


June 28, 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 Timothy B. Folta to the Thomas John and Bette Wolff Family Chair in Strategic Entrepreneurship in the School of Business

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees reappoint Professor Timothy B. Folta to the Thomas John and Bette Wolff Family Chair in Strategic Entrepreneurship in the School of Business for the period of August 22, 2023, through August 24, 2026.

BACKGROUND:

The Thomas John and Bette Wolff Family Chair in Strategic Entrepreneurship was established to support a faculty member that is renowned in the field of strategic entrepreneurship who will provide leadership for teaching and research in the area of strategic entrepreneurship. The decision to recommend this reappointment was made following the School of Business policy; Dean Elliott is making his recommendation based on consultation with the associate deans and department heads in the School of Business.

Professor Folta joined the UConn faculty in August of 2013 as a professor of management and was appointed the Thomas John and Bette Wolff Family Chair in Strategic Entrepreneurship in the School of Business. Professor Folta's research is in entrepreneurship, real options, and firm performance. He has received several awards honoring his research, including the 2021 Bright Idea Award for the paper titled "Does government fund the best entrepreneurial ventures? The case of the Small Business Innovation Research Program." The award is selected annually for the top-ten publications by business school faculty in the State of New Jersey. He is a strong participant in the University's entrepreneurship effort and has an international reputation in his field. He recently co-founded (January 2022), along with Maryann Feldman, the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Policy Virtual Research Seminar Series. For this project, he has assembled a team of scholars and policy makers from a range of elite institutions, which include ESADE (Barcelona), Instituto de Empresa (Madrid), Copenhagen Business School, Imperial College (London), Stanford, NYU, top US public universities, the NSF, and the U.S. Patent Office.

At UConn he has served as the Academic Director of the Connecticut Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation and was the Co-Founding Director of the Entrepreneurship Consortium. Further, he has made outstanding contributions through the Accelerate UConn programs.