



NEWS RELEASE

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DAVENPORT UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT INTRODUCES NEW VISION, FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Dr. Richard J. Pappas unveils vision for quality with investiture address

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., March 31, 2010 – Davenport University is holding an Investiture ceremony today for the university's president, Richard J. Pappas, Ed.D. More than 800 students, faculty and staff will be in attendance along with legislators, community and business leaders, and presidents of colleges and universities from across the state. Dr. Pappas will unveil his "Vision 2015" for Davenport University and also speak to the university's recently finalized five-year strategic plan.

An academic procession consisting of more than 150 faculty and staff members in full regalia will open the ceremony. Speakers include U.S. Congressmen Vernon J. Ehlers and Peter Hoekstra, former Grand Rapids Community College President Dr. Juan Olivarez, and President and CEO of Wolverine World Wide, Blake Krueger, as well as a faculty member and student.

Dr. Pappas will speak about how Davenport University is leveraging past and present achievements to create a bold vision and strategic plan that carves out a new place for the university five years from now. In 2015, Davenport University will be a premier university in Michigan, through relentless drive and desire to create and exceed benchmarks for quality.

"We have tremendous confidence in Dr. Pappas leading Davenport University," said Kenneth C. Bovee, chairman of Davenport's Board of Trustees. "We believe he can successfully leverage that rare combination of educational experience, entrepreneurial spirit and business sense to move Davenport to the next level."

Since Dr. Pappas started in August of 2009, the university has spent several months in a collaborative effort to develop a vision and strategic plan, aimed at guiding and achieving quality objectives. A series of forums and town hall meetings held on

campuses across the state incorporated feedback from students, faculty and staff. This vision, recently validated by the university's Board of Trustees, received approval marks from 99 percent of internal constituents.

According to Vision 2015, over the next five years Davenport will implement a number of initiatives aimed at enhancing quality, including earning accreditation through the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and positioning the institution to compete for the Baldrige National Quality Award.

About Davenport University

Davenport University – the only West Michigan-based private university specializing in business, technology and health professions – serves an enrollment of approximately 12,000 students at its W. A. Lettinga Campus in Grand Rapids, at campuses throughout Michigan and online. Davenport focuses on innovative, practical and affordable education and offers graduate and undergraduate programs. More information is available at www.davenport.edu.

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