

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A STANDING RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF  
THE BOARD OF VISITORS**

**WHEREAS**, the by-laws of the Board of Visitors authorize the Board to organize itself into committees to facilitate its work, and accordingly the Board currently has four standing committees: Academic Affairs, Buildings and Grounds, Finance and Audit, and Student Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the by-laws of the Board of Visitors state, "The most important responsibility of the Board is the trustee obligation to insure that the University's educational and research programs effectively meet the evolving needs of Virginia's citizens to the fullest extent possible within the statutory mission of the institution"; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2001, the Board of Visitors established a Special Committee on Research in support of the overarching goal of the University's Strategic Plan, 2001-06 for Virginia Tech to become one of the premier research universities in the nation, and in alignment with the reaffirmation of that goal in the updated Strategic Plan, 2006-12, the Board now desires to formalize that committee as a standing committee of the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the existing by-laws state that the Executive Committee of the Board currently includes the Rector, the Vice-Rector, and the chairmen of the standing committees; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the *Code of Virginia*, §23-118, the by-laws of the Board of Visitors state that the Executive Committee of the Board will consist of "not less than three (3) or not more than six (6) members";

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Visitors' by-laws be amended to establish a standing Research Committee of the Board with a charge to concentrate on advancing the research mission and goals of the university and to review policies and plans related to the research function; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Research Committee will be composed solely of ex officio members, as follows: the chairman of the Research Committee, Rector, Vice-Rector, and chairs of the other four standing committees, with the chair of the Research Committee appointed by the Rector and ratified by the Board; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the by-laws be amended to the effect that, except as noted in the following clause, the Executive Committee will include the Rector, Vice-Rector, and the chairmen of the standing committees: Academic Affairs Committee, Buildings and Grounds Committee, Finance and Audit Committee, Research Committee, and Student Affairs Committee; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that to remain in compliance with the *Code of Virginia's* stipulation about the maximum number of members permitted on the Executive Committee, in those years in which the Vice-Rector does not serve concurrently as the chair of one of the standing committees, the chair of the Research Committee will not serve as a member of the Executive Committee; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Visitors will evaluate the Research Committee in three years and make a determination at that time as to whether the Research Committee will remain a standing committee of the Board.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Visitors' by-laws be amended as described above in order to establish a standing Research Committee of the Board.

June 12, 2006