

April 29, 2026

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Pamir Alpay, Ph.D.  
Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Reappointment of Professor Karolina Heyduk, Ph.D. to the Rosalind 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 reappointment of Professor Karolina Heyduk, Ph.D. to the Rosalind Chair in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences through December 31, 2027.

**RESOLUTION:**

"Be it resolved that the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees reappoint Professor Karolina Heyduk, Ph.D. to the Rosalind Chair in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences through December 31, 2027."

**BACKGROUND:**

The Rosalind Chair, originally known as the Titania Chair, was established in September 2019 to support a nationally or internationally recognized researcher, scholar and teacher who will have made significant contributions in the field of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. The endowment name change from Titania to Rosalind was requested and approved under a separate action item for the Board of Trustees on the date of December 9, 2020.

Professor Heyduk held this appointment for a three-year term from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025. Upon review and the recommendation of the department head, the Dean has recommend Professor Heyduk's appointment be extended for an additional two years, bringing the conclusion of her term to December 31, 2027.

Dr. Karolina Heyduk was recruited to UConn from the University of Hawaii in January 2023 as the inaugural Rosalind Endowed Chair. An evolutionary physiologist, she studies variation in photosynthetic pathways in flowering plants and is advancing fundamental knowledge of plant

diversification and adaptation. Since arriving at UConn, Dr. Heyduk has maintained an exceptionally productive research trajectory. She has published in leading journals and secured significant external funding from the National Science Foundation. As Rosalind Chair, Dr. Heyduk has built a dynamic research program that includes undergraduate and graduate students, postbaccalaureate researchers, technicians, and postdoctoral scholars. Professor Heyduk's integrative scholarship enhances the department's national profile and enriches the academic experience of students.