



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
Mung Chiang
John A. Edwardson Dean of the College of Engineering

To: Jay T. Akridge, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity
From: Mung Chiang *MC*
Date: January 3, 2020
Subj: Recommendation for Distinguished Professorship

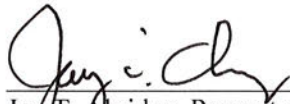
I am pleased to recommend that Dr. Ajay Malshe be appointed the R. Eugene and Susie E. Goodson Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Malshe's case received positive support from the Engineering Area Promotions Committee (EAPC) with 13 voting in favor and 6 against. A special committee has been formed consisting of Dr. Michael Ladisch (ABE-chair), Dr. Farshid Sadeghi (ME), Dr. Robert Lucht (ME), Dr. Rex Reklitis (ChE), Dr. Jayson Lusk (Ag Econ), Dr. Jan-Anders Mansson (MSE) and Dr. Andrew Weiner (ECE). This committee voted unanimously in favor of Dr. Malshe's appointment. Dr. Malshe's full vita, recommendation letters, abbreviated vita, and a description of the source of funds for the professorship are enclosed for your review.

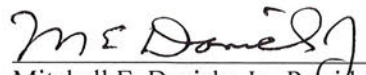
At the EAPC, those voting in favor commented on his "strong record of technology translation", recognition of achievements through NAE, and considered him a "strong candidate" and "energetic collaborator". Those who voted against were primarily concerned by the vote in the ME Primary Committee (MEPC) which voted 9 in favor and 22 against this case. Those voting against the case in the MEPC by and large fell into three categories. In the first, some faculty members concurrently searched the web during the MEPC meeting and brought up unverified issues outside the dossier, which is outside due process. In the second, some faculty expressed skepticism at Dr. Malshe's ambitious plans at Purdue to pivot from his past research on nanomanufacturing to manufacturing applied to food science, agriculture, and space given an absence of his track record in these new application areas. In the third category some faculty expressed concern on what they perceived as low publication and funding record in the recent years. The School Head Dr. Eckhard Groll and I, based on the letters, faculty feedback and our own assessment judged that Dr. Malshe's plans are ambitious and compelling and he has demonstrated the strong collaboration and team-building skills to successfully collaborate with experts in other disciplines at Purdue to accomplish his goals. We also believe that it is hard for faculty who are deeply involved in launching major start up companies to be concurrently publishing and bringing in grants in a significant way. Those voting in favor of his case at the MEPC highlighted the strong potential of focusing on manufacturing applied to food science, agriculture, and space at Purdue. Dr. Malshe's case was then moved to the EAPC where his case was positively voted upon.

This memo is to request your approval for Dr. Ajay Malshe be appointed the R. Eugene and Susie E. Goodson Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

Approval Recommended:

Approved:

 12/21/20
Jay T. Akridge, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity Date

 1/23/20
Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., President Date

Enclosures

Cc: E. Groll
A. Raman
J. Dietz