

**SUMMARY OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS  
SUPPLEMENTAL - REGENTS AGENDA  
October 2020**

**FLINT CAMPUS – Recommendations for approval**

- 1. Joint or additional appointments or transfers of regular associate or full professors and selected academic and administrative staff.**
  - (1) Pearson, Christopher A., dean, College of Innovation and Technology, effective November 1, 2020, through October 31, 2023 (also professor of physics, with tenure, College of Arts and Sciences).

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**

*Regents Communication*

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**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN - FLINT**

Recommendations for approval of joint or additional appointments or transfers of regular associate or full professors and selected academic and administrative staff

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Academic Administrative Appointment for a Faculty Member

NAME: Christopher A. Pearson

CURRENT TITLES: Associate Dean, and Professor of Physics, with tenure, College of Arts and Sciences

RECOMMENDED TITLES: Dean, College of Innovation and Technology, and Professor of Physics, with tenure, College of Arts and Sciences

EFFECTIVE DATES: November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2023

We are pleased to recommend the appointment of Christopher A. Pearson as the dean, College of Innovation and Technology, effective November 1, 2020, through October 31, 2023.

Christopher Pearson received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Minnesota in 1995, and his B.A. from Hamline University, St. Paul, MN in 1989. After two years as a post-doctoral researcher in UC Davis, he joined the faculty at the University of Michigan-Flint in 1998 as an assistant professor of physics, and was promoted to associate professor, with tenure, in 2004, and to professor, in 2011.

Since joining the University of Michigan-Flint, Professor Pearson's administrative appointments include interim chair, and later chair of Computer Science, Engineering, and Physics from 2008 until 2015, and interim associate dean, and later associate dean, of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) from 2015 until present. Professor Pearson has an outstanding service record that includes serving as a member of CAS Executive Committee, UM-Flint's Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Budget and Strategic Planning, and the University of Michigan Honorary Degree Committee.


Professor Pearson's research and scholarly activities have been extensive; he has published in top peer reviewed journals and conference proceedings, and given numerous professional presentations.

As the founding dean of the College of Innovation and Technology, Professor Pearson will work in collaboration with the UM-Flint faculty, staff, and senior leadership to develop a shared vision and mission for the college. Serving as the chief academic and administrative officer of the College of Innovation and Technology, he will lead faculty in defining academic programming and curriculum for the unit, while establishing strong relationships with industries and institutions across the region for the purpose of creating student internships and other opportunities to support the workforce needs of the State of Michigan. As dean, Professor


Pearson will also have an integral role in advancing student recruitment, retention, and graduation success for the college.

Professor Pearson through his administrative experience, collaborative leadership style, and a passion for student success has demonstrated the key qualities necessary to be successful in the role. Therefore, we enthusiastically recommend the appointment of Christopher A. Pearson as dean, College of Innovation and Technology, effective November 1, 2020, through October 31, 2023.

RECOMMENDED BY:

  
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Sonja Feist-Price, Provost and  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:

  
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Debasish Dutta, Chancellor  
University of Michigan-Flint

October 2020