

April 27, 2022

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

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



RE: Proposed Changes to the *By-Laws of the University of Connecticut*

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees amend the By-Laws of the University of Connecticut, Article XIV.K – Retirement.

BACKGROUND:

The *By-Laws of the University of Connecticut* may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board by a recorded majority of all members of the Board provided that notice of any proposed amendment, including a draft thereof, shall have been given at a previous regular meeting. Such notice and the resolution calling for the described amendments to be acted upon at one of the next three meetings of the Board was given at the meeting dated March 30, 2022.

The recommended changes to Article XIV.K – Retirement support the process of determining emeritus status for faculty at UConn Health, where clinical privileges are also associated with emeritus status. These changes reflect the importance of having UConn Health faculty and the UConn Health Center Board of Directors evaluate any recommendations for emeritus status for any faculty who retire unless they are at the rank of full professor at the time of their retirement.

For the information of the Board, also attached is the original language of Article XIV.K, with indications of the proposed amendments.

Section XIV.K Retirement

(Deleted items struck through, new language underlined)

1. A faculty member's decision to retire is understood to be an individual one, but in the interests of continuity and proper academic planning, it is expected that the faculty member will give notice of ~~his/her~~ their plans at the earliest opportunity.

2. Any member of the faculty, who at the time of retirement is at the University of Connecticut and either retires under the provisions of the State Retirement Act or the Alternate Retirement Plan, may be awarded emeritus status. Also eligible is any member of the faculty who retires from an affiliated institution and whose promotion to rank of Professor in the School of Medicine or School of Dental Medicine was based on scholarship after review by the Senior Appointments and Promotions Committee, Dean, and Provost.

Appointment to emeritus status requires a positive vote of the Board of Trustees or Health Center Board of Directors (for faculty members with primary appointments in the School of Medicine or School of Dental Medicine).

Candidates from Storrs or regional campuses may be presented to the ~~appropriate~~ Board of Trustees when both of the following conditions are met:

- a. The faculty member holds the rank of Associate Professor or full Professor or equivalent titles for clinical, in-residence and extension [CIRE] faculty at the University of Connecticut.
- b. The faculty member has served at the University of Connecticut for at least five years.

Candidates from the School of Medicine or School of Dental Medicine may be presented to the Health Center Board of Directors when both of the following conditions are met:

- c. The faculty member holds the rank of Professor.
- d. The faculty member has served at the University of Connecticut for at least five years at this rank.

There shall be a standing University of Connecticut Emeritus Committee and a standing University of Connecticut Health Center Emeritus Committee. Faculty members who do not meet both conditions described in Section 2a and Section 2b, or Section 2c and 2d, above may become emeriti by vote of the Board of Trustees or the Health Center Board of Directors following recommendation of the President and the appropriate Emeritus Committee. Other professional staff are also eligible for this designation following recommendation of the President and the appropriate Emeritus Committee.

3. It is in the interest of the University that faculty emeriti continue their scholarly, teaching, and/or service activities. The University encourages the maintenance of informal and scholarly contacts between retired faculty members and their active colleagues and may provide working space, equipment, library facilities, and the like to all who can demonstrate reasonable need.

Such support will be contingent upon availability of resources. Deans and department heads, where appropriate, may invite emeriti for professional activities such as lecturing, serving on academic committees, and advising students.

4. Emeritus status is a privilege, not a right, and can be revoked at any time at the request of the President and/or ~~Retirement~~ appropriate Emeritus Committee with approval of the Board of Trustees or the Health Center Board of Directors for emeritus School of Medicine and School of Dental Medicine faculty.