

FORMER MEMBERS OF UNIVERSITY GOVERNING BOARDS

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, 1837-2021¹

Thomas Fitzgerald	1837
Robert McClelland	1837
Michael Hoffman	1837-1838
John F. Porter	1837-1838
Lucius Lyon	1837-1839
John Norvell	1837-1839
Seba Murphy	1837-1839
John J. Adam	1837-1840
Samuel Denton	1837-1840
Gideon O. Whittemore	1837-1840
Henry R. Schoolcraft	1837-1841
Isaac E. Cray	1837-1843
Ross Wilkins	1837-1842
Zina Pitcher	1837-1852
Gurdon C. Leech	1838-1840
Jonathan Kearsley	1838-1852
Joseph W. Brown	1839-1840
Charles C. Trowbridge	1839-1842
George Duffield	1839-1848
Daniel Hudson	1840-1841
Samuel W. Dexter	1840-1841
Francis J. Higginson	1840-1841
Michael A. Patterson	1840-1842
William Draper	1840-1844
Oliver C. Comstock	1841-1843
George Goodman	1841-1843
John G. Owen	1841-1848
Martin Kundig	1841-1845
Randolph Manning	1842
Andrew M. Fitch	1842-1846
Elisha Crane	1842-1846
William A. Fletcher	1842-1846
Lewis Cass	1843-1844
Dewitt C. Walker	1843-1844
Marvin Allen	1843-1852
Robert R. Kellogg	1844-1845
Edward Mundy	1844-1848
Alexander H. Redfield	1844-1852
Minot T. Lane	1845-1849
Austin E. Wing	1845-1850
Elon Farnsworth	1846-1857
Charles C. Taylor	1846-1850
Elijah Pilcher	1846-1852
John G. Atterbury	1848-1852
Justus Goodwin	1848-1852
Benjamin F. H. Witherell	1848-1852
Edwin M. Cust	1849
Robert McClelland	1850-1852
Gustavus L. Foster	1850-1852
Epaphroditus Ransom	1850-1852
Andrew Parsons	1852-1853
Elisha Ely	1852-1854
James C. Kingsley	1852-1857
Edward S. Moore	1852-1857
Charles H. Palmer	1852-1857
Michael F. Patterson	1852-1857
William Upjohn	1852-1857
Henry H. Northrop	1854-1857
George W. Pack	1858
John Van Vleck	1858
Benjamin L. Baxter	1858-1863
Levi Bishop	1858-1863
George Bradley	1858-1863
Ebenezer L. Brown	1858-1863
William M. Ferry	1858-1863
J. Eastman Johnson	1858-1869
Donald McIntyre	1858-1863

Henry Whiting	1858-1863
Oliver L. Spaulding	1858-1863
Luke Parsons	1858-1862
Edward C. Walker	1864-1881
George Willard	1864-1873
Thomas D. Gilbert	1864-1875
Thomas J. Joslin	1864-1867
Henry C. Knight	1864-1867
Alvah Sweetzer	1864
James A. Sweezy	1864-1871
Cyrus M. Stockwell	1865-1871
J. M. B. Sill	1867-1869
Hiram A. Burt	1868-1875
Joseph Estabrook	1870-1877
Jonas H. McGowan	1870-1877
Claudius B. Grant	1872-1879
Charles Rynd	1872-1879
Andrew Climie	1874-1881
Byron M. Cutcheon	1876-1883
Samuel S. Walker	1876-1883
Victory P. Collier	1877
George Duffield Jr.	1877-1885
George L. Maltz	1878-1880
Jacob J. Van Riper	1880-1885
Ebenezer O. Grosvenor	1880-1887
James Shearer	1880-1887
Austin Blair	1881-1889
James Frederic Joy	1882-1886
Lyman D. Norris	1883
Arthur M. Clark	1884-1891
Charles J. Willett	1884-1891
Charles S. Draper	1886-1892
Moses W. Field	1886-1889
Charles R. Whitman	1886-1893
Roger W. Butterfield	1888-1903
Charles Hebard	1888-1895
Hermann Kiefer	1889-1901
William J. Cocker ²	1890-1901
Peter N. Cook	1892-1899
Henry Howard	1892-1894
Levi L. Barbour	1892-1897
Henry S. Dean	1894-1907
Frank W. Fletcher	1894-1909
Charles H. Hackley	1896
George A. Farr	1896-1903
Charles D. Lawton	1898-1905
Eli R. Sutton ³	1900-1902
Arthur Hill ⁴	1901-1909
Levi L. Barbour	1902-1907
Henry W. Carey	1902-1909
Peter White ⁵	1904-1908
Loyal E. Knappen ⁶	1904-1911
Walter H. Sawyer ⁷	1906-1931
Chase S. Osborn ⁸	1908-1911
Frank B. Leland	1908-1923
Junius E. Beal	1908-1939
John H. Grant ⁹	1909-1913
George P. Codd ¹⁰	1910-1911
William L. Clements	1910-1933
Harry C. Bulkley	1911-1917
Benjamin S. Hanchett ¹¹	1911-1929
Lucius L. Hubbard ¹²	1911-1933
William A. Comstock	1913
Victor M. Gore	1914-1929
James O. Murfin	1918-1937
Ralph Stone	1924-1939
Esther March Cram ¹³	1929-1943

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN (Cont.)

