

Alfred University welcomes Trustees Cesari and Cohen, recognizes Meyer and Welter as Life Trustees
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ALFRED, NY – Alfred University announces the appointment of two new members to its Board of Trustees, while also confirming two long-time Board members as Life Trustees.

Russell Cesari '67 and Robert Cohen '59 were appointed Trustees, while Victoria Meyer '81 and Robert K. Welter Jr. '68 were confirmed Life Trustees. The appointments were made at the Board of Trustees meeting in May and became effective July 1.

Cesari earned a bachelor's degree in business and economics from Alfred University, where he was a member of the Klan Alpine fraternity, lettered in football and track, and was active in student government. He was the Honor Graduate at Army Engineer Officer Candidate School, obtaining the rank of Captain before returning to civilian life following a tour in Vietnam.

He received an MBA from Fairleigh-Dickinson University in 1980, magna cum laude, and spent 30 years as an IBM executive with positions including manager of Health Industry, regional manager of National Federal Marketing and unit manager for Technical Education, IBM Latin America. Following his tenure with IBM, he joined Northwest Financial Advisors in Herndon, VA, as principal and financial advisor, and has become recognized nationally as a leading financial consultant. He has been ranked the #1 Financial Institution Services (FIS) advisor with LPL Financial; was named to Bank Investment Consultant's (BIC) Top Bank Advisors lists; and earned the top spot on BIC's Top Bank Advisors list in 2018.

Cesari and his wife, Jo Ann reside in Annapolis, MD. They are the parents of three children; t

Cohen earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Alfred University, where he was a member of Kappa Nu fraternity. He attended law school at Fordham University where he was a member of the Law Review, earning his degree in 1962. A leading matrimonial lawyer, Cohen is currently a senior partner in the New York City firm of Cohen Clair Lans Greifer Thorpe & Rottenstreich LLP. He previously served as chairman and managing partner in the firm of Morrison Cohen LLP. He is a former JAG officer.

An adjunct professor of law at the University of Pennsylvania since 2003, Cohen is the author of the "anti-divorce book," Reconcilable Differences. Cohen was appointed by Governor Andrew Cuomo to be a member of the Judicial Screening Committee for the First Judicial Department in 2012. In 2016, Governor Cuomo named him Chairperson of the Screening Committee and also designated him as a member of the State Judicial Screening Committee. Since 2016, Cohen has served as chairperson of the Matrimonial Committee of the Supreme Court, New York County. He was appointed a Special Master in the Alternative Dispute Resolution Pilot Program in the Second Judicial Department in 2018.

Cohen has four sons. He and his wife, Stephanie Stiefel, reside in New York, NY. This is Cohen's second tenure on his alma mater's Board of Trustees. He also served from 1984-90.

"We are thrilled and honored to have Russ Cesari and Bob Cohen join our Board," said Mark Zupan, Alfred University president. "They have achieved considerable professional distinction and bring relevant and enviable expertise along with a consummate commitment to enhancing the visibility and impact of Alfred University when it comes to transforming student lives and bettering our world."

Meyer graduated from Alfred University, cum laude, in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in accounting and management and is a recently retired tax partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

She served an initial term on the Alfred University Board of Trustees from 1992-95 and was re-elected to the Board in

1999. Meyer holds the distinction of being the longest serving chair of the Board's Finance Committee, a position she held for 14 years, from 2001-15, when she stepped down to participate on the University's Presidential Search Committee. She also served as chair of the Audit Committee and was a member of the Enrollment Management, Executive, Finance, Human Resources, and University Advancement committees, as well as on the Trusteeship Subcommittee.

Meyer is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the New York State Society of CPAs, and is a CPA in New York. She resides in Skaneateles, NY.

Welter is a 1968 Alfred University alumnus, earning a bachelor's degree in finance. While at Alfred, he was a member of Klan Alpine fraternity and was active in track and lacrosse. He served an initial term on the Board of Trustees from 1993-96, and was re-elected to the Board in 1998, serving on the Audit, Facilities and Grounds, Finance and Student Affairs committees.

In 1984 Welter founded Data Graphics and serves as chief executive officer. Data Graphics evolved from R.K. Welter & Associates, a firm he started shortly after leaving Alfred in 1968 that manufactures labels, overlays and front panels for electronic equipment for large corporations and for military hardware. Welter and his wife, Melinda, reside in Port Orange, FL, and have three children.

"We are deeply grateful for the thoughtful counsel, passion for improvement, and generous philanthropic support that Vicki Meyer and Bob Welter have provided to our University during their many years of service on our Board," Zupan commented. "We look forward to their ongoing engagement and support now as Life Trustees."