THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Jun Ni, Ph.D., Shien-Ming (Sam) Wu Collegiate Professor of Manufacturing Science and professor of mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering, co-director of the Multi-Campus National Science Foundation (NSF) Center for Intelligent Maintenance Systems, deputy director of the NSF-Engineering Research Center for Reconfigurable Manufacturing Systems, and the director of the S.M. Wu Manufacturing Research Center, retired from active faculty status on August 31, 2021.

Professor Ni received his B.S. degree in mechanical and production engineering from Shanghai Jiaotong University, China, in 1982 and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin in 1984 and 1987, respectively. He was hired as a research fellow in the University of Michigan’s Department of Mechanical Engineering in 1987, and then appointed as an assistant research scientist in 1989. He was appointed as an associate professor in 1993, and promoted to professor in 1997.

Professor Ni’s expertise lies in the intelligent maintenance of large industrial systems, the optimization of manufacturing operations, manufacturing process modeling, analysis and design, precision engineering metrology, and quality control methods. He is a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and the International Society of Nanomanufacturing. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Society of Manufacturing Engineers’ (SME) Outstanding Young Manufacturing Award in 1991, the Presidential Faculty Fellow Award named by President W.J. Clinton and funded by the National Science Foundation in 1994, the Institute of International Education’s (IIE) Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education in 2014, and the “20 Most Influential Professors in Smart Manufacturing” by the SME in 2020.

Professor Ni completed 152 grants and contracts during his tenure, published more than 300 technical papers in his field, and co-authored a textbook titled Data-Driven Cognitive Manufacturing Applications in Predictive Maintenance and Zero Defect Manufacturing (2021). He delivered more than 350 keynote speeches and presentations and is the sole inventor or co-inventor of over 15 U.S. and international patents.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Jun Ni, Shien-Ming (Sam) Wu Collegiate Professor Emeritus of Manufacturing Science and professor emeritus of mechanical engineering.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

December 2021