

## Wayne State University Board of Governors

### 8 Candidates for TWO Seats

**Duties:** The Wayne State University Board of Governors has eight members and has general supervision of the university and the control and direction of all expenditures from the institution's funds. The board shall elect a university president who shall be the principal executive officer.

**Term:** 8 years **Vote for up to TWO (2) candidates.**

#### DIANE DUNAKISS, Republican



**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/DunaskissForWSU/>

**Occupation / Current Position:** Public School Educator, Retired Small Business Owner

**Education:** BA Elementary Education - Wayne State University; MA Reading & Special Education - Oakland University; Educational Administration - Wayne State University

#### Questions:

**1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the University Board and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?**

**A:** As a graduate of Wayne State I ran for the Board of Governors because of my desire to give back through public service. I have been elected and have served three terms on the board and have held the offices of Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair and I am currently the Chair the Academic Affairs Committee. As a former public school teacher and administrator and a small business owner I bring extensive knowledge of best practices in teaching and a solid understanding of sound fiscal policies. My political background and relationships with elected officials make me a strong advocate to secure adequate state funding.

**2. What recommendations would you propose to make university attendance more affordable and reduce the burden of student financial debt?**

**A:** Wayne has consistently maintained the lowest tuition rates of the three major research universities in the state. It is critical that we strengthen our relationships with our legislators to secure adequate state funding to help reduce the burden on families. We must be strategic in our spending by concentrating on student success. By focusing on academic achievement, our students can graduate in four years, thereby incurring less debt and entering the job market as soon as possible. Encouraging students to utilize the dual enrollment and offering courses in a digital format can further reduce costs to students.

**3. What are the two most pressing issues facing this university today and what is your position on those issues?**

**A:** Continuing to attract students to Wayne by engaging in strategic funding to increase student achievement is the highest priority. We must promote continued excellence in teaching and remove barriers to graduation by closely monitoring and revising curriculum, and providing academic support. I have been a strong advocate for our "Finish in Four" initiative to encourage students to complete their degrees in four years. Sustaining our position as a preeminent, Carnegie I research institution is vital to the university, to our urban health initiatives and to our students who engage in research.

#### DAVID NICHOLSON, Republican



**Website:** <https://bog.wayne.edu/members/nicholson>

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/NicholsonForWSU/>

**Occupation / Current Position:** President and CEO PVS Chemicals, Inc.

**Education:** BA in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin - Madison 1992; MBA - Strategy/Finance from the University of Chicago 1997

#### Questions:

**1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the University Board and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?**

**A:** In 2014 I was appointed to the board by Gov. Snyder and I've been vigilant in my commitment to the students, staff and alumni. In 1999, I joined the family business at PVS Chemicals, Inc. as CEO of manufacturing assets, recently I was elected to President/CEO. WSU plays a fundamental role in the success of Detroit and vice-versa. My business background, local Detroit roots and my political connections have yielded tremendous results for WSU Warriors thus far through effective advocacy and creating partnership opportunities to develop a stronger, smarter and safer community.

**2. What recommendations would you propose to make university attendance more affordable and reduce the burden of student financial debt?**

**A:** My recommendations would align very closely with the views our WSU President has on this very important topic. Strategic spending focused on student achievement will help to encourage students to finish in four years instead of six years and incur less debt. Additionally, by utilizing my political network and strong relationships with elected officials in the Michigan Legislature I can effectively ensure that WSU fully secures adequate state funding wherever possible to help create more affordable opportunities.

**3. What are the two most pressing issues facing this university today and what is your position on those issues?**

**A:** Improving the budget process, increasing public safety, campus wide WIFI upgrades and continued improvement in graduation rates by implementing research driven strategies and programs to increase achievement. Developing innovative academic programs and business collaborations that will thrive in Detroit based markets to benefit the entire state. Additionally, the creation of a centralized community engagement database is a priority. Strategic financial planning will also put WSU on the map as an economic powerhouse and prompt the creation of better paying, high quality jobs for Michigan's future.

**BRYAN C BARNHILL, Democrat**  
**Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**

**ANIL KUMAR, Democrat**



**Website:** <https://www.kumarforwaynestate.com/>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/DrKumarMichigan](https://twitter.com/DrKumarMichigan)

**Occupation / Current Position:** Urologist, Asst. Clinical Professor- MSU President - Michigan United Physicians,

**Education:** Bachelor of Medicine- University of Bombay Resident - Wayne State University

**Questions:**

**1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the University Board and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?**

**A:** Academically, I have been a lifelong teacher. I am a clinical assistant professor for Michigan State University residency program. I have been chief of staff North Oakland Medical Center, Chairman of the Board of Doctor's Hospital, Chief of Surgery at Crittenton Hospital, and Board Member of Oakland County Medical Society. Politically, I have been a candidate for the 11th district US Congress position and I am active in the Michigan Democrat party. As a businessman, I am president of Michigan United Physicians and CEO of a surgical center. My wife, both children and I are all Wayne State Graduates.

