

**SUMMARY**

**New Appointments to Endowed Chairs, Professorships, or Fellowships (5)**

**April 3, 2017**

**College of Engineering**

Rui Qiao	John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship
Julia Ross	Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Dean's Chair in Engineering
Pablo Tarazaga	John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship
Chris Williams	John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship

**Pamplin College of Business**

Juan Luis Nicolau	Marriott Professorship of Hospitality Finance and Revenue
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**ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP**  
**John R. Jones III Faculty Fellow in Mechanical Engineering**

The John R. Jones III Faculty Fellow in Mechanical Engineering endowment was established in 2006 to acknowledge and reward mid-career faculty members who have shown exceptional merit in research, teaching, and service. John R. Jones earned a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech in 1967. Mr. Jones is a retired executive of American Electric Power and remains an active consultant to the power industry. Mr. Jones has been a member of Virginia Tech's Department of Mechanical Engineering Advisory Board since 1998.

In concurrence with the recommendations from the Department of Mechanical Engineering honorifics committee, department head Dr. Azim Eskandarian, Interim Dean Don Taylor nominated Dr. Rui Qiao for the John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering. Due to special circumstances, Dr. Qiao's appointment to this fellowship was administratively approved in December of 2016 by the president and executive vice president and provost.

Dr. Qiao received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2004; an M.S. in thermal engineering from Tsinghua University, China in 1999; and a B.S. in power engineering from Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China, in 1996. He arrived at Virginia Tech in 2014 as an associate professor in mechanical engineering from Clemson University where he served as assistant and associate professor for nine years.

Dr. Qiao's research has excelled across a broad spectrum of research that is focused on fluid dynamics in heat transfer. His research also investigates thermodynamics, bioelectrochemical systems, multiphase flows, phase-change, and interfacial electrohydrodynamics. The impact of his work can be seen in the high number of citations his papers have received.

In the classroom, Dr. Qiao has graduated two M.S. and five Ph.D. students, three of whom have gone on to faculty positions, and one of whom is currently doing postdoctoral work at Argonne National Laboratory. He currently has six Ph.D. students at Virginia Tech. He has received awards for his teaching, to include an Undergraduate Advising Award in 2009, an Excellence in Teaching Award in 2009, an Excellence in Research and Teaching award in 2012, and a Scholar of the Week award in 2016.

Dr. Qiao's commitment to expanding his research plays a major role in his promising academic career. His work is recognized both nationally and internationally. Dr. Qiao serves on three departmental committees, chairs and co-chairs conference sessions, and serves on panels for funding agencies. He is a member of two journal editorial boards and a guest editor for a third. Dr. Qiao and his accomplishments deserve acknowledgement by awarding him this prestigious fellowship.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the board ratify the appointment of Dr. Rui Qiao to the John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering, effective December 10, 2016, for a period of five years, with operating support as provided by the endowment and, if available, with funds from the eminent scholars match program.

April 3, 2017

**ENDOWED DEANSHIP**  
**The Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Dean's Chair in Engineering**

The Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Dean's Chair in Engineering was established in 2006 by Eric E. Schmidt, chairman and chief executive officer of Google, to honor the Torgersens' commitment to Virginia Tech. Thanassis Rikakis, executive vice president and provost, has nominated Dr. Julia M. Ross, professor and dean of the College of Engineering effective for this chair effective July 31, 2017.

Dr. Ross is currently dean of the College of Engineering and Information Technology at the University of Maryland – Baltimore County (UMBC). While at UMBC Dr. Ross served as chair of the Department of Chemical, Biochemical and Environmental Engineering from 2006-2013, and as Special Assistant to the Provost for Inter-Institutional Research Initiatives from 2012-2014. She served as an American Council on Education Fellow from 2013-2014 in the Office of the President, University of Maryland, in Baltimore, MD.

Dr. Ross is a Fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering and a Fellow of the American Council on Education. At UMBC she holds an endowed position, as Constellation Professor of Information Technology and Engineering. In 2015, she was named an Outstanding Chemical Engineer by Purdue University, and in 2016, she was listed in the Top 20 Women in Technology by the Maryland Department of Commerce.

During her career, Dr. Ross obtained \$12.9M in external funding with a personal share of \$9.97M. Her grant activity includes a \$3M grant from the National Science Foundation/Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings (NSF/DRL) for Engineering Teacher Pedagogy: Using INSPIRES to Support Integration of Engineering Design into Science and Technology Classrooms, and a \$2.97M NSF/DRL grant titled An Examination of Science and Technology Teachers' Conceptual Learning through Concept-Based Engineering Professional Development.

Dr. Ross received her Ph.D. in chemical engineering at Rice University in Houston, TX, and a B.S. in chemical engineering at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Visitors approve the appointment of Dr. Julia M. Ross to the Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Chair of Engineering, effective July 31, 2017.

April 3, 2017

**ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP**  
**John R. Jones III Faculty Fellow in Mechanical Engineering**

The John R. Jones III Faculty Fellow in Mechanical Engineering endowment was established in 2006 to acknowledge and reward mid-career faculty members who have shown exceptional merit in research, teaching, and service. John R. Jones earned a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech in 1967. Mr. Jones is a retired executive of American Electric Power and remains an active consultant to the power industry. Mr. Jones has been a member of Virginia Tech's Department of Mechanical Engineering Advisory Board since 1998.

In concurrence with the recommendations from the Department of Mechanical Engineering honorifics committee, department head Dr. Azim Eskandarian, Interim Dean Don Taylor nominates Dr. Pablo Tarazaga for the John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering.

