THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

1

Recommendations for approval of new appointments
and promotions for regular associate and full professor ranks,
with tenure
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS' COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Faculty Appointment Approval

NAME: Roman J. Giger, Ph.D.

TITLES: Associate Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology and Associate Professor of Neurology

TENURE STATUS: With Tenure (Cell and Developmental Biology) Without Tenure (Neurology)

APPOINTMENT TERM: 12 Months

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 1, 2008

On the recommendation of J. Douglas Engel, Ph.D., the G. Carl Huber Professor and Chair of the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, and David J. Fink, M.D., the Robert W. Brear Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurology, and with the concurrence of the Executive Committee of the Medical School, I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Roman J. Giger, Ph.D. as Associate Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology, with tenure, and Associate Professor of Neurology, without tenure, effective June 1, 2008.

Dr. Giger received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Zurich, Switzerland, in 1995, followed by two years of postdoctoral studies at The Netherlands Institute for Brain Research. During 1997-2001, Dr. Giger completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University. In 2001, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Neurology at the University of Rochester and, since 2006, has held the title of Associate Professor of Biomedical Genetics, with tenure, at that institution.

Dr. Giger is a developmental neurobiologist whose research interests are in the fields of axonal pathfinding in developing mammalian neuron systems, neuronal regeneration, synaptic plasticity and axon-glial interactions. In addition to his own independent research program, he will be involved in collaborative studies with colleagues in the Department of Neurology at the University of Michigan. These collaborations will complement his basic developmental neurobiology research interests. Dr. Giger's bibliography reflects 32 peer-reviewed publications and two patents. His expertise is further recognized through his invitations to present his research at professional meetings and academic institutions. Dr. Giger is the principal investigator of an R01 grant from the National Institutes of Health. He also has significant corporate
funding from Johnson and Johnson as principal investigator, as well as foundation and state funding for his research. He is an ad hoc reviewer for numerous specialty journals and provides similar reviewer services to the National Science Foundation and the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation.

Recent and Significant Publications


At the University of Rochester, Dr. Giger is the principal investigator of an NIH T32 training grant in interdepartmental neuroscience. In addition, he has provided lectures in the cellular neuroscience course and the neuroscience journal club. He also has served on dissertation committees and has mentored graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. At the University of Michigan, it is planned that Dr. Giger will provide lectures in the neuroscience classes and the journal club for first- and second-year graduate students, as well as instruction to Neurology residents in basic neuroscience and mentorship to postdoctoral fellows. At his current institution, he is a member of the neuroscience curriculum committee, has participated in the interviewing of MSTP and Graduate School applicants, and has served on several Ph.D. thesis committees.

External Review: Brief excerpts from external evaluators are provided below:

Reviewer A: “Dr. Giger is a keenly intelligent and creative scientist who knows how to do experiments that move quickly to the heart of crucial questions. He is rigorous and careful and when he publishes something, he gets it right. These characteristics distinguish Roman from many of the leading figures in the CNS regenerative failure field.”
Reviewer B: “Roman has established himself as an international contributor in the highly competitive and fast-moving area of axon regeneration. . . . Compared to others in the field, Roman has made significant contributions at the highest level within a relatively short period of time after becoming an independent investigator.”

Reviewer C: “Clearly, he is very productive with numerous publications in highly regarded journals and now well funded from NIH and other organizations. . . . His importance in the field is demonstrated by frequent invitations to give lectures at major national meetings and prestigious research institutions.”

Reviewer D: “Through his work over the past several years, Dr. Giger has demonstrated his independence and productivity, and established himself as an international player in the field of axon growth and regeneration.”

Reviewer E: “Roman is a skillful and knowledgeable investigator who is studying one of the major questions in neurodegeneration. He is aware of the importance of studying this process from a mechanistic and molecular viewpoint, and he has a broad appreciation of the clinical implications of the research.”

Dr. Giger is a nationally recognized scientist and educator who has provided seminal insights into an important aspect of neuronal pathfinding. His research expertise will be of significant benefit to the developmental neurobiology community at the University of Michigan. I am very pleased, therefore, to recommend the appointment of Roman J. Giger, Ph.D., as Associate Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology, with tenure, and Associate Professor of Neurology, without tenure.

