

Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 6, 2023

**APPOINTMENT OF HUIRONG FU 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 her peers recommended Huirong Fu of the School of Engineering and Computer Science for approval to Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, for the appointment of Distinguished Professor.
8. **Recommendation:** RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Huirong Fu, Professor of Computer Science and Engineering, to the rank of Distinguished Professor, effective August 15, 2023.

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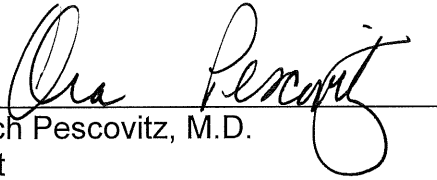
9. Attachment: A. Biography of Huirong Fu.

Submitted to the President
on 1/31, 2023 by



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

Recommended on 2/1, 2023
to the Board for approval by



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
President

Reviewed by



Joshua D. Merchant, Ph.D.
Chief of Staff and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Biography

Huirong Fu, Ph.D.

Oakland University

Professor of Computer Science & Engineering
School of Engineering and Computer Science
(248) 370-4456

Professor Huirong Fu is a leading expert in networks, information security for cellular and vehicular network systems, and data centers. Her contributions include two books, 45 peer-reviewed journal publications, and close to 100 conference papers. She has mentored nine Ph.D. students, served on the committees of four more, and mentored three Masters students.

Professor Fu's publications have been cited over 2500 times and have been published in prestigious outlets such as the *IEEE Transactions on Networking*, *IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications*, and *Computer Communication*. Professor Wenjing Lou of Virginia Tech notes that she has explored a number of research problems that have produced interesting results. Professor Lei Huang of Loyola Marymont University notes that she "explores both theoretical modeling and practical simulations to examine the most critical networking issues such as Quality of Service (QoS) and data security, and has proposed novel solutions to these challenging issues. Many of her research has attracted tremendous attention from the research community and has been extensively cited by other researchers."

Professor Fu is the founding Director of the Center for Cybersecurity which promotes cybersecurity knowledge through interdisciplinary research, teaching, and outreach activities. Over time this Center has been identified as the National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security. As a result of this Center, the school has developed an MS degree in Cybersecurity that builds on the

national need for cybersecurity professionals. She has built two state-of-the-art teaching labs that are fully equipped with cutting-edge technology to offer appropriate cybersecurity training to students.

Professor Fu has secured more than \$6 million of federal funding to support her research and outreach efforts. She has received three NSF REU grants of over \$1 million to support undergraduate students. These grants have supported more than 150 students from almost 100 universities as part of a 10-week summer research program, more than half of whom are women or students from underrepresented communities. The students of this program have received internships or permanent positions from agencies such as the Los Alamos National Lab, NASA, and the US Army. Moreover, Professor Fu is the Program Director of the NSA/NSF GenCyber program for K-12 students. This program has worked with a diverse pool of more than 600 elementary, middle, and high school students and trained 69 K-12 teachers, 46 of whom are women, Black, Hispanic, or Native American.

Oakland University honors Professor Huirong Fu with the title of Distinguished Professor for her extraordinary contributions to advance and promote cybersecurity knowledge not only as a researcher and instructor of Oakland University students but also for her extraordinary outreach efforts that are impacting the lives and careers of K-12 students and teachers, and undergraduate students nationally.