



**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**  
**TRUSTEES OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY**  
**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**  
**AUGUST 4, 2017**

A meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees convened at 9:04 a.m. on Friday, August 4, 2017, in Room 326 of Stewart Center on the campus of Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

All committee members were present: JoAnn Brouillette, chair; Vanessa Castagna; Malcolm DeKryger; Daniel Romary; and Professor Alberto Rodriguez (ex-officio). Other trustees present were: Sonny Beck; Michael Berghoff; Gary Lehman; Michael Klipsch; and Thomas Spurgeon. Don Thompson was not in attendance.

Officers and administrators in attendance were: Mitch Daniels, president; Jay Akridge, interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs and diversity; Bill Sullivan, treasurer and chief financial officer; Jim Almond, senior vice president and assistant treasurer; Steve Schultz, legal counsel; Trent Klingerman, assistant legal counsel and chief privacy officer; Janice Indrutz, corporate secretary and executive assistant to the Board; Vicky Carwein, chancellor of Purdue University Fort Wayne (PFW); and Tom Keon, chancellor of Purdue University Northwest (PNW).

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon proper motion duly made and seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the last meeting held June 16, 2017.

**II. APPROVAL TO APPOINT THE WILLIAM F. AND PATTY J. MILLER PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY**

Interim Provost Akridge respectfully requested the Committee's approval to appoint Dr. Julia Laskin as the William F. and Patty J. Miller Professor of Chemistry. He explained that Dr. Laskin was one of the world's leading analytical chemists who specialized in mass spectrometry and held three patents. He discussed her research and said she had been a leading figure in multi-investigator initiatives at the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. He noted a few of several prestigious awards Dr. Laskin had received and commented on her professional service. Provost Akridge also cited a letter in support of Dr. Laskin's appointment.

Upon proper motion duly made and seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of Dr. Laskin's appointment. The advance supporting documents reviewed by the Committee and a photo were filed with the minutes.

Dr. Laskin said the appointment was an honor and she and her family were excited to be in West Lafayette. She also introduced her daughter.

**III. APPROVAL TO APPOINT THE BEN AND MAXINE MILLER PROFESSOR OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES**

Provost Akridge respectfully requested approval to appoint Dr. Valerie S. Knopik as the Ben and Maxine Miller Professor of Human Development and Family Studies. He informed the Committee that Dr. Knopik was a leading international scholar in the field of behavioral genetics. He discussed the nature of her research and said she had co-authored the primary textbook in her field. Provost Akridge noted Dr. Knopik's impressive record of external research funding, highlighted her professional service, and cited a letter in support of Dr. Knopik's appointment.

Trustee Brouillette believed it was worth noting that, though the endowment for this appointment was established in 2012, Dr. Knopik was the first nominee to meet its criteria. Trustee DeKryger commented that his wife, who worked with children with ADHD, appreciated Dr. Knopik's work.

Upon proper motion duly made and seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of Dr. Knopik's appointment. The advance supporting documents reviewed by the Committee and a photo were filed with the minutes.

**IV. APPROVAL TO APPOINT THE KAMYAR HAGHIGHI HEAD OF THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION**

Provost Akridge respectfully requested approval to appoint Dr. Donna M. Riley as the Kamyar Haghighi Head of the School of Engineering Education. He explained that Dr. Riley was a national and global leader in the field of engineering education whose work integrated engineering, public policy, education, gender studies, and ethics, which, he said, placed her at the center of some of the nation's important topics in engineering education. Provost Akridge informed the Committee that Dr. Riley was active in several professional organizations, and he mentioned her publication record. He also shared that she had received a Career Award from National Science Foundation, for which she later served as its program director for engineering education. Finally, Provost Akridge cited a letter in support of Dr. Riley's appointment.

Upon proper motion duly made and seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of Dr. Riley's appointment. The advance supporting documents reviewed by the Committee and a photo were filed with the minutes.

**V. APPROVAL TO APPOINT THE CAPT. JAMES MCCARTHY, JR. AND CHERYL E. MCCARTHY HEAD OF THE SCHOOL OF NUCLEAR ENGINEERING**

Provost Akridge respectfully requested approval to appoint Dr. Seungjin Kim as the Capt. James McCarthy, Jr. and Cheryl E. McCarthy Head of the School of Nuclear Engineering. Because it was a new named headship, Provost Akridge first provided background about Capt. and Mrs. McCarthy. He then informed the Committee that Dr. Kim earned his Master's degree in electrical engineering and his Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from Purdue. Provost Akridge spoke about Dr. Kim's research and said his work was internationally recognized and used by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. He noted Dr. Kim's professional

service and affiliations and cited these statements from a letter in support of Dr. Kim's appointment: "Dr. Kim does not do the job for the title, but for the advancement of the (Thermal-Hydraulics) Division, the progress of the American Nuclear Society, and the future of nuclear energy," and "His international connections with France, and more generally Europe, Japan and Korea, are great assets to develop and implement international collaborations."

Upon proper motion duly made and seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of Dr. Kim's appointment. The advance supporting documents reviewed by the Committee and a photo were filed with the minutes.

Chairman Berghoff then asked Provost Akridge if the creation of a named headship impacted the university's ability to recruit candidates. Provost Akridge responded affirmatively that the prestige and discretionary financial support to help advance a department were attractive to candidates.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

By consent, the meeting adjourned at 9:21 a.m.