

**PROCLAMATION TO CELEBRATE  
WALSH COLLEGE  
100 YEARS – 1922 - 2022**

**WHEREAS**, Mervyn Walsh left his job as Thomas Edison’s accountant to buy a franchise to teach the Pace Method of Accounting. He opened the Walsh Institute in Detroit’s Capitol Theater on September 18, 1922. He knew that he could prepare students for successful careers by combining academic excellence with real world experience. Twenty-three students enrolled and tuition was \$60; and

**WHEREAS**, Edgar Wheeler became the first graduate of Walsh Institute in 1926. In 1928, enrollment reached 286 students, and seven graduates organized the Walsh Institute Alumni Association. Alumna Grace Dimmer became Michigan’s first woman to earn the CPA designation in 1930; and

**WHEREAS**, Walsh Institute marked its 25th anniversary in 1947 and enrollment reached 1,508, in large part due to the GI Bill of Rights. In 1965, William C. Stewart became the Institute’s president on the retirement of Mervyn Walsh. Walsh trustees determined that the Walsh Institute would change its educational charter by having its own building, offering an accounting curriculum approved by the State Board of Accountancy, and receiving State Board of Education approval; and

**WHEREAS**, Walsh Institute was renamed Walsh College of Accountancy and Business Administration, an upper-division college offering coursework for juniors and seniors who have finished two years at community colleges and four-year institutions. Walsh purchased 20 acres of farmland from Morris Wattles for a new location in Troy and in 1969 ground was broken for a new 10,000-square-foot location in Troy which opened in 1970; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1974, Walsh offers its first graduate degree: a Master of Science in Taxation. A 7,400 square-foot addition to the Troy location triples the size of the library and adds two lecture halls, a bookstore, and a student lounge. A 4.2 million addition to the Troy location is completed in 1990 and includes a cafeteria, computer lab, and faculty and administrative space. In 1998, Walsh opens the location in Novi, launches an MBA degree, and offers its first online courses; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2006, a Doctor of Management in Executive Leadership, the first doctoral degree, is offered and they broke ground for a 36,000-square-foot, two-story addition named for Walsh President Emeritus Jeffery Barry. In 2013, an award-winning, 1,400-square-foot Finance Lab opens for students, with 12 Bloomberg terminals, large flat-screen televisions tuned to market and financial reports, and breakout rooms where students can examine current market conditions, trends, and discuss future projections. Walsh holds its 100th Commencement Ceremony; and

**WHEREAS**, Six of the graduate degree programs at Walsh College in Troy have been recognized nationally by *onlinemastersdegrees.org* including a No. 1 online nationwide ranking for its Master of Science in Data Analytics program. Other honors include: Master of Science in Taxation, No. 3 online nationwide; Master of Business Administration, No. 6 online in Michigan; Master of Marketing, No. 15 online nationwide, No. 13 most affordable online nationwide; Master of Science in Information Technology, No. 18 online nationwide; and Master of Science in Finance, No. 20 online nationwide;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Mayor and City Council of the City of Troy hereby congratulate **Walsh College on their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary** and commend it’s nine presidents: Mervyn Walsh, William C. Stewart, Jeffery W. Barry, David A. Spencer, Keith A. Pretty, Stephanie W. Bergeron, Marsha Kelliher, Michael Levens, and Suzy Siegle for their leadership and dedication; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Mayor, City Council and City Management join the citizens of this community in celebration of the **100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Walsh College** and the quality and value of their degree programs, dedication of their faculty, staff, and students, who work hard every day to make a positive impact in the world and look forward to it being part of Troy for many more years to come.

**Presented this 10<sup>th</sup> Day of April 2023**