Dr. Tarazaga received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech in 2009 and held a post-doctoral position at the University of Bristol, England (2009-2011) before joining the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Virginia Tech as an assistant professor in August 2011. Dr. Tarazaga has a solid foundation in research, scholarship, teaching, advising, and service, with a strong promise of future advancement and progress.

Dr. Tarazaga has an exceptional record in research, advising, teaching, and publishing. He has been able to secure \$3.278M (\$1.74M external, \$504K internal/external, and \$1.004M internal) sponsorship with his share being \$1.2M. His external sponsor portfolio includes the National Science Foundation, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the Army, and the Alpha Foundation. Dr. Tarazaga's research activities are solid and an indication of his promise in attracting additional external funds for his research. Dr. Tarazaga has successfully advised three Ph.D. and four master's students to completion, while training one post-doc to completion in his research group. He currently advises eight Ph.D. students, supervises three undergraduate students, and two post-docs.

Dr. Tarazaga's research is significant and he is particularly creative in extending his expertise to new areas and applications. His collegiality, service, peer-earned respect, and his regard for students, are the essential characteristics of a successful scholar. Dr. Tarazaga is an ideal recipient of this fellowship. His enthusiasm, humor, approachable demeanor, and engaging attitude will serve him well throughout his career.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the board approve the appointment of Dr. Pablo Tarazaga to the John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering, effective August 10, 2017, for a period of five years, with operating support as provided by the endowment and, if available, with funds from the eminent scholars match program.

April 3, 2017

**ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP**  
**John R. Jones III Faculty Fellow in Mechanical Engineering**

The John R. Jones III Faculty Fellow in Mechanical Engineering endowment was established in 2006 to acknowledge and reward mid-career faculty members who have shown exceptional merit in research, teaching, and service. John R. Jones earned a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech in 1967. Mr. Jones is a retired executive of American Electric Power and remains an active consultant to the power industry. Mr. Jones has been a member of Virginia Tech's Department of Mechanical Engineering Advisory Board since 1998.

In concurrence with the recommendations from the Department of Mechanical Engineering honorifics committee, department head Dr. Azim Eskandarian, Interim Dean Don Taylor nominated Dr. Christopher Williams for the John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering. Due to special circumstances, Dr. Williams' appointment to this fellowship was administratively approved in December of 2016 by the president and executive vice president and provost.

Dr. Williams received a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Florida in 2000 and an M.S. (2003) and Ph.D. (2008) in mechanical engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. At Virginia Tech, Dr. Williams held a joint appointment as an assistant professor with the departments of engineering education and mechanical engineering. In 2014 Dr. Williams was named an associate professor in mechanical engineering and the W.S. 'Pete' White Chair for Innovation in Engineering Education, and associate director of the Macromolecules and Interfaces Institute.

Dr. Williams has an exceptional research record focused on advancing the field of additive manufacturing. He is very successful with his interdisciplinary collaborations. Dr. Williams is dedicated to his research and is equally committed to his teaching and as a mentor to his students. He has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses and created a number of extracurricular educational opportunities that have involved hundreds of students across the university.

Dr. Williams' high energy and enthusiasm for expanding his research plays a major role in his promising academic career. He is well known and respected in his field externally, bringing increased visibility to the mechanical engineering department and Virginia Tech. Along with all of his academic and research commitments, he frequently volunteers for service to the department including chairing a faculty search committee. Dr. Williams is definitely the kind of faculty we want to reward and encourage to excel.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the board ratify the appointment of Dr. Christopher Williams to the John R. Jones III Faculty Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering, effective December 10, 2016, for a period of five years, with operating support as provided by the endowment and, if available, with funds from the eminent scholars match program.

April 3, 2017

**ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP**  
**Marriott Professorship of Hospitality Finance and Revenue Management**

The Marriott Professorship of Hospitality Finance and Revenue Management was established in 2008 and revised in 2011 to support the Pamplin College of Business and Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management in their efforts to attract, retain, and support a top faculty member specifically dedicated to taking the most progressive research and best practices in hospitality management and translating it into practical applications in the classroom. The faculty of the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management have recommended that the professorship be awarded to Juan Luis Nicolau in conjunction with his appointment in the Department of Hospitality and Tourism effective August 10, 2017. The department honorifics committee and the college honorifics and awards committee endorsed this nomination as did Dean Robert Sumichrast.

Professor Nicolau received his Ph.D. in 2002 from the University of Alicante, Spain where he served as a tenured professor of marketing and dean of the faculty of economics. Professor Nicolau is widely published in top-tier hospitality and tourism journals as well as in top journals in the fields of marketing and management. Based on his body of research, he is ranked 16th among the top 25 international researchers in tourism. Professor Nicolau has served on the editorial boards of many of the top journals in the field and has won 12 international awards for his research. He has presented his work at more than 80 international conferences.

Professor Nicolau's international collaborations extend to a wide range of public and private institutions on projects ranging from the impact of low cost airlines, to the impact of corporate social responsibility on firm value to the impact of brands on Spanish imports. At his prior institution, he taught graduate and undergraduate courses, taking part in numerous projects related to teaching innovation, and as a result was the recipient of teaching excellence awards including university professor of the year in 2010.

Professor Nicolau will provide leadership, stature and vision to our hospitality and tourism programming, and will help create an environment to attract the best students and faculty to our program. Professor Nicolau is an accomplished scholar and deserving of this professorship.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Dr. Juan Luis Nicolau be appointed to the Marriott Professorship in Hospitality Finance and Revenue Management, effective August 10, 2017 with a salary supplement as provided by the endowment and, if available, with funds from the eminent scholars match program.

April 3, 2017