Recommended by

James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean, Medical School

Recommendation endorsed by

Robert P. Kelch, M.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

Teresa A. Sullivan, Ph.D., Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 2008
ACTION REQUESTED: Faculty Appointment Approval

NAME: Edward C. Norton

TITLE: Professor of Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health

TENURE STATUS: With Tenure

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 1, 2008

APPOINTMENT PERIOD: University Year

On the recommendation of the Chair of the Department of Health Management and Policy, and with the endorsement of the Executive Committee of the School of Public Health, we are pleased to recommend the appointment of Edward C. Norton as professor of health management and policy, with tenure, effective September 1, 2008.

Academic Degrees

Professor Norton received his Master's degree in economics in 1986 from Princeton University, Princeton, NJ and his Ph.D. in economics in 1990 from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.

Professional Record

Professor Norton was appointed as an instructor (1990-1992) and an assistant professor (1992-1993) in the Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School. He was appointed as an adjunct assistant professor (1994-1996) and then as an assistant professor (1996-2000) in the Department of Health Policy and Administration, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was promoted to associate professor in 2000 and to professor in 2005.

Summary of Evaluation

Professor Edward Norton is considered one of the top health economists in the United States. The overarching theme that drives Professor Norton’s research and teaching is the careful use of advanced econometric methods to answer important health policy questions. His primary substantive areas of interest include long-term care and aging, substance use, mental health and managed care. Professor Norton has published over 70 peer-reviewed papers in leading economics, health economics and health services research journals, and has a very impressive track record of extramural research funding.
In his research regarding long-term care and aging, Professor Norton has made important contributions regarding the question of whether or not the government should provide any long-term care insurance or leave it for the private market. This includes several papers that explore how Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement affect the quality of care in nursing homes. In some recent important papers, Professor Norton found that people who die nearly always divide their estate equally, even when one child provides informal care. However, the children who provide informal care receive greater annual transfers of money from their elderly parents before they die, even if all children share the eventual bequest equally.

Professor Norton's work has also shown that informal care reduces home health care use and delays nursing home entry. Regarding his mental health research, Professor Norton has contributed several papers regarding how managed care affects the cost and quality of care for Medicaid beneficiaries with severe mental illness. Professor Norton also is well known for his use of advanced econometric techniques in his research. This includes a number of papers regarding the selection of healthier people into the managed care pool and how this can bias studies looking at health care finance, cost and quality issues in Medicaid, Medicare and community health centers.

Professor Norton has taught a variety of courses at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill at both the master and doctoral level. His teaching evaluation scores and the qualitative comments made by students demonstrate that Professor Norton is a dynamic and effective teacher. He also receives very high praise from the doctoral students he has advised and mentored through the dissertation process. To date, Professor Norton has chaired 14 dissertation committees.

Excerpts from External Review

Reviewer A: "Edward Norton is certainly one of the most gifted and accomplished health economists and applied econometricians that I can think of."

Reviewer B: "I consider Professor Norton to be in the very top ranks of health economists nationally. His research is thoughtfully conceived and carefully executed. There is no doubt that he has made very important contributions to the literature on long-term care, Medicare policy, and econometric applications in health services research."

Reviewer C: "Edward is very well known and highly regarded in the health economics realm. The fact that he was selected to be among fifteen health economists on the newly created board of directors for the American Society of Health Economists speaks for itself as recognition of his standing."

Reviewer D: "Edward’s primary focus continues to be in the area of long-term care, but he has broadened the scope of the question he asks to include the effect of long-term care on family relations and personal finances. I think this line of research, which looks at the economic implications of aging, is tremendously important."

Reviewer E: "I am particularly struck by his commitment to his students. He is a devoted advisor to PhD students and helps his students in many ways, including in obtaining outside funding for their dissertations."
Reviewer F: "He has achieved a national reputation for his research and his clearly regarded as an expert in the economics of long term care and econometrics as applied to health care."

Reviewer G: "He is well regarded, has a strong reputation and is very active in the field professionally. His publication record is stellar both in terms of quantity and quality."

Publications


Summary of Recommendation

Professor Edward Norton is a senior health economist who has contributed to the fields of health economics and health services research in many important ways. He will bring tremendous strengths to the Department of Health Management and Policy, and will play a valuable role in research, teaching and service. We are pleased to recommend the appointment of Edward C. Norton as professor of health management and policy, with tenure, effective September 1, 2008.

