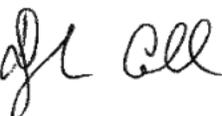


30 October 2024

FR: Douglas Call, Regents Professor



TO: Honorary Doctoral Degree Committee

RE: Nomination for honorary degree

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I am nominating [REDACTED] to be a recipient of a WSU Honorary Doctoral Degree. Dr. [REDACTED] is the first woman astronaut from Washington State. She was born and raised in eastern Washington (1949) where she faced significant discouragement about pursuing higher education, not to mention engineering. Hers is a compelling story of navigating multiple barriers to eventually earn a B.S. and M.S. in engineering at the University of Washington (1971 and 1976, respectively).

In 1980, Dr. [REDACTED] completed astronaut training and became a NASA astronaut in 1981. Dr. [REDACTED] went on to earn her doctorate in mechanical/biomedical engineering in 1983 (University of Houston) and she flew five missions on the space shuttle between 1984 and 1998. She eventually became the president and chief executive officer of the Museum of Flight in Seattle, founded an aerospace scholars program, and an online distance learning program for high schools in Washington State. The STEM programs at the museum eventually reached 140,000 students annually under her leadership. Subsequent career moves included leading the University of Houston's STEM Center, and eventually settling at the Dwight Look College of Engineering at Texas A&M University.

I do not have a formal CV for Dr. [REDACTED], but her website lists multiple significant accolades ranging from membership in the National Academy of Engineering (2002), to being the recipient of the AAAS Sigma XI Scientific Research Honor Society John P. McGovern Medal (2020).

Dr. [REDACTED] life story and contributions are compelling and inspirational. She circumvented significant obstacles in her career path, demonstrating courage and tenacity that seems breathtaking today. I submit that Dr. [REDACTED] is an ideal candidate for the honorary degree, while having the added benefit of highlighting an incredible trailblazer from eastern Washington.



**Professor, Aerospace Engineering**

**John & Bea Slattery Chair**

**Director, Aerospace Human Systems Laboratory**

**Member, National Academy of Engineering**

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## **Educational Background**

- Ph.D., Mechanical/Biomedical Engineering, University of Houston - 1983
- M.S., Ceramic Engineering, University of Washington - 1976
- B.S., Ceramic Engineering, University of Washington - 1971

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## **Research Interests**

- Microgravity and Partial g Fluid Physics

- Digital Human Modeling
  - Extravehicular Activity (EVA) Spacesuit System Design
  - Space Systems Engineering
  - Engineering Education
- 

## Awards & Honors

- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Sigma Xi Scientific Research Honor Society John P. McGovern Medal - 2020
- Non-Resident Fellow, Rice University's Baker Institute of Public Policy, for Space Policy - 2019
- George R. Stibitz Computer and Communications Award - 2018
- Edward O. Wilson Biodiversity Technology Pioneer Award - 2018
- President, Association of Space Explorers (ASE) - 2016-2018
- Elected to Omega Alpha Association, International Honor Society for Systems Engineering (INCOSE) - 2016
- Elected to Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF) Astronaut Hall of Fame - 2013
- American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES): Norm Augustine Award For Outstanding Achievement in Engineering Communications - 2011
- American Association of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Ralph Roe Award (Lifetime Achievement) - 2009
- Elected Fellow, Royal Aeronautical Society (FRAes) - 2006
- Elected Fellow, American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) - 2006

- Elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) - 2002
  - Elected Fellow, Royal Society of Edinburgh (CorrFRSE) - 2001
  - NASA Fellow, Senior Managers in Government, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University - 2001
  - Elected Fellow, American Ceramic Society (ACerS) - 1993
- 

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**Maps & Directions**

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