February 4, 2021

To: Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

From: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

RE: Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair

At its December 14, 2020 meeting, Executive Council reviewed the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair proposal and had no objection.

Attached are the proposal as received from the Provost, as well as Academic Senate committee responses.
To: Jason Stajich, Chair  
Riverside Division Academic Senate  

From: Yinsheng Wang, Chair  
Committee on Academic Personnel  

Re: [Campus Review] Endowed Chair Proposal: Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair  

CAP reviewed the documents supporting the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair in the Bourns College of Engineering. CAP was enthusiastic about the establishment of this new Term Chair and voted in favor of the proposal (+10-0-0).
December 2, 2020

To: Jason Stajich, Chair  
Riverside Division

From: Katherine Kinney, Chair  
Committee on Planning and Budget

RE: [Campus Review] Endowed Chair Proposal: Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair

The Committee on Planning and Budget discussed the proposal for the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair and was supportive of the proposal.
REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A NAMED ENDOWED CHAIR
Proposed Name of Chair: Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair

Task                                      Completed Date
☑ Dean/unit head completes and forwards materials to Development    April 3, 2020
☑ VC Advancement and AVC Development review and approve    4/27/2020
☑ Provost/EVC reviews and approves    4/27/2020
☑ [VC Planning & Budget reviews if budgetary impact]
☑ Academic Senate consultation/recommendations
☑ Provost/EVC requests Chancellor’s approval
☑ Chancellor provides final endowed chair approval

FIELDS WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE. [TAB] KEY WILL MOVE CURSOR TO NEXT FIELD

REQUEST

College/School/Unit: Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering
☑ Check here if location of FTE is within the same unit, otherwise specify:
Unit head name/title: Christopher S. Lynch
Endowment gift type: □ Distinguished Professorship
□ Endowed Chair
☑ Term Chair
□ Visiting Professorship

Proposed use: The Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair will be used to attract and retain top faculty to the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Academic Justification – explain how the endowment fits into the unit’s academic plan:
The Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair will help the College of Engineering to attract and retain top academic talent by providing support to faculty who conduct leading-edge research and profoundly enrich the educational experience of our undergraduate and graduate students. Income from the term chair will be available support both research and teaching expenses including, but not limited to equipment, supplies, student stipends, and conference travel. The term for the term chair shall be no longer than three years and renewable one time for a maximum of six years awarded to any individual faculty member. Should the fund reach $1 million and be re-named the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Chair, the chair term shall be five years and eligible for renewal.

Resources – describe the resources that will be necessary to support the proposed chair (e.g., FTE and other funding.) Please refer to the unit’s academic plan as appropriate:
No additional resources are necessary to support the proposed chair. The chair holder will be supported with an existing FTE.

Term Limits
□ Five Years and Renewable (Standard terms per UCR Policy and Procedures on Endowed Chairs and Professorships)
☑ Other – explain:
The term for the term chair shall be no longer than three years and renewable one time for a maximum of six years awarded to any individual faculty member.

**GIFT/DONOR INFORMATION**

**Total Gift Amount:** $500,000

☑ Outright cash gift made on **(date):** 12/31/2019

☐ Written pledge commencing on **(date):** Feb 20, 2020, to be fulfilled on **(date):** 2/1/2024

Initial contribution/pledge payment expected on **(date):** 2-25-2020

Donor name and UCR affiliation: (multiple donors, see description below) or

Will this gift/pledge be anonymous without publicity? ☐ Yes ☑ No

Donor’s background:

This endowment will be established by repurposing two existing endowments with donor consent, and additional fund raising.

$104,704 from the **Reza Abbashian Endowed Distinguished Lecture Fund** (established December 15, 2016, donor: Reza Abbashian, market value as of Nov. 30, 2019)

$40,716 from the **Dr. Reza Abbashian Endowed Fund in Engineering** (established June 16, 2016, multiple donors, market value as of Nov. 30, 2019)

$50,000 from Gordon and Jill Bourns - new 5 year pledge, $10,000 received Feb. 20, 2020

$26,914 from Reza Abbashian - cash gift on 12-31-2019, with additional future support anticipated over next five years.

$277,666 in additional gifts.

Proposed chair name: Reza Abbashian Endowed Term Chair

☐ Check here if naming is honorary

**UNIT/UCR/UC COMMITMENT**

Will any additional college, campus-wide or system-wide resources be sought/required (e.g., space, special facilities, equipment, etc.)?

☑ No

☐ Yes. Describe source of additional resources:

☑ Existing FTE

☐ New FTE – please explain how this is provided for in unit academic plan:

**CERTIFICATIONS**

On behalf of the unit, I certify the following:

- The intellectual independence of the chair holder’s scholarly activities is assured.
- If the donation is being made anonymously, I attest to the experience, character, and reputation of the donor.
• The faculty member who is appointed to this chair will be notified of the annual reporting requirement as specified in UCR Policy 500-15: Policy and Procedures on Endowed Chairs: Establishment, Administration, and Appointment of Faculty.
• A diversity, equity, and inclusion plan will be created in advance of chair recruitment.
• Use of the chair for recruitment will be dependent on available campus budgetary resources.

I have attached the following documents:

[X] Letter from the college/school executive committee or department chair(s) on behalf of the affected departments, as defined by consultation between the dean and the chair of the college/school executive committee, endorsing this proposal.

☐ If naming is honorific, confirmation is attached that the honoree (if living) or honoree’s family (if honoree is deceased) has agreed to the naming.

[DocuSigned by:]

Christopher Lynch

4/22/2020

Date

Dean
May 7, 2020

Dr. Dylan Rodriguez  
Chair  
UCR Academic Senate

Dylan,

We request the review of and recommendation by the appropriate committees of the Academic Senate for the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair in the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering.

This chair has been recommended by Dr. Christopher Lynch, Dean of the Bourns College of Engineering. It is being funded by multiple donors, and by redirecting the use of the Dr. Reza Abbaschian Endowed Fund in Engineering.

Attached are:
- Request for Approval to Establish Endowed Chair
- Letter from BCOE Executive Committee in support of the chair
- Letter showing engagement with donors to the previous fund
- Fund Agreement with Amendment for showing support of changing use of previous fund

We would appreciate a response with the Academic Senate Executive Council’s recommendation as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Thomas M. Smith  
Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

cc: Cherysa Cortez, Executive Director, Academic Senate
UC Riverside Foundation

Fund Agreement between
the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering,
the UC Riverside Foundation,
and the Regents of the University of California
to establish the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair Fund

The UC Riverside Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering wishes to establish an endowed fund with the UC Riverside Foundation, a California non-profit corporation, with the conditions and purposes contained in this document. The name of the fund will be the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair Fund ("Fund"). The expendable distribution from this endowment will provide support for an endowed term chair in the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering under the direction of the Dean.

The fund is established to honor Dean Abbaschian and recognize his years of service to the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering during a period of growth and increase in international prominence for the college.

Background:

Reza Abbaschian is Director of Winston Chung Global Energy Center, Distinguished Professor, and Winston Chung Endowed Professor in Sustainability at University of California Riverside (UCR). The Winston Chung Global Energy Center (WCGEC) is a multi-disciplinary research center to advance solutions for today's energy demands, while developing advanced energy storage, generation and distribution research and energy-use strategies for tomorrow’s applications. WCGEC was established in 2011 by a generous endowment gift of $10M by Winston Chung.

Professor Abbaschian began his tenure at UCR in September 2005 as Dean of the Bourns College of Engineering (BCOE), a position which he held until July 2016. He also held the William R. Johnson, Jr. Family Chair until July 2017. During his tenure as Dean, BCOE steadily grew in prestige, research productivity, and student success, landing in the top 50 public engineering schools in the nation. With around 125 faculty, 2,400 undergraduates (100 BS/MS), 750 graduate students (509 PhD and 239 MS), and annual research expenditures of more than $40 million, BCOE now houses seven departments/programs and offers nine degrees in addition to a self-supporting Online Master’s Degree Program in Engineering.

Professor Abbaschian received his PhD in Materials Science and Engineering from the
University of California, Berkeley, MS in metallurgical engineering from Michigan Technological University, and BSc in mining and metallurgy from Tehran University. He has published more than 250 scientific articles including eight books on subjects ranging from metal processing to composites and high temperature-high pressure growth of jewelry diamonds. His research has led to the introduction of man-made diamonds to the market by Gemesis Diamond Company. He also holds five patents and eight patent disclosures held by Gemesis Inc.

