MEMORANDUM

March 20, 2019

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Kristina M. Johnson, Chancellor

SUBJECT: Appointment of Distinguished Teaching Professors

Action Requested

The proposed resolution appoints the faculty members listed below to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor at the State University of New York campus indicated.

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Whereas the Board of Trustees has proudly established a historic tradition of acknowledging and honoring extraordinary faculty achievement through appointment to the Distinguished Faculty Rank; and

Whereas the appointment to the Distinguished Faculty Rank at the State-operated campuses is both a system-wide distinction and a promotion in rank; and

Whereas the SUNY Board of Trustees has the authority to bestow system-wide distinctions; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that each faculty member listed below be, and hereby is, promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor at the State-operated campus indicated, effective March 20, 2019:

Professor Subimal Chatterjee, State University of New York at Binghamton; and

Professor Jason M. Lazar, State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn.
**Background**

The Distinguished Teaching Professorship recognizes and honors mastery of teaching. For individuals to be recognized as a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, candidates must have demonstrated consistently superior mastery of teaching; outstanding service to students and commitment to their ongoing intellectual growth, scholarship and professional development; and adherence to rigorous academic standards and requirements.

Further, to be eligible for nomination, a faculty member must have attained and held the rank of full professor for five years, have completed at least three years of full-time teaching on the nominating campus, 10 years of full-time teaching in the SUNY system, and must have regularly carried a full-time teaching load as defined by the campus at the undergraduate, graduate, or professional level.

The accomplishments of the Distinguished Teaching Professor candidates are set forth below:

**Dr. Subimal Chatterjee** – Dr. Chatterjee, a professor in the School of Management at Binghamton University, has been with the university since 1997. A specialist in marketing and an active scholar with principal interest in studying consumer behaviors through various models and theoretical constructs, colleagues and students alike describe his productive research profile as a deeply integrated contributing factor to his excellence in course development and pedagogy. Dr. Chatterjee’s is focused on student-centered learning with serious reflection on learning outcomes, student motivation toward continuous learning, and student investment in achievement. He is consistently the first in his school to introduce new teaching methodologies, having done so with the “flipped classroom” and “just in time” learning. Regarding the latter, Dr. Chatterjee excels in using up-to-the-minute assessment tools that allow teaching materials and content to be customized to meet identified comprehension gaps. This approach has proven to be particularly effective given the level of difficulty across his quantitative courses in marketing, economics and statistics at the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral levels. Students overwhelmingly report his techniques strongly promote individual mastery of concepts. Dr. Chatterjee is a devoted mentor to both students and colleagues. He regularly guides his Ph.D. students by providing opportunities for co-authorship of publications and he is highly regarded for his leadership of the Binghamton University Faculty Development Committee’s 360-degree feedback program. Because of his own devotion to regularized and regulated assessment and re-assessment, Dr. Chatterjee has been the chief architect in the assessment program that allows the School of Management to enjoy the highly regarded Association to Advance College Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation.
Dr. Jason M. Lazar – Dr. Lazar, a professor at SUNY Downstate Medical Center, holds appointments in the Cardiology Division of the Department of Medicine, the Departments of Molecular and Cell Biology and Neurology, and in the School of Public Health. Dr. Lazar also serves as the Clinical Assistant Dean, a position which incorporates his extensive knowledge with his passion for teaching and mentoring medical students. In addition to his teaching responsibilities in the Department of Medicine and the Cardiology Division, he is solely responsible for providing all of the cardiology lectures in the physician assistant and cardiology ultrasound programs. He is the head of the Graduate Medical Education Research Committee, an oversight group charged with developing and implementing the highest quality research experiences for nearly 1,000 residents regardless of specialty or subspecialty. Notably, Dr. Lazar is regularly asked to provide instruction to fellow faculty and administration. Students comment that Dr. Lazar personalizes medicine for them and helps them see the application of basic concepts to more complex clinical situations. His presentations are interactive and engaging, making difficult concepts accessible. An eminent cardiologist, Dr. Lazar is also an expert in population health and launched initiatives to educate students in the principles of this approach. He incorporated the development of community-based health initiatives across Brooklyn as part of his teaching, providing students with invaluable experiences. An important outcome of his distinguished teaching is the large group of eminent alumni whose contributions to the advancement of disease prevention and treatment are the result of the training and mentoring they received from him. Dr. Lazar has published more than 170 peer-reviewed publications and more than 30 invited articles and book chapters. He has a national and international reputation as a non-invasive cardiologist studying microvascular physiology and its effect in conditions such as sickle cell disease, HIV, and systemic lupus.

