



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 14, 2025

TO: Luay Nakhleh, Dean, George R. Brown School of Engineering

FROM: Marcie O'Malley, Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering

SUBJECT: Adjunct Professor Reappointment for Dr. Thomas Hughes

Based on the recommendation of Dr. Tayfun Tezduyar, I request approval to reappoint Dr. Thomas Hughes as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028.

Dr. Hughes has been an outstanding adjunct faculty member since his appointment on August 26, 2002. Dr. Hughes received his PhD in Engineering Science from the University of California – Berkeley. Dr. Hughes is a member of the NAE, the NAS, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Royal Society of London, and the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Tezduyar's research and other academic interactions with Dr. Hughes have been long-term and very vital. These interactions include research collaborations in fluidstructure interactions, cardiovascular fluid mechanics and fundamental computational technologies. The proximity of The University of Texas at Austin, where Professor Hughes has a permanent position, has increased the effectiveness of our collaborations and the level of his ongoing friendship with Rice. His relationship with the Department has been strengthened by his adjunct appointment, and it gives more visibility to the Department and the School of Engineering and Computing.

Our 16 Mechanical Engineering Faculty have voted for Dr. Hughes's reappointment, with 12 approving and 4 abstaining.

We anticipate that Dr. Hughes will continue to collaborate with our faculty and be an active collaborator with Mechanical Engineering faculty and initiatives.

Thank you for considering this request.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcia K. O'Malley".

Marcia K. O'Malley