

SUMMARY
Emeritus Faculty Resolutions (8)
August 29, 2016

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (1)

Robert E. James Professor Emeritus of Dairy Science

College of Architecture and Urban Studies (1)

Jaan Holt Patrick and Nancy Lathrop Professor
Emeritus of Architecture

College of Engineering (1)

Richard Benson Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Chair Emeritus of
Engineering and Dean Emeritus of Engineering

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (3)

Victoria Fu Professor Emerita of Human Development

Ellsworth R. Fuhrman Professor Emeritus of Science and Technology
Studies and Sociology

Elizabeth Struthers Malbon Professor Emerita of Religion and Culture

College of Science (1)

Joseph A. Ball Professor Emeritus of Mathematics

Administration (1)

Elizabeth Flanagan Vice President Emerita for Development
and University Relations

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, Robert E. James, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech for 35 years as a faculty member in the Department of Dairy Science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences beginning in 1980; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the faculty in the Department of Dairy Science, he served the dairy industry of Virginia and the nation as an extension specialist, taught applied dairy nutrition to numerous undergraduate students, and was a valued faculty colleague and advocate for the all missions of the Department of Dairy Science; and

WHEREAS, he mentored multiple graduate students and fostered their growth and development for successful careers in industry and academia; and

WHEREAS, he hosted, taught, and consulted with other academic groups and industry professionals nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, he contributed to the scientific and extension education literature and served as extension project leader for dairy science; and

WHEREAS, he served professional societies, was an outstanding department, college and university citizen;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Robert E. James, Ph.D. for his service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Dairy Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Dr. Robert E. James for emeritus status be approved.

August 29, 2016

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, Professor Jaan Holt faithfully served Virginia Tech for 43 years as a faculty member in the architecture program, the Department of Architecture, and the School of Architecture+ Design in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies (CAUS), serving as chair of the architecture program from 1976 through 1982; and

WHEREAS, since his appointment as director of the Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center (WAAC) in 1984, his vision and careful guidance led CAUS and the university to have a major presence in the National Capital Region (NCR) for the past 35 years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as WAAC Director, he created the only architecture consortium program in the U.S., where faculty and students come from 19 universities, nationally and internationally, in an educationally rich mix of ethnic, cultural and pedagogical diversity to share with and inform CAUS students; and

WHEREAS, he has been directly involved with a legacy of managing a number of high-profile design competitions that have brought international renown to the center and the university. These competitions include the Center for Innovative Technology, the Memorial for Women in Military Service for America in Arlington, the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial; and

WHEREAS, he and the WAAC team created the logistical plan for the inaugural Solar Decathlon in 2002 for the U.S. Department of Energy and now, seven Solar Decathlons later, there is still clear evidence of the planning strategies set out in the inaugural plan; and

WHEREAS, he has been an exceptional educator and inspiring teacher to over 3,500 undergraduates and graduate students, and he is regarded as a calm, sensitive, and wise teacher who cares deeply about his students as individuals. Consequently, he was awarded the Patrick and Nancy Lathrop Professor of Architecture Endowed Professorship in 2011; and

WHEREAS, for all the aforementioned accomplishments, he was awarded the CAUS Career Achievement Award in 2007 and the CAUS Lifetime Contribution Award in 2016;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Professor Jaan Holt for his distinguished service to the university with the title Patrick and Nancy Lathrop Professor Emeritus of Architecture.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Professor Jaan Holt for emeritus status be approved.