A copy of the nominating letter from each candidate’s respective campus president is attached. Complete dossiers are available in the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor.

Attachments
January 9, 2019

Tod A. Laursen, Senior Vice Chancellor and Provost  
Office of Academic Affairs, Room S-525  
State University of New York System Administration  
State University Plaza, 353 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12246-2915

Dear Tod,

In recognition of his substantial talent and transformational achievement in the mastery of teaching, I enthusiastically endorse the following nomination of Subimal Chatterjee, Professor in the School of Management at Binghamton University for promotion to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in the State University of New York. This nomination is amplified by widespread support from Binghamton University’s Distinguished Teaching and Service Professors, fellow-recipients of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and numerous other colleagues from the School of Management, administrative officers of Binghamton University, and many of Professor Chatterjee’s former and current students, as well as respected colleagues in management from beyond Binghamton University.

Professor Chatterjee is a specialist in marketing and an active scholar with principal interest in studying consumer behaviors through various models and theoretical constructs. Colleagues and students alike credit his productive research profile as a deeply integrated contributing factor to his excellence in course development and pedagogy. Over a 21 year teaching career at Binghamton, he has designed, guided, and re-developed a dozen separate courses at all degree levels within the school (undergraduate, MBA, Executive MBA, PhD), from mid-size, entry-level, freshman statistics, and hundreds in fundamentals of marketing, to high-demand, professional MBA courses in internet commerce and customer value management, to selective PhD seminars in judgment and decision making, and, especially noteworthy, best practices in management pedagogy.

In recognition of his masterful command of pedagogy all along his career path prior to his promotion to full professor, Professor Chatterjee was awarded the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching (2004) and the School of Management’s Teaching Award (2003). In 2010 he received his school’s highest teaching honor a second time, which colleagues, in their comments, were quick to note may only be awarded to a previous recipient after a required five-year hiatus.

**Student-Centered Learning: Outcomes, Innovations, Self-Assessment, Reinvention**

Above all other measures of the excellence of Professor Chatterjee’s teaching stands his deep-seeded commitment to student-centered learning, especially in light of his serious reflection on learning outcomes, student motivation to continuous learning, and student investment in achievement. Professor Chatterjee, according to his own self-assessment
and his Dean’s and distinguished colleagues’ consistent admiration and appreciation, was the first in his school to adopt and implement new teaching methodologies, particularly the “flipped classroom” and “just-in-time” teaching. Both modes of teaching empower the student with all the teaching materials (lectures, sample problem-solving, assessment quizzes) prior to the given class session in which the principles and ideas will be worked and re-worked to increase learning outcomes and command of material, session by session. Student needs are genuinely centered, while the expert faculty member, who is using up-to-the-minute assessment tools, is deciding on the class structure and content “just in time” for class to begin. Teaching materials and content are thus developed in real time, with Professor Chatterjee maximizing each student’s performance and confidence in successful mastery each day of the term.

Mastery of management and marketing fundamentals, including functional tools of the trade, such as statistics, for all students represents a high bar for Professor Chatterjee’s assessment of his own success as a guide and facilitator to each student. He views grade distributions as a leading indicator of student success, eschewing any notion of grading to a curve, and this personal reliance on data, merged regularly with subjectivity, choice, and decision making, is not only part of his teaching philosophy, but models his own areas of published research. He has been at the forefront in his sub-discipline of marketing in introducing data analytics instruction (especially SAS) to his own fields of decision processing and consumer behavior.