R. Perry Shorts ¹⁴	1930-1934	Otis M. Smith	1967-1971
Richard R. Smith	1931-1937	Robert J. Brown ²⁶	1967-1975
Edmund C. Shields	1933-1935	Gertrude V. Huebner	1967-1975
Charles F. Hemans	1934-1941	Lawrence B. Lindemer ²⁷	1968-1975
Franklin M. Cook	1934-1941	Gerald R. Dunn	1969-1985
David H. Crowley	1936-1943	Robert E. Nederlander	1969-1985
John D. Lynch	1938-1945	Paul W. Brown	1971-1994
Edmund C. Shields	1938-1945	James L. Waters	1971-1994
Harry G. Kipke	1940-1947	Deane Baker	1973-1996
J. Joseph Herbert	1940-1955	Sarah Goddard Power ²⁸	1975-1987
Alfred B. Connable	1942-1957	Thomas A. Roach	1975-1991
Earl L. Burhans ¹⁵	1942	David Laro	1975-1981
Franklin M. Cook ¹⁶	1942-1943	Nellie M. Varner	1981-1996
Vera Burrigge Baits	1943-1957	Neal D. Nielsen	1985-1993
R. Spencer Bishop ¹⁷	1943-1946	Veronica Latta Smith	1985-1993
Ralph A. Hayward ¹⁸	1944-1951	Philip H. Power	1987-1999
Roscoe O. Bonisteel Sr.	1946-1959	Shirley M. McFee	1991-1999
Otto E. Eckert	1946-1961	Laurence B. Deitch	1993-2016
Charles S. Kennedy	1946-1961	Rebecca McGowan	1993-2009
Kenneth M. Stevens	1948-1955	Andrea Fischer Newman	1995-2018
Murray D. Van Wagoner	1951	Daniel D. Horning	1995-2003
Leland I. Doan	1952-1959	Olivia P. Maynard	1997-2012
Paul L. Adams ¹⁹	1956-1957	S. Martin Taylor	1997-2012
Eugene B. Power ²⁰	1956-1966	David A. Brandon	1999-2006
Donald M. D. Thurber	1958-1963	Katherine E. White	1999-
Carl Brablec	1958-1967	Andrew C. Richner	2003-2018
Irene Ellis Murphy	1958-1967	Julia Donovan Darlow	2007-2014
William K. McNally ²¹	1960-1964	Denise Ilitch	2009-
Frederick C. Matthaei Sr. ²²	1960-1967	Mark J. Bernstein	2013-
Paul G. Goebel	1962-1971	Shauna Ryder Diggs	2013-2020
Allan R. Sorenson ²³	1962-1967	Michael J. Behm	2015-
Robert P. Briggs ²⁴	1964-1968	Ron Weiser	2017-
William B. Cudlip	1964-1973	Jordan B. Acker	2019-
Alvin M. Bentley ²⁵	1966-1969	Paul W. Brown	2019-
Frederick C. Matthaei Jr.	1967-1969	Sarah Hubbard	2021-

¹ Originally established as the Catholepistemiad or University of Michigania by an act of the territorial legislature in 1817, the first governing board of the institution consisted of the president and didactors or professors appointed by the governor. See An Act to establish the Catholepistemiad, or University of Michigania (1817), Laws of the Territory of Michigan.

In 1821, the territorial legislature established the university in Detroit as The University of Michigan. The governing board became a board of 21 trustees, to serve at the pleasure of the legislature and whose vacancies were to be filled by the legislature. The members of this first board were appointed in the act. See An Act for the establishment of An University (1821). An 1831 amendment changed the manner in which the trustees were chosen, making them appointments by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the legislative council. See An Act to amend the several acts to provide for the establishment of the University of Michigan (1831), Laws of the Territory of Michigan.

Act IV of 1837 reorganized the government of The University of Michigan by vesting responsibility in a 12-member board of regents to be appointed by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate. The first members appointed under the provisions of Act No. IV were divided into classes of three, each class serving terms of one, two, three, and four years. A subsequent amendment provided for the appointment of three members for four-year terms beginning January 1, 1838. See Revised Statutes of 1838, title XI, ch. 2.

With the implementation of the Constitution of 1850, the post of regent became an elective one, with one regent elected in each judicial circuit for a term to be the same as that of a circuit judge. Public Act 25 of 1851 called for the first election of regents on the first Monday in April of 1851 and every sixth year thereafter. During this period, the size of the board ranged from eight to ten members.