RECOMMENDED BY:  

Kenneth E. Warner  
Dean, School of Public Health

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:  

Teresa A. Sullivan  
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 2008
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Recommendations for approval of joint or additional appointments or transfers of regular associate or full professors and selected academic administrative staff
ACTION REQUEST: Joint Appointment for a Faculty Member

NAME: Anna C. Gilbert

CURRENT TITLE: Associate Professor of Mathematics, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

ADDITIONAL TITLE: Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, without tenure, College of Engineering

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2008

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the College of Engineering and with the endorsements of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, I am pleased to recommend the joint appointment of Anna C. Gilbert as professor of electrical engineering and computer science, without tenure, in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, College of Engineering, effective January 1, 2008.

Anna Gilbert received her S.B. in mathematics (with honors) from the University of Chicago in 1993. She received her Ph.D. in mathematics from Princeton University in 1997. After receiving her Ph.D., Professor Gilbert served as a postdoctoral research associate at Yale University and AT&T until 1998. She continued on at AT&T as senior technical staff member until 2002 and then as principal technical staff member until 2004. Professor Gilbert joined the University of Michigan as assistant professor of mathematics in 2004 and was promoted to associate professor, with tenure, in 2007.

Professor Gilbert works in three main areas involving algorithms (especially randomized approximation algorithms for data streams and function approximation); analysis of network traffic (including engineering aspects of network traffic, statistical tools for analyzing such data sets, and rigorous mathematical models of network behavior); and computational harmonic analysis (this work forms her mathematical foundation).

With this additional appointment, Professor Gilbert is an ideal candidate to assist the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science by her active involvement with research and students. We are pleased to recommend the joint appointment of Anna C. Gilbert as professor of electrical engineering and computer science, without tenure, College of Engineering, effective January 1, 2008.

RECOMMENDED BY:

David C. Munson, Jr.
Robert J. Vlasic Dean of Engineering
College of Engineering

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:

Teresa A. Sullivan
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 2008
ACTION REQUEST: Approval of an Academic Administrative Appointment

NAME: John E. Tropman

CURRENT TITLE: Professor of Social Work, with tenure, School of Social Work

ADDITIONAL TITLE: Associate Dean for Faculty and Academic Affairs, School of Social Work

EFFECTIVE DATES: September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009

On the recommendation of the Dean of the School of Social Work, and with the concurrence of the Executive Committee of the School of Social Work, we are pleased to recommend the appointment of John E. Tropman as associate dean for faculty and academic affairs, School of Social Work, effective September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009.

Professor Tropman received his B.A. degree from Oberlin College in 1961; his M.A. degree in social work in 1963; and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1967.

While pursuing his doctoral degree, Professor Tropman was an instructor in sociology and in social work at the University of Michigan from 1966 to 1968. He joined the faculty of the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan as an assistant professor in 1968. He was promoted to associate professor in 1970 and to professor in 1976. Professor Tropman has also served as a visiting professor in the University of Michigan, School of Business since 1986 and as a professor in the Honors College, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts since 1990.

Professor Tropman is viewed as someone whose scholarly work covers diverse areas and is of high quality. His publication record is substantial. In general, his process of developing knowledge is an exemplary one. He has broad research, teaching and community service interests and expertise that the faculty can draw upon. Professor Tropman has participated as a member of many School of Social Work committees and has been considered a thoughtful contributor and leader. Junior faculty view him as a role model and he is currently mentoring several of them. Further, he has served on the Doctoral Supervising Committee and has taken a special interest in management and social policy issues.

The many accomplishments of Professor Tropman have brought recognition and honor to the School of Social Work and to the University of Michigan. As associate dean for faculty and academic affairs, Professor Tropman will mentor all faculty and assist them in their development. The School of Social Work, therefore, recommends that Professor John E. Tropman be appointed as the associate dean for faculty and academic affairs effective September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009.

