

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

*Office of the Dean*

TO: Jay Akridge, Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity  
Peter Hollenbeck, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

FROM: Maryann Santos<sup>MS</sup>, Dean, College of Education

DATE: November 15, 2017

RE: Charles R. Hicks Professorship in the College of Education

I am writing to seek your approval of our appointment of Dr. Hua Hua Chang with the Charles R. Hicks Professorship in the College of Education. This is the second opportunity for the College of Education to appoint the Charles R. Hicks Professorship in Educational Psychology. During his 32-year tenure at Purdue University, Dr. Hicks was renowned for his scholarship in statistics and seminal texts in the field. This Professorship was created by David Nichols, one of Dr. Hicks' doctoral students, in appreciation of his dedication to scholarship and his love of teaching. The gift demonstrates the lasting impact that educators have on their students' lives, but only rarely get to see.

A national search was conducted for this position. As a result of the search process, Dr. Chang was found to have met the criteria for the Charles R. Hicks Professorship in the College of Education with his outstanding record of scholarship, with over 70 research publications, many published in the highest impact journals in education. He has been highly successful in obtaining external funding totaling over \$7 million and has served as advisor or committee member for 60 doctoral students, many now employed successfully as faculty or as research scientists in industry. He has served as Editor-in-Chief of *Applied Psychological Measurement* since 2011. He is viewed as a strong collaborator who has the team player skills and the steady determination needed to make collaborations work.

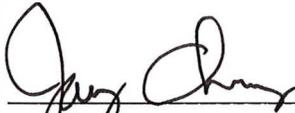
Dr. Chang earned his Diploma in Mathematics from East China Normal University, and both his M.S. and Ph.D. in Statistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he now holds the rank of Professor. In addition to his stellar academic credentials, he also spent 9 years working in industry with corporations such as the Educational Testing Service (ETC) and the National Board of Medical Examiners. His impact is reflected in multiple prestigious awards and leadership positions. He served as President of the Psychometric Society and in 2017 received the E.F. Lindquist Award for outstanding applied or theoretical research in the field of testing and measurement from the American Educational Research Association (AERA) and the American College Testing Program. Since 2008, he has been included in the *List of Teachers Rated as Excellent by Their Students* at UIUC.

Dr. Leslie Rutkowski, Professor in the Centre for Educational Measurement at the University of Oslo, commented on his meaningful contributions at every stage of his career. These range from establishing evidence of asymptotic normality of item response theory latent traits (Psychometrika, 1993), to developing criteria that continues to be used for item selection in computerized adaptive testing (Applied Psych. Measurement, 1996), to more recent, didactic treatments of the psychometrics that are the foundation in computerized adaptive testing (Psychometrika, 2015). She noted that his research trajectory shows no sign of slowing down. Similarly, Dr. Mark Wilson, Professor in the Graduate School of Education at Berkeley reported that Dr. Chang's deep knowledge in a broad range of areas at the core of modern psychometrics has enabled him to lead research in foundational aspects of psychometric methodology that include computerized adaptive assessment, timed assessments, cognitive diagnosis, computer-managed teaching, and security issues in testing.

Dr. Chang is uniquely suited for the Charles R. Hicks Professorship in the College of Education. His expertise, leadership, and collaboration skills will facilitate the expansion of the research capacity and scholarly impact in the College of Education. He has my strongest recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

*Approval Recommended:*



Jay Akridge  
Provost & Executive Vice President  
for Academic Affairs and Diversity

12/5/17

Date

*Approved:*



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.  
President

1/3/18

Date