Professor Abbaschian is a past President of ASM International, the world’s largest association of materials engineers and scientists. He has been elected a Fellow of ASM, TMS and AAAS. His awards include the TMS Educator Award, Structural Material Division’s Distinguished Scientist/Engineer Award, TMS Leadership Award, ASEE Donald E. Marlowe Award, Davis Productivity Award of the State of Florida, and the 2016 Albert Sauveur Achievement Award of ASM. In 2017, he was given the AIME Honorary Membership, an honor bestowed on only 1/10th of 1% of its membership, in recognition of being an "outstanding scientist and researcher in solidification fundamentals and materials processing, educator and leader in advancing the materials profession."

His commitment to the diversity and success of the student body earned the college ABET’s Claire Fellbinger Award for Diversity, a prestigious honor recognizing the college’s efforts in recruiting students from diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds, retaining them through the bachelor’s degree, and advancing them to graduate studies and careers in engineering. During Dean Abbaschian’s tenure, BCOE’s enrollment of underrepresented students increased to 34%.

Professor Abbaschian led efforts for BCOE to become a more global university, forging robust partnerships with researchers in many countries including China, Korea, Japan, and Thailand. In 2011, Dean Abbaschian shepherded the largest gift from an individual donor in UCR’s history—a $10 million cash endowment gift from Chinese inventor and entrepreneur Winston Chung. Mr. Chung also gave approximately $5-million-worth of batteries, plus funding for faculty research, resulting in an investment in the Bourns College of Engineering of more than $17 million.

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF FUND

This Fund shall be established when:

A. This Memorandum has been reviewed, signed and dated by the appropriate Bourns College of Engineering representative and an appropriate UCR Foundation official; and,

B. The principal balances of the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Distinguished Lecture Fund (established December 15, 2016) and the Dr. Reza Abbaschian Endowed Fund in Engineering (established June 16, 2016) are transferred to the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair Fund; and,

C. The existing endowment funds’ balance transfers, and new gifts to the Reza Abbaschian
Endowed Term Chair Fund, reach a minimum total of $500,000 and have been received and deposited for the purpose cited herein.

D. The name of the Fund shall change to the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Chair when the principal balance of the endowment reaches $1,000,000.

E. Subject to approval through the appropriate policy and procedures of UCR and the Regents of the University of California, and pending receipt of funds equivalent to the minimum requirement for an endowed term chair, the term chair will be named the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair.

F. Additions to the Funds can be made at any time.

II. PURPOSE AND USE OF ENDOWMENT

A. General Purpose
The expendable distribution from the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair Fund will provide support for a term chair in the College of Engineering under the direction of the Dean of the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering, as more fully described below in Section III C, and in accordance with established University policies and procedures.

The Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair will help the College of Engineering to attract and retain top academic talent by providing support to faculty who conduct leading-edge research and profoundly enrich the educational experience of our undergraduate and graduate students. Income from the term chair will be available support both research and teaching expenses including, but not limited to equipment, supplies, student stipends, and conference travel. The term for the term chair shall be no longer than three years and renewable one time for a maximum of six years awarded to any individual faculty member. Should the fund reach $1 million and be re-named the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Chair, the chair term shall be five years and eligible for renewal.

The establishment of the Endowed Term Chair will comply with current policies of the UC Regents, UCR and the UCR Foundation. If, in the judgment of the Chancellor, the designated use of endowment payout is impractical or impossible, then the Chancellor may, in consultation with the Donor(s) when possible, use endowment payout for such other purposes at UCR as s/he determines to be consistent with Donors’ interests and intentions.

III. ADMINISTRATION OF FUND

A. The Fund will be administered in accordance with the UCR Policies and Procedures on Endowed Chairs: Establishment, Administration, and Appointment of Faculty.

B. The expendable distribution from the Fund will be determined periodically under the
terms of the Endowment Expenditure Policy as established by the UCR Foundation.

C. Payout from the Fund will be transferred to the University, to be made available to the chair holder, in support of teaching, research, and service activities under the direction of the Dean of the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering in accordance with University policy.

