February 24, 2016

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Susan Herbst

RE: Establishment of the Paul Krenicki Professorship of Chemistry

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the naming of the Paul Krenicki Professorship of Chemistry in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

BACKGROUND:

John and Donna Krenicki have pledged a gift in the amount recommended under the University’s Named Gift Guidelines to fund an endowed professorship in chemistry within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The individual appointed to the professorship will be a recognized researcher, scholar and teacher and will have made significant contributions to the field of chemistry. The fund’s spending allocation amount will be used to support the professor and his or her related academic activities. Specific priority uses will be determined by the dean of the College upon recommendation by the individual appointed to the professorship.

The professorship is to be named in honor of Mr. Krenicki’s younger brother, Paul, who died of cancer while in college (the former Cook College at Rutgers, now known as the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences) and never had the opportunity to pursue his dream of a degree in chemistry. The Krenickis funded the professorship in memory of Paul and to honor Mr. Krenicki’s mother’s 90th birthday.

John Krenicki is a 1984 UConn Engineering alumnus, who also received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from UConn in 2007. He is the Senior Operating Partner at Clayton, Dubilier & Rice, LLC, one of the oldest private equity investment firms in the world. Donna Krenicki is a 1984 UConn Fine Arts alumna and former member of the UConn Foundation Board of Directors. In 2007, the Krenickis established the Donna Samson Krenicki Fund for Fine Arts, which provides financial support for programmatic enhancements within the graphic design studio programs and for activities with the Department of Art at UConn’s School of Fine Arts. In 2011, the Krenickis also created the John and Donna Krenicki Professorship in Biomedical Engineering, which provides support for a named professor’s research and academic activities within the Schools of Engineering and Medicine. In 2013, they also established the John and Donna Krenicki Professorship in Genomics and Personalized Medicine to support the new initiatives in Bioscience Connecticut and the Jackson Laboratory Partnership.