

June 26, 2024

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. Radenka Maric 

RE: Naming Recommendation for the Matthew and Margarethe Mashikian
Entrepreneurship Hub

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees name the existing Entrepreneurship Hub Program (“eHub”) in the College of Engineering as the “Matthew and Margarethe Mashikian Entrepreneurship Hub.”

BACKGROUND:

The eHub program was created to promote technological innovation and support entrepreneurship, from ideation and conceptualization to fully launching startups and scaling businesses. The program advances this mission by offering courses, programs, and activities that provide training and support in the skills, tools, and mindset of being an entrepreneur.

Dr. and Mrs. Mashikian are long-time members of the UConn community. Dr. Mashikian is a Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering and was the Founding Director of UConn’s Electrical Insulation Research Center. He taught in the then-School of Engineering for 14 years until his retirement in 1997. In addition to his work at UConn, he led research in engineering at Detroit Edison and later founded Imcorp, a technology leader in underground power cable life cycle condition assessment and performance. Mrs. Mashikian worked as an orthoptist with a focus on therapeutic exercises for adults with double vision and eye fatigue.

The Mashikians have made an outright gift and pledged additional donations for an endowed fund to provide substantial ongoing operational support to the existing Entrepreneurship Hub in the College of Engineering. The amount is consistent with the University’s *Named Gift Guideline*.

On June 18, 2024, the Academic Affairs Committee and the Institutional Advancement Committee recommended approval to the full Board.