RECOMMENDED BY: Paula Allen-Meares, Dean Norma Radin Collegiate Professor of Social Work and Professor of Education School of Social Work

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY: Teresa A. Sullivan, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 2008
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

3

Recommendations for approval of leaves of absence
for regular instructional staff and selected academic administrative staff
ACTION REQUEST: Approval of Extension of Leave for a Faculty Member

NAME: William W. Schultz

CURRENT TITLES: Professor of Mechanical Engineering, with tenure, and Professor of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, without tenure, College of Engineering

TYPE OF LEAVE: Extension of a One-Year Leave

DATES OF CURRENT LEAVE: September 5, 2006 through September 4, 2007

TIME EXTENSION REQUESTED: September 5, 2007 through September 4, 2008

It is recommended that William W. Schultz be granted an extension of leave of absence effective September 5, 2007 through September 4, 2008.

Professor Schultz is currently serving at the National Science Foundation (NSF) as program director, Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation (EFRI) and has been invited to stay on for an additional year. Professor Schultz is the sole NSF representative for an initiative in the State Department involving Jordan, Israel and Palestine in desalination. In addition, he is playing a major role for the NSF Engineering Directorate in EFRI/RESIN (on resilience and sustainability), Peta-Aps High Performance Computing Initiative and Cyber-Enabled Discovery and Innovation. We believe Michigan will benefit from Professor Schultz's continued involvement in these initiatives.

We request approval of this extension of leave of absence for Professor William W. Schultz.

Recommended by: 

David C. Munson, Jr.
Robert J. Vlasic Dean of Engineering
College of Engineering

Recommendation endorsed by: 

Teresa A. Sullivan
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs

March 2008
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

Establishing and renaming professorships and selected academic administrative positions.
ACTION REQUEST: Establishment of a Collegiate Professorship

NAME: Keith S. Henley, M.D. Collegiate Professorship in Gastroenterology

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 2008

On the recommendation of Robert F. Todd III, M.D., Ph.D., the Frances and Victor Ginsberg Professor of Hematology/Oncology and Interim Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine, and with the concurrence of the Executive Committee of the Medical School, I am pleased to recommend the establishment of the Keith S. Henley, M.D. Collegiate Professorship in Gastroenterology, effective March 1, 2008.

This collegiate professorship is made possible through gifts from Dr. Henley and other donors, along with departmental endowment funding, and will honor Keith S. Henley, M.D., as well as recognize his numerous contributions as a gastroenterologist and hepatologist. This professorship will provide support to a faculty member whose work contributes to advancements in research and/or patient care within the Division of Gastroenterology in the Department of Internal Medicine. The initial appointment period for the Henley Collegiate Professor will be five years, and the appointment may be renewed.

Dr. Henley received his medical degree in 1948 from King’s College of the University of Durham, United Kingdom. He completed a residency at the Postgraduate Medical School of London, followed by fellowship training in gastroenterology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Henley joined the faculty at this institution in 1954 and advanced through the academic ranks to achieve the title of Professor of Internal Medicine in 1968. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in London.

Dr. Henley retired from the full-time faculty as Professor Emeritus of Internal Medicine in 1993. Since that time, he has remained involved in the support and training of international clinicians working in the field of hepatology. He is particularly interested in the development of an infrastructure to aid in the education and care of patients with hepatitis in Vietnam and other countries afflicted with high incidences of hepatitis.
Dr. Henley is widely admired for his achievements and commitment to education and research, as well as for his clinical contributions to more effective treatments in liver disease. I am very pleased, therefore, to recommend the establishment of the Keith S. Henley, M.D. Collegiate Professorship in Gastroenterology.

Recommended by

[Signature]
James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean, Medical School

Recommendation endorsed by

[Signature]
Robert P. Kelch, M.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

[Signature]
Teresa A. Sullivan, Ph.D., Provost
and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 2008
ACTION REQUEST: Change in Name of an Existing Endowed Professorship

CURRENT TITLE: Frederick G.L. Huetwell Faculty Development Professorship in Cardiovascular Medicine

RECOMMENDED TITLE: Frederick G.L. Huetwell Research Professorship in Cardiovascular Medicine

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 2008

This is to request a change in name of the Frederick G.L. Huetwell Faculty Development Professorship in Cardiovascular Medicine to the Frederick G.L. Huetwell Research Professorship in Cardiovascular Medicine, effective March 1, 2008.

