

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Steven R. Schultz, General Counsel

CC: Janice Indrutz, Secretary

DATE: November 23, 2020

SUBJECT: Positions Subject to Board Ratification—Update

Background: Article VI, Section 3 of the Bylaws of the Trustees of Purdue University provides as follows:

“[a]ll appointments, promotions, leaves of absence and other personnel actions with respect to the Faculty and Staff of the University shall be made by the President, except to the extent that the Board may reserve the authority to ratify individually certain appointments and promotions. *Those appointments and promotions which must be ratified by the Board shall be set forth on an official list maintained by the Secretary.* The Board may revise the official list from time to time without change in the Bylaws.”
(emphasis added)

The current list of appointments and promotions subject to Board ratification, which was last revised at your August 2017 meeting, is as follows:

- President (or Interim President)
- Executive Vice Presidents (or Interim Executive Vice Presidents)
- Chancellors (or Interim Chancellors)
- Vice Presidents and Other Officers Reporting Directly to the President
- Director of Audits (or Interim Director of Audits)
- Director of Intercollegiate Athletics (or Interim Director of Intercollegiate Athletics)
- Head Football Coach
- Head Basketball Coaches (Men’s and Women’s)
- Faculty Promotions as a group
- Distinguished Professors
- Named/Chaired Professorships, Headships and Deanships
(Academic and Student Affairs Committee/Consent Agenda)*
- Endowed Professorships
(Academic and Student Affairs Committee/Consent Agenda)*

It is recommended that the list be revised to add appointees to **named Discovery Park directorships**, consistent with what has been the Board's occasional, though not yet formalized, practice.

The authority to approve centers at Discovery Park is currently delegated to the Executive Vice President for Research and Partnerships; university centers without research activities are approved by the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. In many cases, a proposal to establish a center is reviewed by both of these executive vice presidents. The process for approving named directors for centers in Discovery Park generally follows the approval procedures used to award distinguished and named professorships.

The current proposal to update this list to add named Discovery Park directorships reflects the notion that, as with named/chaired professorships, endowed professorships, and named headships and deanships, having the Board act on this type of named academic leadership position provides a nice formal recognition of the appointee, as well as the person(s) for whom the position is named.

For the sake of clarity, the specific **change** to the current list would be as follows:

- President (or Interim President)
- Executive Vice Presidents (or Interim Executive Vice Presidents)
- Chancellors (or Interim Chancellors)
- Vice Presidents and Other Officers Reporting Directly to the President
- Director of Audits (or Interim Director of Audits)
- Director of Intercollegiate Athletics (or Interim Director of Intercollegiate Athletics)
- Head Football Coach
- Head Basketball Coaches (Men's and Women's)
- Faculty Promotions as a group
- Distinguished Professors
- Named/Chaired Professorships, named Headships and Deanships, **and named Discovery Park Directorships**
(Academic and Student Affairs Committee/Consent Agenda)*
- Endowed Professorships
(Academic and Student Affairs Committee/Consent Agenda)*

Recommendation: I recommend your approval of the revised list at your stated meeting on December 4, 2020. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

* As you know, in the interest of making the most efficient use of the Trustees' meeting time, the Board has adopted a practice of not asking these recipients to make remarks during the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting, while still affording them a brief photo opportunity with the Provost immediately following the Committee's ratification (consistent with past practice).