I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Domenico Grasso as chancellor, University of Michigan-Dearborn effective August 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023.

As chancellor, Mr. Grasso will serve as the chief executive officer for the Dearborn campus and will also serve as an executive officer of the University of Michigan.

Mr. Grasso served as the provost and chief academic officer of the University of Delaware (UD) from 2013 to 2017 and continues as a professor there in the School of Public Policy and Administration and in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. As UD provost, Mr. Grasso oversaw all aspects of the academic mission of the university, including seven colleges, student life, a $210M research and graduate enterprise, academic affairs, enrollment management, libraries, museums, and the $600M academic budget. Previously, he was the vice president for research and dean of the graduate college at the University of Vermont (2009-2013) where he oversaw a $130M research enterprise and where he also served as the dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences (2005-2009). From 2000-2005, Mr. Grasso was the founding director of the Picker Engineering Program at Smith College, the first engineering program at a U.S. women’s college. While at Smith, he collaborated with Sally Ride, the first woman astronaut, to start TOYChallenge, a program to encourage middle school children to consider careers in technology. Mr. Grasso began his professional academic career at the University of Connecticut, rising through the ranks from assistant professor to department head for civil and environmental engineering over the period 1989-2000.

Mr. Grasso holds civil engineering degrees from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (B.Sc.) and Purdue University (M.S.). He also received his Ph.D. in environmental engineering from the University of Michigan. He is a Diplomate of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers, and has been a registered professional engineer in the states of Connecticut and Texas. He is currently the chair of the National Academies Committee on Grand Challenges in Environmental Science and Engineering and previously served as the vice chair of the EPA Science Advisory Board. As an environmental engineer, Mr. Grasso’s research has focused on molecular scale processes that govern the ultimate fate of contaminants in the environment and development of new techniques to reduce risks to human health and natural resources. He has authored more than 100 journal papers and reports, four chapters and three books; his publications have been cited extensively. He currently serves an editor-in-chief of
In addition to his substantial academic and professional credentials and background, Mr. Grasso will bring his experience as a first-generation college student and as a veteran of the U.S. Army to bear on his leadership of UM-Dearborn.

I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Domenico Grasso as chancellor, University of Michigan-Dearborn, effective August 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Schlissel
President

February 2018