ²²	1993-2000
Jay R. McColl	1922-1933	Donald Nugent	1995-
Melville B. McPherson	1922-1933	Colleen McNamara	1995-
Herbert W. Gowdy	1924-1929	David Porteous	1996-1997
William H. Berkey	1930-1947	Joel Ferguson	1997-
Matilda R. Wilson	1932-1937	David Porteous	1999-
Gilbert L. Daane	1932-1937	Scott Romney	2000-
Benjamin H. Halstead	1934-1939	Randall Pittman	2002-
Charles E. Downing	1934-1939		

¹ Established as the Agricultural College of the State of Michigan by Act 130 of 1855, the Board of Instruction (professors and teachers) of the college acted as the first governing board of the institution. The act empowered the board to establish rules and regulations for the government of the college, subject to alteration or approval by the Board of Education.

Act 188 of 1861 reorganized the college, created a 6-member state board of agriculture to govern it, defined the board's powers and duties, and named and appointed the first board (D. Carpenter, Gage, Parsons, Wells, Yerkes, and Rich), allowing those members to determine their terms of office by lot, 2 members each serving terms of 2, 4, and 6 years. Subsequent terms were 6 years in length. With the enactment of Act 308 of 1905, the membership of the board was increased to 7.

In the Constitution of 1908, new sections 7 and 8, relative to the state board of agriculture, had the effect of making the governing body a constitutional board elected by the people instead of a statutory board appointed by the governor. *Bauer v State Board of Agriculture*, 164 Mich. 415 (1911). The number of board members was reduced to 6. The first elected board consisted of 2 members each elected to terms of 2 (W. Carpenter, Oberdorfer), 4 (Doherty, Graham), and 6 (Wallace, Waterbury) years. Subsequent vacancies were filled at the regular biennial spring election for terms of 6 years.

In 1959, the name of the governing board of what had become Michigan State University of Agriculture and Applied Science was changed to "board of trustees." On April 6, 1959, voters approved Joint Resolution 2 as an amendment to the Constitution of 1908.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY (Cont.)

Under the Constitution of 1963, the membership of the board of trustees was increased to 8 and members' terms were lengthened to 8 years. To facilitate the transition of board operations, Act 23 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963 extended the terms of the sitting board (Smith, Harlan, Stevens, Merriman, Huff, Nisbet) by 1 year and provided for the governor's appointment of 2 additional members to serve 1-year terms only. The election of the first board members under the provisions of the Constitution of 1963 occurred at the general election in November 1964. See Act 5 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963.

² Deceased; succeeded by Charles F. Moore July 24, 1903.

³ Resigned; succeeded by William L. Carpenter May 27, 1909.

⁴ Resigned; succeeded by John A. Doelle September 17, 1921.

⁵ Resigned; succeeded by Henry F. Buskirk January 6, 1905.

⁶ Resigned; succeeded by Clark L. Brody October 8, 1921.

⁷ Resigned; succeeded by Jay R. McColl April 5, 1922.

⁸ Deceased; succeeded by Frederick H. Mueller August 2, 1945; Mueller reappointed February 20, 1946.

⁹ Deceased; succeeded by Connor D. Smith December 9, 1954.

¹⁰ Deceased; succeeded by Connor D. Smith May 24, 1950.

¹¹ Resigned; succeeded by C. Allen Harlan October 29, 1957.

¹² Appointed to 1-year term January 10, 1964. See Act 23 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963; Act 5 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963.

¹³ First members elected under Constitution of 1963, Act 5 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963, and Act 23 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963.

¹⁴ Resigned; succeeded by Malcolm G. Dade, Jr., March 14, 1983.

¹⁵ Resigned; succeeded by Peter B. Fletcher May 20, 1980.

¹⁶ Resigned; succeeded by Patrick J. Wilson March 14, 1983.

¹⁷ Resigned; succeeded by Russell Mawby January 1992.

¹⁸ Resigned; succeeded by Lawrence D. Owen October 3, 1984.

¹⁹ Resigned; succeeded by Melanie Reinhold January 18, 1991, who completed Wilbur's term ending January 1, 1993.

²⁰ Resigned; succeeded by Randall Pittman February 5, 2002.

²¹ Resigned; succeeded by David Porteous June 19, 1996, who completed Mawby's term ending January 1, 1997.

²² Resigned; succeeded by Scott Romney August 15, 2000, who completed Traxler's term ending January 1, 2001.

Sources: Archives, *Michigan Department of State Record of Civil Officers, 1835-1962*; Bureau of Elections, *Michigan Department of State; Constitutions of the State of Michigan*; Great Seal Office, *Michigan Department of State Record of Civil Officers, 1963 - present*; *Laws of Michigan*; *Michigan Reports, Volume 164*; *Public and Local Acts of Michigan*; and Secretary of the Board of Trustees, Michigan State University.