

February 22, 2023

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Anne D'Alleva, Ph.D.



Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Reappointment of Professor Heather Elliott-Famularo as the Donna Krenicki Professor in Design and Digital Media in the School of Fine Arts.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees reappoint Professor Heather Elliott-Famularo as the Donna Krenicki Professor in Design and Digital Media in the School of Fine Arts.

BACKGROUND:

The Donna Krenicki Professor in Design and Digital Media in the School of Fine Arts was established on Dec. 22, 2015, with a generous gift from John Krenicki Jr. and Donna M. Krenicki. According to the terms of the gift, 'the individual appointed to the Professorship will be a recognized researcher, scholar and teacher and will have made significant contributions to the field of Design and Digital Media'. Professor Elliott-Famularo is the first to hold the position; she was appointed on December 29, 2017, in conjunction with her appointment as Head of the Department of Digital Media & Design, in which role she is also being renewed for a second term. The decision to reappoint was made by the dean in consultation with senior academic leadership in the school, in this case the Heads of the three other academic departments, Art & Art History, Dramatic Arts, and Music.

In her role as Department Head of Digital Media & Design (DMD), Professor Elliott-Famularo has provided exemplary leadership. With support from the School of Fine Arts and the Provost's Office, Professor Elliott-Famularo has expanded significantly both the number of tenure-track positions and student enrollment, and established DMD as an important presence at the Stamford campus as well as in Storrs. She has also led a comprehensive restructuring of the DMD curriculum, a key element in securing accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. Professor Elliott-Famularo has at the same time maintained a strong record of research and professional activity, presenting at prestigious conferences, serving on juries at leading film festivals, and working as Co-PI on a number of major external grants developed in collaboration with colleagues across campus, including awards from CREC, NEH, and, most recently, a \$1.3 million grant from NSF. She also remains active as an advisor on graduate research projects and offers numerous independent studies to both undergraduates and graduates.