

June 11, 2021

Michael Berghoff  
Chairman  
Board of Trustees  
Purdue University

**RE: Extension of Appointment and Exception from Retirement Policy (VI.F.9) for Willie Reed, Dean College of Veterinary Medicine**

Dear Chair Berghoff,

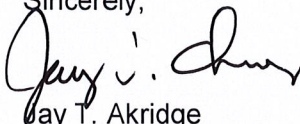
I am writing following my conferral with President Daniels to seek Board of Trustees approval of an extension of Dr. Willie Reed's appointment as Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine through June 30, 2024, together with an exception from University Policy VI.F.9. As you know, this policy requires University executives and staff in high policymaking positions to retire by the end of the fiscal year in which he or she attains the age of 65 if the employee has been employed for the two-year period immediately before retirement and is entitled to minimum retirement benefits specified by federal law. Dean Reed first met the policy criteria for mandatory retirement from his deanship at the end of fiscal year 2020. In August 2019, he was granted an exception from the policy and his Dean appointment was extended through June 30, 2022.

Dean Reed has led the College of Veterinary Medicine for over 14 years with distinction, during which he has overseen an expansion of the academic programming in the College, importantly the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. During his tenure as Dean, Purdue has been recognized for its commitment to student success, diversity, and service to its community. Dr. Reed's distinguished record as Dean is well documented. Over his 35 years in animal health and veterinary medicine, his many honors have included, among others, being recognized as a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists and Charter Diplomate of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians. The Royal Veterinary College of the University of London recognized Dean Reed for his leadership contributions to diversity and inclusion in the veterinary profession by awarding him an honorary degree in July 2018.

Dean Reed's tireless efforts to ensure the College has access to contemporary and appropriate physical facilities are also well known and fittingly culminated in the approval by the Board and the State of a new \$108 million animal hospital. Retaining Dean Reed's leadership and stewardship of this massive project through June 30, 2024 will be essential to moving it successfully through the construction and launch process and in a manner consistent with his long-held vision for the facility. In short, we believe Dean Reed's experience and perspective are necessary for the successful completion and launch of this facility and are therefore requesting approval to extend his appointment through June 30, 2024.

Dr. Reed is willing to continue as Dean; and, in my judgment, the University is best served by granting an exception to the retirement policy to permit him to do so. I sincerely hope that the Trustees will grant this request to extend Dean Reed's appointment through June 30, 2024, as well as a related retirement policy exception beyond June 30, 2022 to accommodate such an extension.

Sincerely,



Jay T. Akridge

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity