

BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

1. Agenda Item Title: UNR Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to
Jennifer and Phil Satre

Meeting Date: March 5-6, 2015

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

The University of Nevada, Reno is pleased to nominate philanthropists, community advocates and champions of higher education Jennifer and Phil Satre for Honorary Doctorates of Letters in proud recognition of their significant contributions to the University and the state of Nevada.

The Satres have been longtime supporters of the University through their gifts of time, talent and treasure. The couple's philanthropy has touched every corner of campus, including gifts to the College of Education, the University of Nevada School of Medicine, the Davidson Mathematics and Science Center, the School of the Arts, the College of Business and Wolf Pack Athletics.

Jennifer grew up in Madera, Calif., and graduated from Stanford University in 1971, where she met and later married her college sweetheart, Phil. She earned her teaching credential from UC Berkeley and taught second and third grades in California before moving to Reno with her husband in 1975. She taught at Peavine Elementary School for seven years and received her master's degree in education from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1980.

Proud of her status as a Nevada alumna, Jennifer served three terms on the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Board of Trustees from 2001-06, was board chair in 2006 and became a trustee emerita in 2007. She was named University of Nevada Alumni Association Alumna of the Year in 2006. She is a trustee and immediate past chair of the Community Foundation of Western Nevada, serves as a trustee of Nevada Humanities and is on the Renown Community Advisory Committee. She was a founding board member and past chair of the Nevada Women's Fund and received the Nevada Women's Fund Hall of Fame Award in 2008.

A native of Martinez, Calif., Phil graduated from Stanford in 1971, earned a law degree from UC Davis and attended the senior executive development program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management. He joined Harrah's Entertainment Inc. in 1980, and retired as chairman and CEO in 2005. He currently serves as the chairman of the board of directors for both International Game Technology and NV Energy.

Phil has served as a trusted advisor to University of Nevada, Reno presidents and has served on numerous committees for the University and the Nevada System of Higher Education. In 1989, he was named a Distinguished Nevadan by the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents. In 1990, he was awarded the inaugural Robert L.

Custer Award from the National Council on Problem Gambling, Inc., for Harrah's leadership role on the issue of problem gambling. In 1995, he was selected best chief executive in the casino and hotel industries by *The Wall Street Journal*. The Philip G. Satre Chair in Gaming Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno College of Business was established in his honor following his retirement from Harrah's. Monetary gifts were made by the company, its executives and members of the Reno and Las Vegas communities.

The couple, married since 1973, has four adult children: Malena, Allison, Jessica and Peter.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

President Marc Johnson requests approval for Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to be awarded from the University of Nevada, Reno to Jennifer and Phil Satre.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

After years of Phil and Jennifer Satre being involved in various University of Nevada, Reno philanthropy, advocacy, service, and support, it is appropriate to acknowledge their work and commitment.

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- Honorary degrees may be awarded to person who have made significant contributions to the improvement of the quality of academic programs and academic life at the University of Nevada, Reno.
- Jennifer and Phil Satre, through their philanthropy, advocacy, service and support, have made significant contributions to the improvement of the quality of both the academic programs and academic life at the University.

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

There may be other individuals who need to be honored at this time.

7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

Consider this request at another time.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

☐ Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Amends Current Board Policy: Title #___ Chapter #___ Section #___
<input type="checkbox"/> Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #___ Section #___
xOther:___Procedures & Guidelines Manual Chapter 8 section _2_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal Impact: Yes___ No__x__
Explain: _____



Honorary Degree

Nomination Form

1. Degree to be Awarded:

☒ Honorary Doctorate ☐ Honorary Baccalaureate ☐ Honorary Associate

2. Please state the name and address of your nominee for an Honorary Degree.

Jennifer and Phil Satre

3. Honorary degrees shall be awarded to persons who have made significant contributions to the improvement of the quality of academic programs and academic life at one of the NSHE's institutions. Persons currently holding public elected office are not eligible for the degree except in extraordinary circumstances.

What are your reasons for nominating this person? (Attach additional pages, if necessary.)

Please see attachment

Dr. Marc Johnson January 20, 2015
President Date

University of Nevada, Reno
Institution

(B/R 3/03; Added 6/05)