THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

SUBJECT: Non-tenure-track Clinical Appointment Sequence in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Michigan-Dearborn

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of Non-tenure-track Clinical Appointment Sequence in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Michigan-Dearborn

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

A primary mission of the University of Michigan-Dearborn, College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS) is to prepare students for highly successful engineering careers serving the industries of Michigan. We achieve this by exposing our students to the best engineering practices of Michigan’s industries through co-op and intern programs, and by implementing recommendations of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) for preparing the Engineer of 2020.

Both industry’s best practices and NAE’s recommendations support using ‘Clinical Faculty’, i.e., engineers who have excelled in industry and have the skills to effectively share their experiences with students, to facilitate relevant experiential learning within undergraduate academic programs. Clinical faculty will help integrate our co-op programs with our academic programs, and will move senior design toward projects that emulate development projects within industry. Clinical faculty will provide a systems engineering perspective that is rare in academic engineering.

The Governing Faculty of the College of Engineering and Computer Science, in their meeting on February 6, 2015, approved appointing highly qualified, practicing engineers to clinical faculty positions within CECS. These positions will carry the internal working titles of:

- Associate Professor of Engineering Practice
- Professor of Engineering Practice

The college does not foresee utilizing these titles extensively, since the clinical track will only be used as a supplement to our current academic programs, will not be used to support research, and will only be filled with persons who have significant career experience.

Standards for appointment and reappointment to the associate professor and professor of Engineering Practice, and promotion from associate to professor of Engineering Practice to Professor of Engineering Practice are detailed in the CECS’ Professor of Engineering Practice policy. Appointments and reappointments of clinical track faculty shall be for terms of up to three years, as specifically designated in the terms of the appointment.
Clinical track faculty are eligible to participate in faculty and discipline meetings and to vote as members of the governing faculty if permitted by the CECS Bylaws (except on issues pertaining to promotion and tenure). Clinical track faculty are eligible to serve on any of the colleges’ elected or standing committees (with the exception of the Executive Committee).

Clinical track faculty are not eligible for sabbatical leave. In exceptional instances, clinical track faculty may be granted scholarly or professional leave (with or without salary) at the discretion and upon approval of the dean and the provost, and within constraints set by the Standard Practice Guide.

I am pleased to present this request for your approval.

Recommended by:

Daniel Little, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

September 2015