

Attachment A

**Tenure with Hire Justification  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
September 27, 2024**

**Susan M. Dyess, Professor**

**College of Nursing, Department of Nursing Practice**

**CV:** [https://bot.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/08/Susan-Dyess\\_CV\\_Redacted.pdf](https://bot.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/08/Susan-Dyess_CV_Redacted.pdf)

Dr. Susan M. Dyess received her Ph.D. in nursing research from Florida Atlantic University. She came to UCF from Kennesaw State University, where she was a tenured professor of nursing. While at Kennesaw State, Dr. Dyess served as director and Thomas M. and Elizabeth D. Holder Endowed Chair. She also previously held the title of associate dean at both Texas A&M University and at Kennesaw State University. At UCF, Dr. Dyess will serve as the Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs. She has been in administrative roles since 2017 and the majority of her external funding supports programmatic efforts. Dr. Dyess has received \$6 million in programmatic philanthropic funding in the Wellstar School of Nursing at Kennesaw State University for expanding enrollment, \$4 million funded by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and \$500K intramurally funded for student success at Kennesaw State. She has published numerous journal articles and presented at regional, national, and international conferences. Dr. Dyess has held several nationally-elected appointments, she is currently the president elect of the **American Holistic Nursing Credentialing Corporation**, among many other service activities in the profession, college, and university. The Department of Nursing Practice and College of Nursing support the recommendation for tenure with hire.

**Mehmet Gurses, Professor**

**College of Sciences, School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs**

**CV:** [https://bot.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/08/Mehmet-Gurses\\_CV\\_Redacted.pdf](https://bot.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/08/Mehmet-Gurses_CV_Redacted.pdf)

Dr. Mehmet Gurses received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of North Texas. He came to UCF from Florida Atlantic University, where he was a tenured professor of political science. While at Florida Atlantic University, Dr. Gurses held the position of chair in the Department of Political Science. At UCF, he will serve as the Jalal Talabani Endowed Chair and director of the Kurdish Political Studies program. Dr. Gurses' research interests include ethnic and religious conflict, post-civil war peace, and post-civil war democratization with an emphasis on Kurdish politics in the Middle East. He has published numerous peer-reviewed articles, two books, and has presented at regional, national, and international conferences, including many invited talks. Dr. Gurses serves on the International Advisory Board for **Edinburg Studies on Modern Turkey** and has served as the editor of **Politics and Religion**, among many other

service activities in the profession, college, and university. The School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs and the College of Sciences support the recommendation for tenure with hire.

**Sidong Lei, Associate Professor**

**College of Engineering and Computer Science, Department of Materials Science and Engineering**

**CV:** [https://bot.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/08/Sidong-Lei\\_CV\\_Redacted.pdf](https://bot.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/08/Sidong-Lei_CV_Redacted.pdf)

Dr. Sidong Lei received his Ph.D. in applied physics and materials science from Rice University. He came to UCF from Georgia State University, where he was an assistant professor of physics. Dr. Lei's research focuses on surface physics and chemistry of low-dimensional materials, fabrication, and integration of low-dimensional material-based microelectronic and optoelectronic devices, and advanced manufacturing of flexible electronics and medical devices. He has secured substantial federal funding support, including a National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award. Dr. Lei was a recipient of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Future Leader-Young Investigator Research Award and the Georgia State University Dean's Early Career Award. He has published numerous peer-reviewed articles in high-impact journals, including *Nature Nanotechnology*, *Science Advances*, and *Advanced Materials*, and he serves as a reviewer for *Science Advances*, *Nano Letter*, and *ACS Nano*, among many other service activities in the profession, college, and university. Dr. Lei has presented at regional and national conferences and has given many invited talks. Dr. Lei has also taught many courses, both introductory and advanced, and has advised many graduate and undergraduate students. The Department of Materials Science and Engineering and the College of Engineering and Computer Science support the recommendation for tenure with hire.

**Truong X. Nghiem, Associate Professor**

**College of Engineering and Computer Science, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering**

**CV:** [https://bot.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/08/Truong-Nghiem\\_CV\\_Redacted.pdf](https://bot.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/08/Truong-Nghiem_CV_Redacted.pdf)

Dr. Truong X. Nghiem received his Ph.D. in electrical and systems engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. He came to UCF from Northern Arizona University, where he was an assistant professor of informatics, computing, and cyber systems. Dr. Nghiem's research focuses on developing integrated frameworks leveraging control, optimization, machine learning, and advanced computing to tackle challenges in cyber-physical systems. His expertise lies in data-driven methods for modelling, control, and optimization of autonomous systems. He was a recipient of the National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award, the NSF Engineering Research Initiation (ERI)

Award, and the Best Paper Award at the Association for Computing Machinery/Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (ACM/IEEE) International Conference on Cyber-Physical Systems. Dr. Nghiem's research has received a total of \$11.05 million in grant funding (\$10.95 million in extramural grants) as principal investigator (PI) and Co-PI. He has published numerous papers in high-impact scientific journals, presented at regional, national, and international conferences, and has given many invited talks. Dr. Nghiem has extensive teaching experience at the undergraduate and graduate levels, having taught and developed courses in modern control systems and introduction to autonomous driving. He has served as a journal reviewer for **INFORMS Journal on Computing**, among many other service activities in the profession, college, and university. The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the College of Engineering and Computer Science support the recommendation for tenure with hire.