

this month



@wayne state

Upcoming Events for Wayne State Alumni

## Special Election Issue: *Board of Governors*

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### A Closer Look at the Board of Governors Candidates

The Wayne State University Alumni Association invited candidates for the Wayne State Board of Governors to provide a statement of their candidacy and a link to their Web site for inclusion in this special election issue of *@ Wayne State*. The candidates who returned the information are profiled below. The statements appear exactly as they were submitted.

The election for the Board of Governors, the eight-member governing body of the university, is Nov. 7. Each Governor holds an eight-year term. Voters will choose two Governors this year.

Members of the Board of Governors serve without compensation. They have general supervision of Wayne State University as well as the control and direction of all expenditures from university funds. The Board of Governors also sets tuition and fees and confers degrees, among other duties. More information is available on the Board of Governors Web site, [www.bog.wayne.edu](http://www.bog.wayne.edu).

Please take a moment to acquaint yourself with the Board of Governors candidates and remember to vote Nov. 7.

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### John Akouri Republican

[http://akouri.blogspot.com/2002\\_12\\_29\\_akouri\\_archive.html](http://akouri.blogspot.com/2002_12_29_akouri_archive.html)

A native of Detroit, former Congressional Press Secretary, Award-winning TV personality and accomplished civic leader, John Akouri has made his mark in local, national and international affairs. At the US Capitol, in his capacity as spokesman and chief speechwriter, he worked with both the International & National press corps, also serving as a Senior Advisor assisting with legislative direction on major policy issues with a specific focus on Education. As creator and executive producer of "Window to Washington", he hosts the nationally award-winning television program cablecast in over 30 communities throughout Michigan. A city councilman in his hometown, he was the honored recipient of a Special Tribute and recognition by the Michigan Senate. An alumnus of Wayne State University's College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, and as a distinguished FOX-2 News Intern, his active involvement in public affairs span the course of the past two decades. Since the late 1980's, he has been a leader in government, media and business at the local, state and

national levels. A public affairs and government relations consultant who also heads several business ventures, he currently serves on the Madonna University Council for International Education and Department of Homeland Security Incident Management Team.

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## **Debbie Dingell** **Democrat**

[www.debbiedingell.com](http://www.debbiedingell.com)

I am running for the WSU Board of Governors because I believe in the importance of this institution and will fight to ensure that Wayne State continues its tradition of affordability, accessibility and excellence. As we work to diversify and strengthen the state's economy, it is imperative that we develop a more skilled workforce to recruit and fill the high-tech jobs critical for Michigan's future. I want to help safeguard WSU's future to assure a stronger Michigan. Serving on numerous boards and projects over the years has given me practical knowledge that can help Wayne State University. I added a tremendous amount to my knowledge about higher education as a Member of the Cherry Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth. My experience serving on the Karmanos Cancer Center Board, as well as in chairing Michigan's Infant Mortality Commission in the 90's taught me the value and importance of Wayne State Medical School. I will contribute to advancing Wayne not only because of my passion for education but also because of my commitment to the community as a whole. Please consider supporting me on November 7th! For more information visit my website at [www.debbiedingell.com](http://www.debbiedingell.com).

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## **Eugene Driker (incumbent)** **Democrat**

[www.eugenedriker.com](http://www.eugenedriker.com)

I am completing my first term on the Wayne State University Board of Governors and am seeking a second term at the November 7 election as a nominee of the Democratic Party. My involvement with Wayne State goes back more than 50 years as a student, parent of students, adjunct faculty member, active fundraiser, and, most recently, a member of its Board of Governors. I have worked hard on the Board to insure that WSU continues to provide a world-class, affordable university education to a very diverse student body. More than 200,000 citizens of Michigan who are Wayne State graduates know, as I do, how important this university is to our state. You can learn more about my service to the University and my reasons for seeking another term by going to my website: [www.eugenedriker.com](http://www.eugenedriker.com). I welcome your vote and ask that you encourage support for my candidacy from family, friends, colleagues and others who believe, as I do, that a strong, productive, and vibrant Wayne State University is essential to Michigan's future. Remember, this is a statewide office; every voter in Michigan may vote for this position.

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## **Margaret Guttshall**

## Green

[www.detroitgreens.org](http://www.detroitgreens.org)

Margaret Guttshall for Wayne State Board of Governors

Money for schools and universities, not for war. Hello. My name is Margaret Guttshall; I'm a graduate of Wayne State's Masters of Library Science program. I was lucky because I was able to attend, do the work, graduate and find a job. Lots of others don't have the resources to do so. I'm running because I think there is something we can do about this. We need to spend money on schools and universities, not on bombs to blow up the people of Iraq. Michiganders have spent \$8 billion on the war. Suppose we were able to spend that money here, to improve our lives and offer education at all levels to young, middle-aged, and elder people who want to learn and find better, more interesting jobs. The majority opposes the war; they want money for jobs, schools, healthcare, not for war. Let's build a movement that can make this happen. Voting for me and other Green Party candidates is a way to show your support to this. Money for Wayne State, not war. Margaret Guttshall and Michael Merriweather for WSU Board of Governors [www.detroitgreens.org](http://www.detroitgreens.org) [www.migreens.org](http://www.migreens.org)

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## Philip Johnson U.S. Taxpayers Party

(Did not submit information.)