**2. What recommendations would you propose to make university attendance more affordable and reduce the burden of student financial debt?**

**A:** This approach is 3 pronged. My first recommendation is to politically maneuver better funding from the state. Currently WSU is the least financially supported amongst the 3 main universities. We have a promising future with great programs in place. My second recommendation is to increase the endowments and alumni donations which could be used to offset financial difficulty of students by increasing scholarships and student financial aid. Thirdly, holding administration accountable to excessive expenses toward administrative costs. Thereby, decreasing expense which can be translated to lower tuition fees.

**3. What are the two most pressing issues facing this university today and what is your position on those issues?**

**A:** One of the most pressing issues is promotion of programs. This can be achieved through better funding. With this funding, we would have an opportunity to provide for our local community and attract students across the state who are seeking higher education. The second issue is retention of students to complete their graduation. I believe that we need to have our students actively involved in their education and pursuing opportunities that offer them chances to apply classroom curriculum. I would encourage participation by our local community. Local businesses can offer internships to help keep students engaged!

## JON ELGAS, Libertarian



**Website:** [www.facebook.com/jon.elgas?ref=br\\_rs](http://www.facebook.com/jon.elgas?ref=br_rs)

**Facebook:** [http://www.facebook.com/jon.elgas?ref=br\\_rs](http://www.facebook.com/jon.elgas?ref=br_rs)

**Occupation / Current Position:** Tester at Refrigeration Reserch

**Education:** BBA from Saginw Valley State University

Questions:

**1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the University Board and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?**

**A:** Since I don't have an education degree, I believe that this will help be bring main street solutions to the leadership of Wayne State University. I will also post when/where Board Meetings are taking place, as well as how I voted with an explanation both on my Facebook page. I want to be known as someone who is transparent and as someone with integrity both are qualities that are needed in every elected postion.

**2. What recommendations would you propose to make university attendance more affordable and reduce the burden of student financial debt?**

**A:** First, I would like to have a special tuition rate for people who live in the city of Detroit. Second, I believe having a trade school at Wayne State will be most helpful. By doing this it would allow students into Wayne State, while spending less cash. Third, I believe that students who know what they want their major to be should have the ability to skip the general studies that most collages require, and go into the classes that are required for the major. This would be the most effective way to reduce to the costs of collage.

**3. What are the two most pressing issues facing this university today and what is your position on those issues?**

**A:** 1) College costs I believe that students who know what they want their major to be should have the ability to skip the general studies that most collages require, and go into the classes that are required for the major. This would be the most effective way to reduce to the costs of collage. 2) Since Wayne State is in the city of Detroit, the view of Detroit has an effect on the perspective of Wayne State. Depending on the feasibility, I would like to see the Main campus stay in Detroit, while having secondary campuss in other counties of the State.

## JOHN T HARGENRADER, Libertarian



**Website:** [www.johnhargenrader.org](http://www.johnhargenrader.org)

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/JohnHargenrader](https://twitter.com/JohnHargenrader)

**Occupation / Current Position:** Product Applications Engineer

**Education:** B.S.E.E. Catholic University of America

Questions:

**1. Describe your qualifications and experience for the University Board and explain your reasons for running. How would you be an asset?**

**A:** I have experience with campus life, residence halls, tuition costs, and financial planning for college. I have 5 children so far that have attained Masters or PhD level education. I have written articles, including one for the Center for Michigan Studies on the School Aid Fund. I am keenly aware of the Endowment means used by Universities for long term fiscal stability.

**2. What recommendations would you propose to make university attendance more affordable and reduce the burden of student financial debt?**

**A:** The Endowment for Wayne State must be drawn upon in a manner similar to personal IRA's. The total fund must have economic entropy, that assures the funds are used for the good of the Campus community over a reasonable period of time. The concept of Endowments being managed to live in perpetuity defeats the purpose of charity. Endowments must be not become so large that fiscal preservation of Endowment Assets takes precedent over the current and near term mission of the University. Endowments should be used to lower tuition specifically, and to maintain the highest level of academic excellence.

**3. What are the two most pressing issues facing this university today and what is your position on those issues?**

**A:** 1) Campus Security, in the face of the economic condition of the surrounding Detroit community is key to a positive Campus Life. The Drug and Alcohol culture on college campuses must not be allowed to interfere with the ability of serious academics. Wayne State must be a place where students of integrity are drawn, to meet goals of personal excellence. 2) As one of three Research Institutes protected within the Michigan Constitution, and taxpayer funded, Wayne State has an obligation to Michigan taxpayers to maintain diversity, with priority on admissions given to Michigan Residents.

**CHRISTINE C SCHWARTZ, U.S. Taxpayers**

**Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**

**MARC JOSEPH SOSNOWSKI, U.S. Taxpayers**

**Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**