

To: Patrick J. Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity
From: Karen Plaut, Executive Vice President for Research,
Dan Delaurentis, Vice President for Discovery Park District Institutes,
Jean Chmielewski, Interim Dean for the College of Science
Date: May 17, 2023
Re: Named Directorship

In December of 2021, Dr. Matthew Huber was appointed the director of the Purdue Institute for a Sustainable Future. Since this appointment included Dr. Huber being named the David E. Ross Director, I am pleased to recommend that Dr. Huber be appointed as the David E. Ross Director of the Purdue Institute for Sustainable Futures. A copy of his offer letter, his CV, and four external letters of support are attached.

Dr. Huber received his bachelor's degree in geophysics from the University of Chicago in 1994, his master's degree in atmospheric sciences from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1997, and his doctorate in earth sciences from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 2001.

After starting as an assistant research professor at the Niels Bohr Institute at the University of Copenhagen in 2001, Dr. Huber joined the Purdue faculty as an associate professor in the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences in 2003, was promoted to Associate professor in 2007, and attained the rank of full professor in 2011. After a brief stint with the University of New Hampshire from 2013 through 2015, Matt returned to his position at Purdue in 2016, where he remains today.

During his career, Dr. Huber has published over 120 journal papers with 7,493 citations. Nearly all of Matt's journal publications are in journals considered at or near the top of their respective subfields

Matthew brings a rich body of leadership and research experience to the director position, drawing from his present experience leading the Purdue Institute for a Sustainable Future, his previous position as director of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center, and his extended engagement and leadership roles in the world-wide climate change science research community. Professor Huber's scholarship has been internationally recognized for its far-reaching global conclusions on Earth's habitability, resilience, and sustainability on long time horizons. Huber's award-winning research has focused on global

modeling of past, present, and future climate conditions and impacts to human settlements, managed landscapes, and natural land, ocean, and cryosphere ecosystems. His research areas include the physical processes generating tropical “thermostats,” the polar amplification of warming, and the environmental, economic, ecological, and evolutionary implications of these processes. His recent work has examined human health and economic impacts under different future emissions scenarios.

Matthew’s strong record of interdisciplinary and collaborative research accomplishment is evidenced by his recognition both at Purdue for the College of Science research award in 2022 and election as Purdue University Faculty Scholar from 2012-2016 and externally as editor in chief of Paleooceanography and Paleoclimatology and as winner of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) Ascent Award in 2018. Huber’s research on tropical cyclones and global warming ranked No. 37 in the top 100 list of scientific stories in 2007 by Discover Magazine, and his work on Cretaceous-Tertiary impact was highlighted as one of the 100 top scientific discoveries in 2004 by Discover Magazine.

This memo is to request your approval for Dr. Matthew Huber to be appointed the David E. Ross Director of the Purdue Institute for a Sustainable Future.


Recommended Approval:


Patrick J. Wolfe


Date

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity
Miller Family Professor of Statistics and Computer Science

Approved:


Mung Chiang


Date

President

Roscoe H. George Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering