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Walsh College president-CEO to retire

Stephanie Bergeron has been at the helm of the Troy-based school since January 2007

By **Chad Halcom**



Stephanie Bergeron

Stephanie Bergeron, president and CEO of Troy-based **Walsh College** since January 2007, is retiring from the post early next year.

Bergeron, 62, the sixth Walsh president since its inception in 1922, expects to remain in the position until early 2017, while the college convenes a national search for her successor.

"I am proud of my contributions to the educational legacy of Walsh College and to the community. We have made tremendous strides as a leading business college, which have contributed to the educational advancement of our students and in the economic growth of southeast Michigan," Bergeron said in a statement Wednesday. "I look forward to continuing my role at Walsh while a successor is selected and then creating new opportunities for personal growth and a little fun in the future."

Bergeron was previously interim president at Walsh, after predecessor Keith Pretty left in 2006 to be President-CEO at **Northwood University** in Midland.

During Bergeron's tenure, the college launched its "Driving Aspirations" campaign that raised more than \$5 million for scholarships, its Take Charge skills training workshop program in 2009-10 during the Great Recession, and its LaunchPad for aspiring student and alumni entrepreneurs.

The college also completed a a \$15 million, 18-month renovation to its original Troy campus building, which added a new student center, administrative offices and other building upgrades that went into use earlier this year.

"Stephanie has provided exceptional leadership in guiding the college though an important period of

academic advancement and facilities modernization," Chairman Edward Gwit of the college board of trustees said in a statement. "Her strategic vision and outlook have been critical in providing quality business and information technology programs valued by students and employers alike."

New degree programs developed under her oversight include a dual master of business administration and master of science in finance degree, a revised master of science in accountancy and a new cybersecurity concentration this year in the master of science in information technology degree program.

Bergeron serves on the **Henry Ford Health System** board of trustees and chairs its finance and planning committee and chairs the board of the **Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants**. She also sits on the boards of the **Detroit Regional Chamber**, the **Detroit Economic Club** and **Sun Communities Inc.**

Bergeron earned a undergraduate degree from the **University of Michigan** and an MBA from the **University of Detroit** in 1981.

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