



**MURRAY STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**  
**Alumni Association**

**Murray State University Alumni Association**  
**Board of Governors**

*Resolution supporting the creation of a  
School of Veterinary Medicine at  
Murray State University*

**Submitted December 18, 2024**

## RESOLUTION

**Whereas**, the Murray State University Alumni Association (MSUAA) was founded in 1926 to ensure that alumni from the institution had a body through which they could stay connected with their alma mater in order to support the University's proud tradition of providing quality education and serving as an economic driver for the state and region; and

**Whereas**, the MSUAA serves as a vital link between Murray State University and its over 80,000 alumni worldwide, more than half of whom live in the state of Kentucky, fostering a sense of community, lifelong connection and mutual support, while also providing a conduit for Murray State's alumni to advocate on behalf of the University at all appropriate levels of government; and

**Whereas**, since its founding, the work of the MSUAA has been guided by the Alumni Association Board of Governors, a diverse group of Murray State alumni from throughout the region nominated by their peers who have a passion for the success of their alma mater, and who give of their time and resources generously to support the University's mission, vision and strategic plan.

**Whereas**, the MSUAA Board of Governors acknowledges the essential role of veterinary medicine in promoting animal health, ensuring food safety, and supporting agricultural and commercial industries both within the region and beyond; and

**Whereas**, the creation of a School of Veterinary Medicine at Murray State University will play a pivotal role in meeting the growing demand for skilled veterinarians, particularly large animal veterinarians, while enhancing the university's stature as a leading institution of higher education; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Governors recognizes the strategic importance of advancing initiatives that contribute to the growth of Murray State University and enhance the welfare of the entire quad-state region; and

**Whereas**, the Commonwealth of Kentucky currently lacks a School of Veterinary Medicine and allocated \$5.6 million for Fiscal Years 2023–2024 and 2024–2025 to fund 168 veterinary student placements at out-of-state institutions; and

**Whereas**, there are currently only 32 veterinary colleges in the United States accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), and statistics from the AVMA indicate that there are approximately 86,000 practicing veterinarians nationwide; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Governors acknowledges the significant positive impact that such an institution would have on the region's agricultural and animal-related industries, fostering economic growth, job creation, and advancements in animal care practices;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved,** that the Board of Governors fully supports and endorses the establishment of a School of Veterinary Medicine at Murray State University; and

**Be it further resolved,** that the Board of Governors will encourage all alumni to actively engage in advocacy and collaborative efforts to promote the successful realization of this project; and

**Be it further resolved,** that the Board of Governors urges local, state, and federal authorities, as well as stakeholders in the education sector, to collaborate in facilitating the necessary actions for the development of the School of Veterinary Medicine at Murray State University, including securing funding, obtaining accreditation and statutory authority to offer doctorates in veterinary medicine, and garnering community support;

**Be it finally resolved,** that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to relevant government officials, educational institutions, and other stakeholders to formally convey the Board of Governors' endorsement of this initiative.

Scott Grant, CPA ('07, '09)

Board President

Director of Accounting - SGS & Co.

Louisville, KY



Josh Tubbs ('04, '06)

Board Member

Government Relations Specialist - TVA

Benton, KY



Brian Edwards ('06)

Board Member

Agency President - Assured Partners

Murray, KY



Carrie McGinnis ('20)

Alumni Relations Director

Murray State University

Murray, KY



The aforementioned signees were designated by the Murray State University Alumni Association Board of Governors to serve as the draft committee for this resolution. The MSUAA Board of Governors also includes the following members:

- Bret Cude ('81) - MSUAA Board of Governors Immediate Past President, Gilbertsville, KY - Senior Farm Manager/Real Estate Broker, Farmers National Company
- Jennifer Cline ('97) - MSUAA Board of Governors President-elect, Murray, KY - Associate Director of Marketing and Communications, Murray State University
- Geco Ross ('08, '15) - MSUAA Board of Governors Vice President, Paducah, KY - Principal, Paducah Independent School District
- Tab Brockman ('81) - Paducah, KY – Consultant, Pinnacle Sports; Owner/Founder, Playmaker Consulting, LLC
- F. Keith Brown ('81) - Shepherdsville, KY - Senior Associate Attorney, Pike Legal Group
- Pamela Stocks Butler ('79, '81) - Lorton, VA - Retired Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
- Betty Baker-Clayton ('84, '08, '10) - Cadiz, KY - Microbiology Supervisor, Jennie Stuart Medical Center
- Jessica Crockett ('06) - Lexington, KY - Attorney, Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services
- Amber DuVentre ('06, '09) - Nashville, TN – Healthcare Risk Manager, Meharry Medical College
- Ashley Stevenson-Joiner ('05, '13) - Cadiz, KY - Park Manager, Lake Barkley State Resort Park
- Jeffrey Liles ('90) - Murray, KY - Retired Chief of Police, City of Murray
- David Moss ('01, '10) - Madisonville, KY - Band Director, Hopkins County Board of Education
- Gayle Rogers ('10, '15) - Murray, KY - Murray State University Instructor, First Lady of the City of Murray
- Derek Somerville ('98) - Murray, KY - CEO, Sierra Partners Consulting, LLC
- Travis Taylor ('11) - Paducah, KY - Financial Advisor/Vice President-Investments, Wells Fargo Advisors
- Alyson Van Hooser ('10) - Princeton, KY - President/CEO, Van Hooser Associates, Inc.