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## Thomas W. Jones Libertarian

(No Web site submitted)

The growing political - social - economic rot is due to Anti-Democracy gerrymanders for electing the U.S. Congress and all State legislatures (along with at-large elections as for the 4 statewide education boards and the Detroit City Council). Extremist leftwing and rightwing special interest gang minorities nominate the gerrymander candidates who later win in about 95 plus percent 1 party \*safe\* districts and become powermad. Half the votes in half the gerrymander districts is about 25 percent Anti-Democracy minority rule.

Result - the pending collapse of the U.S. economy (due to national, state and local government tax/borrow(debt) - spend irrational schemes) due to such special interest gangs. Remedy - \*REAL\* Democracy via proportional representation (to get both majority rule and minority representation):  $\text{Party Seats} = \frac{\text{Party Votes} \times \text{Total Seats}}{\text{Total Votes}}$ . Other major rot - partisan elections for executive and judicial officers. Remedy - nonpartisan elections for all such officers using Approval Voting: Vote for 1 or more, highest wins. Other major rot - having a public education regime which totally lacks any productivity standards. Remedy - abolish all public education and make it private (and accountable).

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## Andrew G. McLemore Jr.

## Republican

(Did not submit information.)

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## Michael Merriweather Green

(Did not submit information.)

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## Bob Schubring Libertarian

Bob Schubring (L.A. 1980) is seeking election to the Board of Governors, to prepare Wayne for the challenges of the free society of tomorrow. A life member of the Libertarian Party, Bob challenges the idea that governments should "improve" society by force. Wayne accepts money from the taxpayers of Michigan to pay its bills, morally obligating it to educate any Michigan taxpayer who asks to be educated. The furor over racial preferences ignores that issue, by leaving nonracial biases in the admissions process untouched. Bob wants to streamline Wayne's admissions process, and improve minority graduation rates, by offering coursework over the Internet to high school students. Even the most advantaged students are shocked by the fast pace of university classes, and disadvantaged students are more shocked than most. Low-cost Web-based teaching will help bridge the gap from high school to Wayne, will make more-efficient use of campus space, and will allow students with a weak educational background a chance to prove they can keep up the pace, a chance unavailable anywhere else. In the past, Wayne excluded prospective students with weak academic credentials, to conserve classroom space. Technology offers another solution, that Bob wants Wayne to pioneer.

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## Tara C. Stegner Natural Law Party

(Did not submit information.)

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## Robert VanBemmelen U.S. Taxpayers Party

<http://rvanbem.spaces.live.com>

Providing higher education opportunities presents unique opportunities and challenges due to the need for cost containment, as well as ever decreasing public funding. Typically, cutting expenses means eliminating services. This may be a necessary choice in certain situations, but I believe a better long-term solution would be to improve the economic environment surrounding educational institutions. The primary goal of an institution of higher learning is to prepare students to become productive contributors in society's work force. Since a significant part of a public institution's funding comes from the state, I believe it is incumbent upon the university, the state and the work place to form an alliance that serves to promote one another. The goal would be a positive and progressive environment where businesses want to locate. Incoming businesses would create more jobs, which, in turn necessitates a work force to meet the demand. The resulting increase in revenue will support services in that state, the university being one of them. In summary, promoting the state through a collaborative effort results in more jobs, which increases revenue for services including state institutions, thus creating greater opportunities for individuals both at the university level and in the market place.

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## Join or Renew your Alumni Association Membership

It's a great time to be an alumni association member!

Join or renew your membership to the [Wayne State University Alumni Association](#) and take advantage of group discounts, travel opportunities, member-only communications and more. For a membership application, [click here](#) or call (313) 577-2300.

Here's a look at the [many benefits](#) of being an alumni association member:

- Free subscription to the award-winning [Wayne State magazine](#).
  - Free Wayne State application for you, your spouse or dependents (except for applications to the Law School or School of Medicine).
  - Free membership in your school/college/program or interest alumni group.
  - Leisure discounts for the Renaissance Center Marriott, Courtyard by Marriott, Choice hotels, Garland and Bird Creek golf clubs, and many others.
  - Waived initiation fees to the Skyline and Renaissance clubs.
  - Discounted membership to Wayne State's recreation and fitness center, and free use of the Matthaei Athletics Complex during recreation hours.
  - Discounts to the Bonstelle, Hilberry and other university venues, as well as 30 percent discount on books published by the Wayne State University Press.
  - Special alumni association OneCard with hundreds of discounts and access to a variety of campus services, such as the libraries, parking and bookstore. [Click here](#) for details.
  - Opportunities to travel at group rates with the alumni association.
  - Member-price admission for events featured in the alumni association's [special events newsletter](#).
  - Much, much more!
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Visit the Wayne State University Alumni Association Online!  
[www.alumni.wayne.edu](http://www.alumni.wayne.edu)



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