

**Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 15, 2021**

**APPOINTMENT OF ZISSIMOS MOURELATOS TO THE RANK
OF DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR
A Recommendation**

1. **Division and Department:** Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.
2. **Introduction:** In 1988 the Board of Trustees (Board) created the faculty rank of Distinguished Professor. Upon recommendation of the President and Provost, the Board may appoint individuals to the rank of Distinguished Professor for the duration of the individual's active service at Oakland University. Appointments to distinguished professorships are based on the candidate's efforts and accomplishments in the areas of teaching, intellectual contributions and service, giving consideration to the programmatic and institutional setting of the candidate's work at Oakland and the nature of the candidate's assignments and responsibilities, the quality of the candidate's accomplishments and the relation of all the foregoing factors to the objectives of the area or departments, the goals of the college or school, and the mission and long-range vision of the University.
3. **Previous Board Action:** The Board has periodically appointed individuals to the rank of Distinguished Professor at Formal Sessions of the Board.
4. **Budget Implications:** A one-time salary stipend of \$2,500 plus an annual supplies and services allocation of \$1,500, up to five years, for the Distinguished Professor will be paid from the Provost's Discretionary Fund.
5. **Educational Implications:** Recognition of a distinguished faculty member's long-standing dedication to the mission of the institution reinforces a culture that is devoted to excellence in teaching, research, creative endeavor, and service.
6. **Personnel Implications:** None.
7. **University Reviews/Approvals:** A selection committee of his peers recommended Zissimos Mourelatos in the School of Engineering and Computer Science for approval to Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, to the appointment of Distinguished Professor.

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8. **Recommendation:** RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Zissimos Mourelatos, Professor of Engineering (Mechanical Engineering), to the rank of Distinguished Professor, effective August 15, 2021.

9. **Attachment:** Biography of Zissimos Mourelatos.

Submitted to the President
on 2/11, 2021 by



Britt Rios-Ellis, M.S., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommendation on 2-12, 2021
to the Board for Approval by



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
President

Biography

Zissimos P. Mourelatos, Ph.D.

Professor

Ph.D., The University of Michigan

Mechanical Engineering Department

<https://oakland.edu/secs/directory/mourelatos>

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Professor Mourelatos' dedication to the field of engineering has been on display since he joined Oakland University in 2003 after an 18-year career at the General Motors Research and Development Center. As a world renowned expert in the areas of design and decision making under uncertainty, reliability and safety, model validation and verification, and random vibrations and noise, vibration and harshness, his research contributions are groundbreaking and nationally and internationally acclaimed leading to more than 100 invited presentations, research seminars and keynote presentations here and abroad. He is the author of a book, book chapters and more than 200 journal and conference papers and his work has been supported by the U.S. Army, NSF, General Motors, Chrysler, General Dynamics Land Systems, Federal Mogul, Beta CAE Systems, and the United States Congress.

He is likewise well-respected as an outstanding teacher who is equally committed to both engineering education and professional service. The university review committee notes that *"His record as an educator and student mentor is also remarkable (he has graduated 17 PhD students and 2 MS students, for example)"*. He has also made significant contributions to Oakland University by the time he spends in university service as well as investing in development of junior faculty. His colleagues admire his ability to maintain such a high level of committed engagement in internal and

professional service while balancing a very active research stream. This is a rare skill indeed. His professional service likewise is deep and includes service as a journal editor and on editorial boards, numerous technical symposia, and leadership roles. He has been named a fellow by SAE and ASME and has received numerous other awards and honors. His presence at OU has also increased the reputation of the university. His extensive and impactful research, external funding, hands-on commitment to developing the next generation of engineers and engineering faculty, and service to the profession merit being awarded the rank of Distinguished Professor.