ANN ARBOR CAMPUS – Recommendations for approval

1. Joint or additional appointments or transfers of regular associate or full professors and selected academic and administrative staff.

(1) Hu, Shixin Jack, vice president for research, Office of Research, effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018 (also J. Reid and Polly Anderson Professor of Manufacturing, professor of mechanical engineering, with tenure, and professor of industrial and operations engineering, without tenure, College of Engineering.)
Recommendations for approval of joint or additional appointments
or transfers of regular associate or full professors and selected
academic and administrative staff
I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Shixin Jack Hu as vice president for research, Office of Research, for a three-year term, effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

As vice president, Professor Hu will have overall responsibility for nurturing the excellence and integrity of research across the entire university, including on the campuses of Ann Arbor, Dearborn and Flint. He will oversee the Office of Research (UMOR), which encourages interdisciplinary research, oversees research policy, provides central administrative services in support of faculty research and economic outreach, and manages activities related to compliance and the responsible conduct of research.

Professor Hu has served as the interim vice president for research since January 2014, and during his tenure as interim leader, he has launched several new important interdisciplinary initiatives including the opening of the M-City test facility for connected and automated vehicles at the university Mobility Transformation Center and a major new campus wide initiative in data science. He has provided steady and able leadership in promoting safety in research and in navigating an increasingly complex regulatory framework for research. He also made strategic organizational re-alignments in UMOR to make the offices more responsive in service to the research enterprise.

Prior to serving as interim vice president, Professor Hu held several academic leadership positions in the College of Engineering including associate dean for academic affairs (2009-2013) and associate dean for research and graduate education (2007-2009). From 2002 to 2006, he was the director of Program in Manufacturing (PIM) and the executive director of Michigan
Interdisciplinary and Professional Engineering. He worked with the President’s Office on President Obama’s Advanced Manufacturing Partnership, a working group advising the administration on how to bolster American manufacturing. He represents the university on the board of the American Light Weight Materials Manufacturing Innovation Institute.

A member of the university community since 1985, Professor Hu’s teaching and research interests include manufacturing systems design and operations, assembly modeling, and statistical quality methods. He has received a number of awards for his work, including the SME Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineer Award, National Science Foundation CAREER Award, ASME William T. Ennor Manufacturing Technology Award, the SME S. M. Wu Research Implementation Award, the College of Engineering Research Excellence Award, and several best paper awards. He is a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and a fellow of the International Academy for Production Engineering. He served as the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Manufacturing Systems from 2008 through 2013. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2015.

Professor Hu received his B.S. from Tianjin University, China in 1983, and his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1986 and 1990, respectively.

Professor Hu’s proven leadership skills, breadth and depth of experience, vision, and demonstrated commitment to the University of Michigan make him ideally suited for the responsibilities of vice president for research. It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend his appointment to this key executive position.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Schlissel
President

December 2015