In 1862, voters approved Joint Resolution No. 17, which reduced board membership to eight members beginning in 1863. To be elected at the same time as justices of the supreme court, two members first elected under this constitutional amendment each served terms of two, four, six, and eight years. Subsequently, voters elected two regents at each regular election for terms of eight years. Vacancies which occurred were filled by appointment of the governor.

The Constitution of 1908 did not change the composition or terms of the board; it merely called for the election of regents to occur at the regular biennial spring election, independently of elections for other state posts.

Implementation of the Constitution of 1963 resulted in the extension of the terms of the sitting board (Brablec, Murphy, McNally, Matthaei Sr., Goebel, Sorenson, Cudlip and E. Power) with the enactment of Act 23 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963. The first election of regents under the provisions of the Constitution of 1963 occurred at the November 1966 general election. See Public Act 5 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963.

² Deceased; succeeded by Arthur Hill June 10, 1901.

³ Resigned; succeeded by Levi L. Barbour June 20, 1902.

⁴ Deceased; succeeded by John H. Grant December 23, 1909.

⁵ Deceased; succeeded by Chase S. Osborn July 3, 1908.

⁶ Resigned; succeeded by Benjamin S. Hanchett April 3, 1911.

⁷ Deceased; succeeded by Richard R. Smith May 11, 1931.

⁸ Resigned; succeeded by Lucius L. Hubbard January 11, 1911.

⁹ Deceased; succeeded by William A. Comstock February 14, 1913.

¹⁰ Resigned; succeeded by Harry C. Bulkley April 7, 1911.

¹¹ Resigned; succeeded by Esther March Cram November 1, 1929.

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN (*Cont.*)

¹² Resigned; succeeded by Edmund C. Shields January 11, 1933.

¹³ Resigned; succeeded by R. Spencer Bishop January 28, 1943.

¹⁴ Resigned; succeeded by James O. Murfin March 21, 1934.

¹⁵ Following the April 7, 1941, election at which voters elected Burhans to the Board of Regents, third-place finisher Franklin M. Cook sought to oust Burhans from the office, on the grounds that Burhans had no legal right to the seat. Burhans, who at the time of his election to the Board of Regents held the office of state senator from the 8th district, answered that the board office was his by right of a valid election. The secretary of state certified the election of Burhans and the other winning candidate, and Burhans had filed his oath as a regent and acted in that capacity. Cook asked the court to oust Burhans and to rule that he was the regent.

Citing the provisions of Const. 1908, art. V, §7, and a previous decision, the Michigan Supreme Court held that Burhans was not a regent of the University of Michigan because every vote cast for him was void. The constitutional provisions and case law the court cited prohibited a member of the legislature from receiving any civil or elected appointment during the term for which the member was elected. The court also dismissed Burhans' contention that the regents were not state officers, but only officers of a corporate body known as the board of regents of the university. In dismissing the claim, the court again cited its previous decisions establishing the Board of Regents as a department of the state, created by the constitution to perform state functions.

Stating, "Defendant is a usurper in the office of regent . . . this ouster creates a vacancy in the office of regent," the court ousted Burhans on December 23, 1942. The court did, however, disagree on the means of filling the vacancy. The governor resolved the issue by appointing Franklin M. Cook to succeed Burhans on December 24, 1942. See *Attorney General, ex rel Cook v Burhans*, 304 Mich. 108 (1941).

¹⁶ Deceased; succeeded by Vera Burrige Baits May 21, 1943.

¹⁷ Deceased; succeeded by Roscoe O. Bonisteel, Sr. November 2, 1946.

¹⁸ Resigned; succeeded by Murray D. Van Wagoner January 24, 1951.

¹⁹ Resigned to become Michigan attorney general; succeeded by Donald M. D. Thurber January 4, 1958.

²⁰ Resigned; succeeded by Alvin M. Bentley April 4, 1966.

²¹ Deceased; succeeded by Robert P. Briggs November 10, 1964.

²² Resigned; succeeded by Frederick C. Matthaei, Jr. June 12, 1967.

²³ Resigned; succeeded by Otis M. Smith March 7, 1967.

²⁴ Resigned; succeeded by Lawrence B. Lindemer May 15, 1968.

²⁵ Deceased; succeeded by Lawrence B. Lindemer April 23, 1969.

²⁶ First members elected under Constitution of 1963; Public Act 5 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963; Public Act 23 of the 2nd Extra Session of 1963.

²⁷ Resigned; succeeded by David Laro June 3, 1975.

²⁸ Deceased; succeeded by Philip H. Power June 17, 1987.

Sources: Archives, *Michigan Department of State Record of Civil Officers, 1835-1962*; Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan; 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; *Laus of Michigan*; *Laus of the Territory of Michigan*; *Michigan Reports, Volume 304*; *Public and Local Acts of Michigan*; and *Revised Statutes of 1846*.