August 29, 2016

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard C. Benson served Virginia Tech with distinction for 11 years as the dean of the College of Engineering and, in 2007 was awarded the distinguished Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Chair of Engineering, and;

WHEREAS, under his leadership the college attained record growth and continued to achieve national and international stature as a college dedicated to excellence and high achievement, and;

WHEREAS, Dr. Benson brought his commitment to excellence in research, teaching, and service to every element of his leadership such that the college recruited and retained exceptional students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, guided by his vision and leadership the research portfolio of the college more than doubled with greater than \$200M in expenditures by 2016; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to providing exceptional research and educational opportunities resulted in an increasingly diverse and inclusive environment for women and members of other communities traditionally underrepresented in engineering and higher education; and

WHEREAS, the university relied on his guidance, compassion, and encouragement in the wake of the April 16, 2007 tragedy that took the lives of engineering students and faculty and directly impacted members of the engineering college; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership the college grew in enrollments and resources by doubling applications for freshman admissions, raising \$205M in gifts – surpassing its goal by \$50M, advocated for the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS), and developed the vision for Goodwin Hall, Virginia Tech’s “signature engineering building,” and;

WHEREAS, Dr. Benson’s scholarship and commitment to the field of engineering is acknowledged by his membership in several prestigious international associations including serving on the Board of Governors for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) from 2010 to 2013, and being a member of the Public Policy Committee for the Engineering Deans Council of the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) from 2005 to 2016;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Richard C. Benson for his service to the university with the title of Paul and Dorothea Torgersen Chair of Engineering Emeritus and Dean Emeritus of the College of Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Dr. Richard C. Benson for emeritus status be approved.

August 29, 2016

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, Victoria Fu, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech for 44 years as a faculty member in the Department of Human Development in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses on child development and early childhood education, for which she received the William E. Wine Award for Excellence in Teaching; and

WHEREAS, she advised numerous students on their master's theses and doctoral dissertations and helped prepare them for successful careers in both university and preschool education settings; and

WHEREAS, she was principal investigator on grants and contracts supporting feasibility studies and program development and evaluation in early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions to early childhood education at the national level through her service on national advisory boards and panels including Head Start, Public Broadcasting Service, and professional associations; and

WHEREAS, she received the University Alumni Award for Excellence in International Education in recognition of her leadership in promoting the Reggio-Emilia approach to early childhood education in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Victoria Fu, Ph.D., for her distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emerita of Human Development.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Victoria Fu, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

August 29, 2016

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, Dr. Ellsworth R. Fuhrman faithfully served Virginia Tech for 40 years as a faculty member, as department head for nine years in the Department of Science and Technology in Society, and as a faculty member in the Department of Sociology in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, his research was published in refereed journal articles, book chapters, and books; and

WHEREAS, he made major contributions to the graduate programs in Sociology and Science and Technology Studies, where he served as graduate director; and

WHEREAS, he contributed to the disciplines of Science and Technology Studies and Sociology as a frequent reviewer for national and international journals and funding agencies; and

WHEREAS, he was editor for the premier journal in Science and Technology Studies; and

WHEREAS, he served on more than 100 master's thesis and doctoral dissertation committees; and

WHEREAS, he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in Sociology and Science and Technology Studies; and

WHEREAS, he received numerous teaching awards, including the prestigious Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, he reinvigorated the Faculty Senate in his role as president; and

WHEREAS, he has many years of distinguished contributions to both departments, the college, and the university through dedicated service on numerous commissions and committees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Ellsworth R. Fuhrman for his distinguished service to the university and with the title of Professor Emeritus of Science and Technology Studies and Sociology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Dr. Ellsworth R. Fuhrman for emeritus status be approved.

August 29, 2016

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Struthers Malbon has served as a member of the Virginia Tech faculty since 1980;

WHEREAS, she served as Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion from 1980-1985, Associate Professor in the Department of Religion from 1985-1992, and Professor in the Department of Religion from 1992-1994;

WHEREAS, she served as director and professor of the Religious Studies Program from 1994-2001, before and after it became part of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in 1995;

WHEREAS, she continued to serve as professor in the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies until it became the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in 2003 and then the Department of Religion and Culture in 2009;

WHEREAS, she taught twenty-three different courses to thousands of students at Virginia Tech;

WHEREAS, she has published five scholarly monographs and edited or co-edited five additional scholarly volumes;

WHEREAS, she has published dozens of scholarly articles, book chapters, and entries in reference works;