D. Total return earned by the Fund in excess of the amount approved for distribution shall be retained in the Fund principal to protect the Fund from the effects of inflation and to allow for growth. Any unexpended distribution from the previous year may be combined with that of the current year for spending purposes or added to the Fund principal. The principal of the Fund may be combined with other Funds for investment purposes.

E. Fiduciary responsibility for governance and investment of this endowment is vested in The UCR Foundation Board of Trustees.

F. In the unlikely event that the Reza Abbashian Endowed Term Chair does not meet the pledged amount, the Chancellor of UCR is authorized to re-designate the purpose of this Fund, taking into consideration the Donor's expressed wishes as to the designated purpose described in this document.

G. As is customary with universities and other non-profit organizations across the country, a one-time gift fee is applied to each gift in order to provide essential support to UCR's advancement program. We understand that the fee is currently 5%. In addition, administrative fees will be charged in accordance with UCR policy.

IV. STEWARDSHIP

An endowed fund is a testament to the value the donors place on intellectual and scientific achievement. During their lifetimes, principal donors will receive periodic stewardship reports from the University on the Fund.

ACCEPTANCES:

Christopher S. Lynen, Dean
William R. Johnson Jr. Family Chair
Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering

Kimberly McDaniel
UC Riverside Foundation

11/16/19
Date

11/15/19
Date
AMENDMENT TO THE GIFT AGREEMENT
executed on December 15, 2016
for the REZA ABBASCHIAN ENDOWED DISTINGUISHED LECTURE FUND
between Reza Abbaschian and the UC Riverside Foundation

The following changes to the gift agreement between DONOR and the UC Riverside Foundation and the University of California, Riverside executed on December 15, 2016 have been accepted by all parties.

In Section II of the gift agreement, the purpose and use of the fund shall be re-designated to help establish a new endowment for the Bourns College of Engineering, the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair.

Furthermore, the existing fund balance of the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Distinguished Lecture Fund shall be transferred to the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair Fund.

APPROVALS:

Reza Abbaschian, PhD
Donor

Christopher S. Lynch, Dean
William R. Johnson Jr. Family Chair
Bourns College of Engineering

Kimberly McDade, UC Riverside Foundation

November 6, 2019
Date

11/13/19
Date

11/15/19
Date
November 15, 2019

ADDRESS

Dear NAME,

In June 2016, with contributions from many donors, the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering created the Dr. Reza Abbaschian Endowed Fund in Engineering. You made a gift of $XXXX to this fund through the UC Riverside Foundation on DATE.

In keeping with the goals and strategic direction of the college, Reza and I have discussed the future use of the Dr. Reza Abbaschian Endowed Fund in Engineering and we wish to re-designate the fund to create a new endowed term chair. The Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair will help the College of Engineering to attract and retain top academic talent by providing support to faculty who conduct leading-edge research and profoundly enrich the educational experience of our undergraduate and graduate students. Income from the term chair will be available support both research and teaching expenses including, but not limited to equipment, supplies, student stipends, and conference travel. The term for the chair shall be no longer than three years and renewable one time for a maximum of six years awarded to any individual faculty member.

Reza has also generously agreed to make an additional matching gift and re-purpose the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Distinguished Lecture Fund that he established in 2016 toward this effort. By combining these two existing endowed funds and setting a goal of $300,000 in new gifts, the resulting endowment we seek to establish will have a substantial impact on the College. I’m also pleased that it will provide a lasting tribute to Reza’s leadership.

I am writing today to inform you of this proposed re-designation of your donation. Should you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact Jed Schwendiman, Assistant Dean for Development, Bourns College of Engineering at 951-827-4897 or jed.schwendiman@ucr.edu by December 31, 2019.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Sincerely,

Christopher Lynch, Dean
William R. Johnson Jr. Family Chair

cc: Jed Schwendiman, Assistant Dean for Development, BCOE
April 3, 2020

To: Christopher Lynch, Dean of the Bourns College of Engineering

Cc: Jed Schwendiman, Assistant Dean for Development, Bourns College of Engineering

From: Philip Brisk, Chair of the Faculty, Bourns College of Engineering

Dear Dean Lynch,

I write to inform you that on April 2, 2020, the BCOE Executive Committee voted unanimously in favor of the establishment of the Reza Abbaschian Endowed Term Chair.

The BCOE Executive Committee shares your belief that the resulting endowment will have a substantial impact on the College.