Robert O. Davies was unanimously appointed as the 15th president of Central Michigan University on Sept. 1, 2018, by the CMU Board of Trustees. He previously served as president of Murray State University and Eastern Oregon University. Over the course of a higher education career spanning more than three decades, he also held leadership roles in university relations, alumni relations and advancement.

Davies received a Bachelor of Science degree in management from the University of Nevada, Reno. He also holds a Master of Business Administration degree in finance and marketing from the University of Oregon and a doctoral degree in higher education administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Additionally, he attended the prestigious Harvard Institute for Educational Management.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer appointed Davies to serve on the Michigan Workforce Development Board in 2020, with reappointment in 2023. He also serves on the boards of CMU Medical Education Partners, Midland Business Alliance, Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance, The Children’s Foundation and the Parade Company. Closer to campus, Davies is board chair of the Central Michigan University Research Corp., the top SmartZone in the state for job creation and companies formed.

In 2021, Davies was appointed to serve as the Mid-American Conference representative on the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum and became chair of the NCAA Division I Committee on Academics.

Davies and his wife, Cindy, have one daughter, Katie, who proudly graduated from CMU in May, 2023.