In 1995, through a generous gift from the estate of Frederick G.L. Huetwell, four endowed professorships were established in the Medical School. One of these professorships, the Huetwell Professorship in Hypertension, focuses on research in hypertension and related diseases. Monies generated from the initial endowment account reached a sufficient funding level to permit the establishment of the Huetwell Faculty Development Professorship in 2005.

The renaming of this professorship will provide the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine the means to retain a talented tenured faculty member who has undertaken a major research initiative in the field. I am pleased, therefore, to recommend the renaming of this professorship to the Frederick G.L. Huetwell Research Professorship in Cardiovascular Medicine.

Recommended by

James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean, Medical School

Recommendation endorsed by

Robert P. Kelch, M.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

Teresa A. Sullivan, Ph.D., Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 2008
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

5

Recommendations for approval of other personnel transactions
for regular instructional staff and selected
academic administrative staff
ACTION REQUEST: Additional Appointment to an Endowed Professorship

NAME: Daniel E. Atkins III

CURRENT TITLES: Professor of Information, with tenure, School of Information, and Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, with tenure, College of Engineering

ADDITIONAL TITLE: W. K. Kellogg Professor of Community Information, School of Information

TERM: Five Years

EFFECTIVE DATES: September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2013

With approval of the School of Information governing faculty, we are pleased to recommend the appointment of Daniel E. Atkins III to the W. K. Kellogg Professor of Community Information, for a five-year renewable term, effective September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2013.

Daniel E. Atkins received his Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering at Bucknell University in 1965. He attended the University of Illinois, Urbana, where he completed his Master of Science in electrical engineering in 1967 and his Doctorate in computer science in 1970. He joined the faculty at the University of Michigan as assistant professor of computer engineering in 1971, and was promoted through the ranks to professor in June 1981. In October 1981 he was appointed associate dean for research in the College of Engineering and remained in that position until 1989 when he became interim dean, College of Engineering. In 1992 he was appointed dean of the School of Information and Library Studies, with the mandate to transform it into a new school with a broader and more visionary mission. In 1994, the school was re-chartered by the Regents as the School of Information (SI), and Daniel E. Atkins served as dean until fall 1998.

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation provided major financial support during the transformation and re-chartering of the School of Information. In 1997 the Foundation provided additional financial support to create the Alliance for Community Technology (ACT), a strategic alliance between themselves and the School of Information, with Professor Atkins as the director. Keeping with the Kellogg Foundation's mission "to help people help themselves," ACT's mission was to explore and empower the effective application of emerging information and collaboration technologies in non-profit organizations and under-served communities. In turn, ACT provided funding for several
student-led initiatives serving communities as close as Ann Arbor, and as far away as Haiti and Chile as well as faculty-led projects in South Africa and Poland to name a few. ACT's funding ended in 2005, but similar community-based projects are still a part of the School of Information’s practical engagement activities.

Throughout 1990-2002, Professor Atkins was active in National Academies of Science activities exploring the role of information technology and the future of the research university. He served as chair of the National Science Foundation Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Cyberinfrastructure in 2002-2003. In 2006 he was chosen as the first director of the Office of Cyberinfrastructure at the National Science Foundation in Arlington, Virginia. When his appointment at the National Science Foundation ends in June 2008, Professor Atkins will return to the School of Information.

Under the leadership of Professor Atkins, the School of Information has catalyzed the creation of a new class of information schools throughout the United States and Canada. SI has provided leadership for transforming professional education to information professionals and has continued to strengthen its ability to leverage information in the development of communities. Its commitment to connecting people, information, and technology in more valuable ways is further recognized by the establishment of the W. K. Kellogg Professor of Community Information, which draws on a gift made to the school in 2006. This endowed professorship will assure continued extraordinary leadership for programs focusing on empowering communities, the non-profit sector, and civil society more generally through information and information technology.

We are pleased to recommend the appointment of Daniel E. Atkins III to the W. K. Kellogg Professor of Community Information, for a five-year renewable term, effective September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2013.

Recommended by: Recommendation endorsed by:

Martha E. Pollack, Dean
School of Information

Teresa A. Sullivan
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs

March 2008
ACTION REQUEST: Faculty Appointment to a Collegiate Professorship

NAME: Gregory R. Dressler, Ph.D.