Data further bear out across Professor Chatterjee’s career that students assess his teaching as consistently excellent. The School of Management has students rate quality of instruction on a 4-point scale; the Dean’s Honor Roll of teaching excellence requires a 3.5 average. Professor Chatterjee has been on that Honor Roll all 19 years since the creation of the honor itself, and while the School’s average instructor rating is 3.24 since 2014, Professor Chatterjee, while developing new classes and using new technologies practically every semester since then, has received a 3.76 average over that same period.

**Teaching Mentor and Advocate in School of Management**

Professor Chatterjee is a devoted believer in the power, responsibility, and honor of mentoring students and colleagues alike. He regularly guides his PhD students in the Marketing program he established by a goal of co-authoring publications with each one of them and teaching best practices for all aspects of their academic profiles. He, likewise, engages deeply in the mentoring program set up through the professional business fraternity, Delta Sigma Pi.

Colleagues uniformly praise his openness to mentoring them, especially in his teaching. One junior colleague has titled him a teaching “artist” whose advice and observation helped that young academic win the School’s teaching award. His Dean calls him “the clear teacher-leader within the school.” And all his colleagues mention his devoted leadership of the Faculty Development Committee’s 360-degree feedback program, through which faculty organize regular visitations to colleagues’ classrooms to learn from the “continuous assessment” culture that Professor Chatterjee preaches, practices, and fosters in others. Because of his own devotion to regularized and regulated assessment and re-assessment, he has been the chief architect in the School of Management of the
assessment regimen that allows the School to enjoy and learn from the accreditation
process of AACSB.

Professor Chatterjee’s impact is possibly most widely recognized in his tireless advocacy,
know-how, and self-modeling for online education, especially in his key role building the
online MBA program, but also more recently with on lining of the management statistics
course, and others. He fluidly blends his expertise in student-centered learning with a
complete embrace of technological engagement to challenge paradigms (e.g., MOOCs-
Massive Open Online Courses) that were all the rage from a decade ago, but have nearly
run their course of effectiveness now in a relatively short period of time.

Pedagogical Influence Beyond Binghamton
The most challenging category of assessment required for the truly Distinguished
Teaching Professor is any qualitative measurement of a professor’s pedagogical impact
and effectiveness beyond the respective school or university. Here too, Professor
Chatterjee has already been recognized as a trailblazer in his application of new teaching
methodologies within management programs. In 2013 he was invited to deliver on his
“flipped classroom” and “just-in-time” techniques for the SUNY School of Management
Deans’ Annual Meeting. He has also presented before the SUNY Faculty Senate and the
SUNY Council on Assessment regarding the reimagining of the Binghamton School of
Management’s assessment regimen, mentioned above. In his presentations for deans, for
other administrators, and for colleagues in business and other fields, he moves his
audiences productively through the same types of exercises he models in his classroom.
Ever the master teacher, he teaches mastery to the “masters” and the novices.

The totality of Professor Chatterjee’s proven accomplishments, influence, reputation, and
innovation in the art of teaching already show him to be a master of the craft, always
moving onward and upward. He is abundantly worthy of the title of SUNY
Distinguished Teaching Professor, so that he can continue to guide, mentor and represent
the best values of New York and its higher good through education.

Sincerely,

Harvey G. Steiger
President
December 17, 2018

Tod A. Laursen, Ph.D.
Senior Vice Chancellor and Provost
The State University of New York
Systems Administration
State University Plaza
Albany, NY 12246

Dr. Laursen:

I am proud to nominate Jason M. Lazar, MD, MPH for promotion to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor within The State University of New York (SUNY). Dr. Lazar's contributions to SUNY and Downstate Medical Center (Downstate) renders him an excellent candidate for Distinguished Teaching Professor. He holds faculty appointments in the College of Medicine in the divisions of Medicine, Molecular and Cell Biology and Neurology, as well as the School of Public Health and the School of Graduate Studies. Dr. Lazar is currently the Clinical Assistant Dean in the College of Medicine and Director of the Non-Invasive Cardiology Unit. He has served in several leadership positions including: Director of the Cardiology Fellowship Training Program, Director of the Coumadin Clinic, and Associate Director of Cardiovascular Training.

