


April 28, 2021

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Carl W. Lejuez, Ph.D.   
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Reappointment of Professor Michael Willenborg, PhD to the Richard F. Kochanek Professorship in Accounting

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Trustees reappoint Professor Michael Willenborg, PhD to the Richard F. Kochanek Professorship in Accounting in the School of Business for August 23, 2021 through August 22, 2024.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Richard F. Kochanek Professorship in Accounting was established to support a faculty member who demonstrates outstanding contributions within the Department in one or more areas of teaching, research, and service.

The decision to reappoint was made following the school of business policy; Dean Elliott is making his recommendation based on consultation with the associate deans and the relevant department head in the School of Business.

Michael Willenborg (Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University) is a tenured Professor of Accounting in the School of Business. He has served on the faculty at the University of Connecticut since 1996. His research focuses on empirical, economics-based research in auditing and financial accounting. Professor Willenborg was chosen as the Kochanek Professor because of his strong research record, interest in and history of working with doctoral students, and his distinguished service to the Department, School, University, and Profession. He is a highly regarded faculty member in our MBA program, as evidenced by his many teaching awards.

Professor Willenborg currently serves as the Editor of the prestigious journal *The Accounting Review* and on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Accounting Research*, a recognition of his outstanding research record and many contributions to the field. Over the past three years, he has been invited to give six research presentations at peer and aspirant schools (e.g., Arizona State, Emory, University of Illinois). He continues to play a crucial role in the Accounting Department and the School of Business, where he serves on the Teaching and Research Excellence Committee (TAR).