UCONN
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Office of the Provost
Anne D'Alleva, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs

June 26, 2024

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Anne D'Alleva, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Appointment of Professor Horea Ilies to the Pratt & Whitney Professor of Advanced Materials and Processing in the College of Engineering

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees appoint Professor Horea Ilies to the Pratt & Whitney Professor of Advanced Materials and Processing in the College of Engineering.

BACKGROUND:

The United Technologies Corporation Professor of Advanced Materials and Processing was established in February 2006 by agreement of the Provost's Office, the College of Engineering and the Institute of Material Science. The Pratt & Whitney Professorship of Advanced Materials and Processing is reserved for a renowned researcher and teacher in an area of materials science and engineering who will provide leadership and vision toward the development of advanced technologies and processes, the enhancement of graduate and undergraduate education, and the elevation of UConn's reputation for excellence in materials science and allied areas. The name was changed to the Pratt & Whitney Professor of Advanced Materials and Processing as part of an agreement between Raytheon Technologies Corporation, The University of Connecticut Foundation, Inc., and UConn dated August 31, 2022. This appointment will be effective from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029.

Professor Horea Ilies is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering and an international leader in digital design and advanced manufacturing, with research and teaching interests focused on systematic and efficient design, analysis, and manufacturing of engineering artifacts. Professor Ilies is serving or has served as PI or Co-PI for 23 externally funded research projects, with a total amount of funding over $16M. He has published 50 refereed journal papers, 9 book chapters, and holds 8 patents/invention disclosures. He has delivered over 20 invited and keynote talks, is an elected member of the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering, and serves as a member of the Editorial Board for three journals.

Professor Ilies has graduated 12 Ph.D. students and has 6 in his research group at this time. In addition to his position as Director of the DREAM Research Center, he is currently the Director of the School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Manufacturing Engineering within the College of Engineering.

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