

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** UAHuntsville Faculty and Staff

**FROM:** Robert A. Altenkirch, President

**DATE:** March 22, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Vice President for Research

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Rayford (Ray) Vaughn as Vice President for Research at The University of Alabama in Huntsville effective May 29, 2013. Ray currently serves as Associate Vice President for Research at Mississippi State University (MSU) and is William L. Giles Distinguished Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

Prior to serving as Associate Vice President for Research, Ray served as Head of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at MSU. He also founded and served as Director of the Critical Infrastructure Protection Center, under sponsorship from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the Center for Computer Security Research at MSU. Prior to his time at MSU, Ray was Vice President for Military Integration Systems at Electronic Data Systems Corporation in McLean, Virginia.

Ray joined Electronic Data Systems following a twenty-six year military career retiring as Colonel from the U.S. Army. While serving in the U.S. Army, Ray commanded the Army's largest software development organization, created and managed a new organization chartered by the Deputy Secretary of Defense to manage centrally all communication and information systems for the entire Pentagon, and was a senior computer security scientist at the National Security Agency conducting information assurance research.

Ray holds a B.S. degree in Computer Science and Statistics from the University of Southern Mississippi, an M.S. degree in Computer Science from Kansas State University, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Kansas State as well.

Ray Vaughn brings a wealth of experience in higher education, research, scholarship, and research leadership. Please join me in welcoming Ray, and his wife Dianne, to UAH.

Administrative appointments are subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama.

Thanks,

Bob