

TO: Patrick Wolfe, Provost, and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity

FROM: Eric Barker, Acting Associate Provost for Graduate Programs 

DATE: November 20, 2023

SUBJECT: Posthumous Degree Recommendation for the late Zelong (Bruce) Ding, submitted by the Elmore Family School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette

At its meeting on September 16, 2023, the Purdue University Graduate Council voted to recommend awarding, posthumously, the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering to Zelong (Bruce) Ding, who died September 30, 2023. A request was submitted by his academic advisor, Professor Vladmir Shalaev, and interim head of the Elmore Family School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Dr. Milind Kulkarni.

For the awarding of a posthumous Doctor of Philosophy degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Purdue University requires that at least 85 percent of the credit hour requirements have been completed including most of the requirements for the major.

Mr. Ding meets the University's requirements for the conferral of a posthumous Ph.D. degree. During the review of Mr. Ding's records, the following were noted:

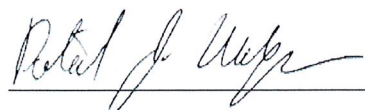
- Mr. Ding began his Purdue University graduate program in Fall 2019. He enrolled in the Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical and Computer Engineering program effective with the Fall 2019 session.
- Mr. Ding's plan of study for the PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering degree was created, and the plan of study included 21 credits, 18 of which have been completed. (The course which was not completed was in excess of the requirements.)
- Mr. Ding's plan of study focused on Fields and Optics with research in Optical and Thermal Phenomena on Nanoscale.
- Mr. Ding passed the preliminary examination for this program on September 25, 2023, and satisfactorily completed 42 credits of doctoral research for this degree during his course of study.
- Mr. Ding's advisory committee certifies that he completed sufficient research that a thesis or one or more articles in lieu of a thesis, can be prepared. Further, the advisory committee

approves the research and results, including a thesis or article(s), and recommends granting the degree.

Given that Mr. Ding's coursework for the Ph.D. program was fully completed, it is my conclusion that Mr. Ding meets the requirements to receive a posthumous Doctor of Philosophy degree in the Electrical and Computer Engineering program.

I concur with the action of the Graduate Council in recommending approval of this request for a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering, to be awarded posthumously to Mr. Zelong (Bruce) Ding if the Board of Trustees grants approval.

Approval Recommended:



Patrick J. Wolfe

Provost and Executive Vice President for Research and Diversity

11/22/2023

Date



Mung Chiang

President

11/27/2023

Date

Copy:

Vladmir Shalaev

Milind Kulkarni

Lesla Beals

Nicole Moody

EB/tp