



Michigan Tech

Michigan Technological University Board of Trustees Meeting

December 17, 2021

Prepared by:

Richard J. Koubek, President

Chair, Members of the Board and audience members. Thank you for joining us this morning. I echo Chairman Littmann's comments related to the tragedies affecting our region. To the members in our campus community directly affected--our thoughts are with you.

On the eve of our graduation celebration, I would like to personally congratulate the 345 graduates who will receive their Michigan Tech diplomas. I would also like to recognize the many faculty, staff, family and friends who helped to make the occasion possible.

Graduation is the culmination of many years of hard work and sacrifice and we are indeed honored to be a partner in their success.

As we celebrate the graduating class of 2021 at tomorrow's commencement exercises, we are reminded of how hard work and dedication pays off.



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Especially for students like Caleb Grulke, an engineering management major in the College of Business, who earned the prestigious honor of being the number-one ranked Army ROTC cadet in the nation. I believe Caleb is here with us today. Caleb, would you please stand so that we can recognize you and your accomplishments?

Also, Laura De Marchi, a biomedical and electrical engineering major, was recognized by the American Volleyball Coaches Association as the Midwest Region Player of the Year and Anna Jonynas, an chemical engineering student, who won the GLIAC Player of the Year award. Additionally, two Michigan Tech graduate students were honored by The Institute of Noise Control Engineering. Sunit Girdhar, doctoral student in mechanical engineering-engineering mechanics, won both the inaugural INCE Student Scholarship and the Martin Hirschorn IAC Prize – Student Project. Steven Whitaker, an electrical and computer engineering graduate student, received the 2021 Leo Beranek Student Medal for Excellence in Noise Control.

And, a group of Michigan Tech students received the 2021 American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) Student Chapter of the Year Award.

Not only do these students exhibit an unequivocal commitment in the classroom, but their leadership and tenacity permeates everything they do.



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It is characteristics like this that our students hone and refine during their time at Michigan Tech. And, this is what sets them apart from their peers after graduation.

As evidenced by the success of tomorrow's graduation speaker, Mike Pulick. Mike is a 1986 Electrical Engineering graduate who had an illustrious career as president of Grainger International. We are delighted to welcome him back to campus and are thankful for his continued support of Michigan Tech.

As we bid farewell to our graduates tomorrow, let me again say congratulations. We can't wait to see the impact they will have on the world with their degree from Michigan Tech.

And, to all of you this holiday season...may all good things come your way.



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