Dr. Lazar's commitment to education has been evident in all aspects of his work since joining Downstate in 2003. In addition to teaching and daily clinical responsibilities, he serves as Chair of the Graduate Medical Education Research Committee, a member of the School of Public Health Appeals Board, The Dean's Research Committee and the Graduate Medical Education Program Monitoring Sub-Committee. Dr. Lazar is a faculty member for the Summer Institute Program to Increase Diversity and serves as faculty mentor for the Early Medical Education Program.

Dr. Lazar is a renowned scholar who has authored or co-authored more than 170 peer-reviewed publications, over 30 invited articles and book chapters, and more than 140 abstracts that have been presented/published. He serves as Associate Editor of Cardiology and a member of Editorial Boards of several leading medical journals including World Journal of Hypertension and Chest Physician. Additionally, he serves as
an ad-hoc reviewer of publications including, but certainly not limited to: the American College of Cardiology, International Journal of Cardiology, and Annals of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Lazar continues to maintain his own research activities. Most recently, he served as a mentor on the Empire Clinical Research Investigator Program (ECRIP) grant. This grant was for translational research on Type 2 Diabetes and other risk factors leading to atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease and chronic renal disease in a diverse population of people from African descent. He served as co-Principal Investigator and Mentor on the ECRIP grant that studied Microvascular dysfunction and HIV.

Dr. Lazar’s educational activities have extended well beyond the Department of Medicine and Cardiology Division through his service to colleagues from different departments in the College of Medicine, the College of Health Related Professions, and the School of Graduate Studies. Dr. Lazar is responsible for facilitating all of the cardiology lectures in the Physicians Assistant Program and teaches the cardiology ultrasound courses in the College of Health Related Professions. He serves on several thesis committees for PhD candidates in the School of Graduate Studies. He also serves as the faculty mentor to the Downstate Cardiology Club and as a member of the College of Medicine Interview Committee.

Dr. Lazar is the epitome of an outstanding teacher. Well respected for his dedication to his students, he avails himself to help them understand difficult material, provide guidance, and share his vast knowledge. He regularly conducts rounds in the hospital with medical students, residents, and fellows and always has time for their questions. He readily provides help to his colleagues and is always available for a consult. Fellows in the Cardiology Fellowship Training Program selected Dr. Lazar to receive the Outstanding Leadership Award where he was the recipient in 2009, 2010, 2012 and again in 2013. In 2011, he was the recipient of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities. Dr. Lazar was also a finalist for the prestigious Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award, an award given by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). He also received the Sardar Patel Medical College (India) Golden Jubilee Medical Education Award for his work. He has been invited to lecture both nationally and internationally and has participated in numerous medical mission trips where medical aid was provided all over the world.

In the College of Medicine, detailed evaluations for all activities including lectures and small group classes are collected. Student evaluations have consistently ranked Dr. Lazar high. Student comments for Dr. Lazar from his lectures have included the following:

Lectures

This was such an amazing and informative lecture. Dr. Lazar is very clear and used his insights as an experienced cardiologist to enhance the material....

One of the best lectures thus far! Extremely clear and helpful. It was nice we weren’t overloaded with both physiology and pathophysiology.

Another amazing lecture by Dr. Lazar
Dr. Lazar is amazing and explains topics in extremely digestible ways

Very Engaging

Dr. Lazar has served the Downstate community as a mentor, role model, and most importantly, a superb teacher, both in and out of the classroom. He has made significant impacts on the careers and lives of students, residents, fellows and faculty colleagues at Downstate while continuing to serve the health needs of those in Brooklyn and the world. He embodies the combination of outstanding qualities that define the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor.

It is without hesitation and my honor to nominate Dr. Jason M. Lazar for this prestigious distinction and award.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne J. Riley, M.D.

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