CURRENT TITLE: Professor of Pathology, with tenure

ADDITIONAL TITLE: Collegiate Professor of Pathology Research

EFFECTIVE DATES: March 1, 2008 through August 31, 2013

On the recommendation of Jay L. Hess, M.D., Ph.D., the Carl V. Weller Professor and Chair of the Department of Pathology, and with the concurrence of the Executive Committee of the Medical School, I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Gregory R. Dressler, Ph.D., as the Collegiate Professor of Pathology Research, effective March 1, 2008.

This professorship was established in February 2008, and is intended to support the educational and research activities of a senior faculty member in the Department of Pathology.

Dr. Dressler received the Ph.D. degree in genetics and molecular biology from the University of Pennsylvania in 1986. He then completed a two-year fellowship in developmental biology at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Goettingen, Germany, followed by an appointment as Senior Staff Fellow in the Laboratory of Mammalian Genes and Development of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Dressler came to the University of Michigan as Assistant Professor of Pathology and Assistant Investigator in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in 1994. He was promoted to Associate Professor of Pathology, with tenure, in 2000 and to Professor in 2007.

Dr. Dressler’s research is focused on the area of molecular genetic basis of embryonic development. One exciting discovery from his laboratory centers on the role of a histone methyltransferase complex in regulating renal development. His research program is well funded with an R01 grant from the National Institutes of Health. In addition to his independent research, Dr. Dressler is a collaborator or co-investigator on several other funded projects. His expertise is well known through his memberships on study sections and his reviewer activities for several high impact journals, including Science, the American Journal of Pathology, Cancer Research and the Journal of Clinical Investigation.
Dr. Dressler is nationally recognized for his work in the area of developmental biology. He is an outstanding investigator and educator, and his appointment to this collegiate professorship will acknowledge his numerous contributions to this institution and to the scientific community. I am very pleased to recommend the appointment of Gregory R. Dressler, Ph.D., as the first Collegiate Professor of Pathology Research.

Recommended by

James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean, Medical School

March 2008

Recommendation endorsed by

Robert P. Kelch, M.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

Teresa A. Sullivan, Ph.D., Provost
and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS’ COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Change in Academic Administrative Title

NAME: Raymond J. Hutchinson, M.D.

CURRENT TITLES: Professor of Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases, with tenure, and Associate Dean for Research Regulatory Affairs, Medical School

RECOMMENDED TITLES: Professor of Pediatrics and Communicable Diseases, with tenure, and Associate Dean for Regulatory Affairs, Medical School

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 2008

With the concurrence of the Executive Committee of the Medical School, I am pleased to recommend a change in the academic administrative title for Raymond J. Hutchinson, M.D., from Associate Dean for Research Regulatory Affairs, to Associate Dean for Regulatory Affairs, in the Medical School, effective March 1, 2008.

In 2006, Dr. Hutchinson joined the Medical School Dean’s Staff as Assistant Dean for Research Regulatory Affairs. His knowledge and expertise in this area were immediately acknowledged, and he became Associate Dean for Research Regulatory Affairs that same year. At the present time, this change in Dr. Hutchinson’s academic administrative title would more appropriately highlight his aptitude in all areas of compliance and regulatory affairs.

Dr. Hutchinson’s scientific expertise, knowledge of the regulatory issues in research, training, and clinical activities provides the Medical School with valuable leadership in this regard. I am pleased to recommend a change in the academic administrative title for Dr. Hutchinson to Associate Dean for Regulatory Affairs, Medical School.

Recommended by

James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean, Medical School

Recommendation endorsed by

Robert P. Kelch, M.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

Teresa A. Sullivan, Ph.D., Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 2008
ACTION REQUEST: Faculty Appointment to an Endowed Professorship

NAME: John E. Laird

CURRENT TITLE: Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, with tenure, College of Engineering

RECOMMENDED TITLES: John L. Tishman Professor of Engineering, and Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, with tenure, College of Engineering

TERM: Five Years

EFFECTIVE DATES: March 1, 2008 through December 31, 2012

The Dean and the Executive Committee of the College of Engineering request that the Regents appoint John E. Laird as the John L. Tishman Professor of Engineering, College of Engineering, for a five-year renewable term, effective March 1, 2008 through December 31, 2012.

This endowed chair was established by the John and Daniel Tishman Fund to support the teaching and scholarship of a distinguished faculty member in the College of Engineering.

Professor Laird received his BS in 1975 from the University of Michigan and his MS and PhD degrees from Carnegie Mellon University in 1978 and 1983, respectively. He started his career as a member of the research staff at Xerox Corporation in 1984. He came to the University of Michigan in 1986 as an assistant professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. He was promoted to associate professor in 1992 and to professor in 1998. He also served as associate chair of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from 2000-2004.

Professor Laird is a founder of Soar Technology, an Ann Arbor company specializing in creating autonomous artificial intelligence entities. From 1994-1999, he was the director of the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. He is a fellow of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence and the Association for Computing Machinery.

Professor Laird’s distinguished career exemplifies the highest standards in all aspects of academic performance. His research and teaching will continue to contribute significantly to the excellent reputation of the College and the University.

I am pleased to recommend the appointment of John E. Laird as the John L. Tishman Professor of Engineering, effective March 1, 2008 through December 31, 2012.

RECOMMENDED BY: 

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY: 

David C. Munson, Jr.
Robert J. Vlasic Dean of Engineering
College of Engineering

Teresa A. Sullivan
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs

March 2008
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Approval of an Administrative Appointment

NAME: Cynthia H. Wilbanks

CURRENT TITLE: Vice President for Government Relations, Office of the Vice President for Government Relations

RECOMMENDED TITLES: Special Advisor to the President, Office of the President; and Vice President for Government Relations, Office of the Vice President for Government Relations

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 2008

It gives me pleasure to recommend an additional appointment for Cynthia H. Wilbanks as special advisor to the president, Office of the President, effective March 1, 2008.

This additional appointment is to provide oversight of and advise the President on the development and growth of the University Research Corridor as well as non-research based external economic development activities. While serving in this important advisory role, Vice President Wilbanks will continue to hold her appointment of vice president for government relations.

Vice President Wilbanks, who earned her Bachelor of Arts degree with distinction in political science from the University of Michigan in 1973, has served as vice president for government relations since September 1998. She also served as interim vice president for communications from June 2007 to September 2007 and as interim vice president for development from February 2002 through January 2003. Prior to joining the University administration in 1995 as associate vice president for university relations, she was president of Michigan’s Children, a statewide child advocacy organization. Her political career, spanning over 20 years, includes serving as Washtenaw County field representative and district director for U.S. Congressman Carl D. Pursell, and working as a staff assistant for U.S. Congressman Marvin Esch.

Vice President Wilbanks is extremely active in the community. She serves on the board of directors of the Bank of Ann Arbor and the Riverside Arts Center Foundation. She has served as chair and board member of the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum and the Glacier Hills Retirement Center. Other board memberships included the Nonprofit Enterprise at Work (NEW) Center and the State of Michigan United Way. She has previously served as chair of the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce’s Innovation Center, as co-chair of the Michigan Technology Council Government Relations Committee, and on the
advisory boards of Motor Meals of Ann Arbor and the Junior League of Ann Arbor. She is a member of the Ann Arbor Rotary Club, the Michigan Alumni Association, and the Detroit Symphony Volunteer Council. Among the many honors Vice President Wilbanks has received are the Michigan Technology Council’s Director’s Award for Outstanding Service, the Washtenaw United Way’s Volunteer Service Award, and the Spectrum Prevention Services’ Toast of the Town Spirit Award. In 2002, Vice President Wilbanks was named one of the 100 most influential women in Metro Detroit by Crain’s Detroit Business. Vice President Wilbanks was also the recipient of the Women of Distinction Award from the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council.

Vice President Wilbanks brings a thorough understanding of the University’s economic development activities and skill to provide oversight and advise the President on such matters. She brings a broad knowledge of the local, state, and national contexts in which the University operates and a working knowledge of issues from government relations, public/community relations, and the impact that economic development has on the University.

I have enormous respect for Vice President Wilbanks, for the leadership skills she brings to the University as an executive officer, and I am grateful that she is willing to take on this important additional role. It is with pleasure that I recommend the appointment of Cynthia H. Wilbanks as special advisor to the president, effective March 1, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sue Coleman
President

March 2008