



WKU[®]

Board of Regents

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

May 11, 2018

*Jody Richards Hall
Cornelius A. Martin Regents Room*

**EMERITUS
APPOINTMENT**

REQUEST:

Approval of faculty emeritus status for Dr. John A. Hardin.

FACTS:

Listed below is a faculty member who has been recommended by tenured faculty, the department head, and the college dean to be awarded emeritus status. Professor Hardin has served the university for twenty-seven years and has a distinguished record of achievement and service.

Potter College of Arts and Letters

Dr. John A. Hardin, Professor of History, Emeritus

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

No funds requested

RECOMMENDATION:

President Timothy C. Caboni recommends awarding Dr. John A. Hardin emeritus status effective July 1, 2018.

MOTION:

Approval of emeritus status awarded for Dr. John A. Hardin effective July 1, 2018.

HONORARY DOCTORATE AWARDS

REQUEST:

Approval of Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts awarded to Mr. Sam Bush.

FACTS:

The University Honorary Doctorate Degree Committee reviews the credentials of candidates for honorary degrees. The Committee has recommended Mr. Sam Bush be awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts at the next appropriate occasion, in view of his exemplary contributions to the University, the state, the nation, and the world.

Mr. Sam Bush is an American bluegrass fiddler and mandolin player from Bowling Green, Kentucky. His skill was recognized early; as a child, haircuts at Dye's Barber Shop on Old Morgantown Road in Bowling Green were also opportunities to demonstrate his growing mastery in the regular adult picking sessions held there. While still in his teens, he was three-time winner of the Junior Division of the National Oldtime Fiddlers Contest in Weiser, Idaho, where officials initially refused to hang his portrait photo on the winners' wall, reputedly because of the length of his hair and his sporty Hilltoppers t-shirt. Before graduating from high school, Bush joined with American county music singer and fiddler Roy Acuff, launching the young musician's career. Inspired by the progressive movement in bluegrass music, he was key in the formation of two legendary Louisville bands, Poor Richard's Almanac and Bluegrass Alliance, representing a musical movement which culminated in the hugely successful and influential band New Grass Revival. The resulting "New Grass sound" was an energetic unselfconscious amalgam of traditional oldtime and bluegrass music, rock and soul, and the improvisatory spirit of jazz. Bush's distinctive driving mandolin anchored the virtuoso group from 1971 till a final breakup in 1989.

Bush has been nominated for 13 Grammys, winning 3, including Album of the Year for his participation in the blockbuster *O Brother, Where Art Thou*. He has been named mandolin player of the year four times by the International Bluegrass Music Association. In 2009, the American Music Association (AMA) presented Bush with the Lifetime Achievement for Instrumentalist Award. His work has always alluded directly and indirectly to his Kentucky roots; most recently his 2016 album *Storyman* features his composition "Bowling Green," co-written with Jon Randall Stewart, which describes growing up on a Warren County tobacco farm, with classic fiddle tunes learned in his childhood interspersed throughout the song. Now a senior and revered member of the bluegrass community, Sam Bush is currently touring the US, continuing to inspire a new generation of musicians and fans.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: No funds requested

RECOMMENDATION:

President Timothy C. Caboni recommends the Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts awarded to Mr. Sam Bush.

MOTION: Approval to award the Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts awarded to Mr. Sam Bush.

UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR APPOINTMENTS

REQUEST:

Approval of University Distinguished Professor appointments for 2018-2019.

FACTS:

Following a review of nominations, below are two faculty members who have been recommended by the University Distinguished Professorship Selection Committee and the Provost to be awarded University Distinguished Professor status effective the 2018-2019 academic year.

Dr. Ferhan Atici is a Professor in the Department of Mathematics. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1995 and joined the WKU faculty as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in 2003. Dr. Atici is an internationally recognized expert in the field of Time Scales, which is an important area of research at the boundary of pure and applied mathematics. Recently, she has applied her expertise to modeling cancer tumor growth associated with certain types of treatment; this work has been supported by over \$100,000 in grants from the Kentucky Science and Engineering Foundation, which invests in research and development activities that promote innovation and add value to the scientific and economic growth of the Commonwealth. Dr. Atici has published more than 50 refereed articles in highly-indexed journals; these publications included 11 different undergraduate and graduate coauthors. She was the recipient of the 2011 University Faculty Award for Research/Creativity, and the WKU Women in Science and Engineering Award in 2015. Multiple scientific indices used in profiling and ranking a researcher's impact place Dr. Atici among the top 5% of the world's mathematicians.

Dr. Atici has taught 23 different courses in mathematics at WKU, from introductory mathematics for first-year students through advanced topics for graduate students. She has supervised the independent scholarly activity of 28 WKU undergraduate and graduate students, almost all of whom have gone on to earn a Ph.D. in mathematics. Dr. Atici's service to the department, college, university and profession is exemplary. She has served on the University Senate and Graduate Council, as Director of mathematics graduate programs, and as a member of a number of important departmental and college committees. She has also served as a member of the editorial board of two research mathematical journals. Dr. Atici is an accomplished teacher, scholar, and university citizen, and displays all of the qualities one would expect to see in a University Distinguished Professor.

Dr. Aaron Hughey is a Professor in the Department of Counseling and Student Affairs. He received his Ed.D. from Northern Illinois University in 1988, and joined the WKU faculty as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in 1991. Prior to that, he served as an Assistant and then Associate Director in WKU's Department of University Housing. Dr. Hughey's scholarly expertise is in the area of Student Affairs, and the interplay between curricular and co-curricular aspects of the college experience is helping students persist to graduation and be prepared for the world of work. His scholarship addresses the needs and challenges of ethnic minority, international, and at-risk college students. Dr. Hughey has authored nearly 50 refereed publications, as well as a textbook and multiple book chapters. Throughout his career, he has collaborated with WKU faculty and staff from multiple academic departments and service units, including Counseling and Student Affairs, Social Work, Enrollment Management, Graduate School, Counseling and Testing Center, Institute for Rural Health, and the TRiO Educational Opportunity Centers. In recognition of his scholarly accomplishments, he has received the CEBS Faculty Award for Research/Creativity in 1997, the CEBS Faculty Award for Teaching in 2003, and the President's Award for Diversity in 2012.

Dr. Hughey has taught 30 different courses in Counseling and Student Affairs at WKU; he developed or co-developed 15 of these courses. In addition, Dr. Hughey developed the online graduate certificate program in International Student Services, and serves as Coordinator of the Student Affairs and Higher Education degree program for the department. Through his dedication to first-hand mentoring of students, Dr. Hughey has impacted hundreds of WKU graduates who have gone on to earn doctoral degrees and/or serve in leadership positions in the student services divisions of leading universities. He has been active on a number of department, college, and university committees, including the university Diversity Enhancement Committee, Women's Studies Steering Committee, and Coordinating Council on Global Curriculum. Dr. Hughey has also been prolific in sharing his professional expertise through professional development programs, workshops, and webinars for units across the university, public schools, the business sector, and the community at-large.

RECOMMENDATION:

President Timothy C. Caboni recommends the appointment of Dr. Ferhan Atici and Dr. Aaron Hughey as University Distinguished Professors, effective the 2018-2019 academic year.

MOTION:

Approval of Dr. Dr. Ferhan Atici and Dr. Aaron Hughey as University Distinguished Professors, effective the 2018-2019 academic year.