

February 24, 2021

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Carl W. Lejuez, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
RE: Appointment of Retired Faculty to Emeritus Status



RECOMMENDATION:

Following recommendations of the Emeritus (Retirement) Committee and of President Thomas Katsouleas, that Robert McCartney, Ph.D, be appointed to the status of Associate Professor Emeritus.

BACKGROUND:

Dr. McCartney has been a very successful scholar in his more than 32 years at UConn. He has served as PI and co-PI on multiple NSF grants. He has a number of published journal articles and conference proceedings. Dr. McCartney started in the area of Artificial Intelligence, where he published in top conferences and journals, edited a book, and worked with students. He has subsequently moved to focus on computing and engineering education, publishing with collaborators from around the world in top conferences and journals. In addition, his roles as co-editor-in-chief, founding co-editor-in-chief, and conference chair for different journals/organizations have helped to raise his department's and UConn's reputation in the field.

As an instructor, Dr. McCartney has demonstrated a commitment to undergraduate education, helping to improve the curriculum and the use of concentrations within the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. He has taught a large range of classes to many students over the years, with positive teaching evaluations. He has adopted interactive teaching technologies in large lecture courses, mentored many undergraduate students, and served as major advisor for seven PhD and seven masters students. Dr. McCartney has also contributed to his department and the School of Engineering through his extensive work with ABET accreditation. He led the first accreditation of the Computer Science program, and has since chaired the school ABET accreditation committee for two subsequent cycles. Within the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, he served as Director of Undergraduate Programs for 16 years.

According to Dr. Kazerounian, Dean of the School of Engineering, "Robert McCartney has performed well in teaching, research, and service. His research and professional service have brought national and international visibility to his department, the School of Engineering, and the University. I enthusiastically support his nomination for emeritus status." Dr. Rajasekaran, Department Head of Computer Science and Engineering, also enthusiastically supports his nomination. In summary, Dr. McCartney is an excellent research and strong instructor who has made exceptional contributions through his service to the School of Engineering.