

April 23, 2025

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 Daniel Bolnick as the Arden Chair in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Professor Daniel Bolnick as the Arden Chair in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

BACKGROUND:

The Arden Chair (originally and formerly the Prospero Chair) was established in September 2019. The Chair will be a nationally or internationally recognized researcher, scholar and teacher who will have made significant contributions in the field of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

The recommendation is made by Dean Ofer Harel along with the endorsement of the Department Head and Faculty of the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. The appointment will be effective for a three year term beginning August 23, 2024 through August 22, 2027.

Professor Bolnick joined the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UConn in 2018 and was awarded tenure at hire. His research is at the forefront of ecology, evolutionary biology, immunology, and genomics. Professor Bolnick was the first organismal biologist to win the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Prize in Science from The Academy of Medicine, Engineering, and Science of Texas, and one of the few evolutionary biologists to have his research supported by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). His service and contributions to the scientific community will significantly contribute to the advancement of the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology's research and academic goals.