WHEREAS, she has become one of the world's most respected scholars of literary analysis of the New Testament, particularly the Gospel of Mark;

WHEREAS, she has earned numerous college and university awards, most notably earning the William E. Wine Award for teaching and the Alumni Award for Excellence in Research in the same year (2014), one of the very few faculty members in the university's history to do so;

WHEREAS, she served as regional president of the Society of Biblical Literature, member of the national program committee and nominating committee, and chair or co-chair of two national program units and steering committee member of two others;

WHEREAS, she personally dedicated countless hours over several years to developing, proposing, and shepherding through governance the new undergraduate degree in Religion and Culture that was launched in 2013;

WHEREAS, she shared her scholarship not only with students and her profession but with wider publics, from her local faith community to many national and international audiences;

WHEREAS, she has been an excellent mentor to junior colleagues and students, for which she was awarded the mentoring award by the Status of Women in the Profession Committee of the Society of Biblical Literature in 2013;

WHEREAS, the Department of Religion and Culture, along with all the other programs and departments with which she has been affiliated, has drawn strength from her scholarly expertise, pedagogical gifts, leadership on matters of curriculum and personnel, persistent attention to the well-being and progress of her colleagues, and high moral standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognize Elizabeth Struthers Malbon's service to the University with the title of Professor Emerita of Religion and Culture.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Elizabeth Struthers Malbon for emerita status be approved.

August 29, 2016

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Ball, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech for 40 years as a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to operator theory, systems theory, and control theory; and

WHEREAS, he published over 240 papers on his work and presented this work in over 160 talks in 26 countries on five continents; and

WHEREAS, his research received 36 years of National Science Foundation funding; and

WHEREAS, he was awarded a 1997 Virginia Tech Alumni Award for Research Excellence; and

WHEREAS, he effectively taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses; and

WHEREAS, he supervised 13 Ph.D. dissertations; and

WHEREAS, he provided conscientious service and leadership on numerous significant committees; and

WHEREAS, he served the professional community in positions such as editor, reviewer, and conference organizer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Joseph A. Ball, Ph.D. for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Mathematics.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Joseph A. Ball, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

August 29, 2016

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, Elizabeth A. “Betsy” Flanagan, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech for 15 years as its principal fundraising officer; serving as the university’s first female vice president for development and university relations; and

WHEREAS, she oversaw the university’s fundraising and communications strategies, setting records for increasing total yearly private gift income and annual fund contributions, growing licensing and trademark revenues, and raising the visibility of the university through award-winning media content and an expanded web and social media presence; and

WHEREAS, she was responsible for the strategy and execution of a \$1 billion comprehensive, university-wide capital campaign that exceeded projections, engaged key partners to participate on the National Campaign Steering Committee, led the Public Phase that included 16 fundraising regions and corresponding events across the country, and spearheaded a Faculty/Staff campaign; and through her leadership, the successful brand recognition effort was launched, elevating the university’s external profile both nationally and globally; and

WHEREAS, she served in the senior administrative cabinet of two presidents during her tenure, being an active participant in supporting the strategic direction of the university and assuming a leadership role in the university’s strategic planning process, the campaign needs assessment, and academic and financial restructuring efforts; and

WHEREAS, she led by example, giving of her time and resources for which she was recognized as a member of the Legacy Society, preparing for the future of the university, and inducted into the Ut Prosim Society, the university’s most prestigious donor recognition society; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the transformative value and influence of her role as a female leader, she mentored student leaders, participated as a featured speaker to the VT WomenConnect program, served as an advisor and panelist for the Executive Development Institute, and created the Women in Leadership and Philanthropy organization which renamed their endowed lecture fund in her honor on the occasion of her retirement; and

WHEREAS, she offered dedicated service as chair of the university’s Commemorative Tributes and External Awards Committees, as Executive Vice President of the Virginia Tech Foundation Board of Directors and member of its Executive and Finance Committees, as coordinator of the Foundation’s Development Committee, and as a member of the boards of the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, the Alumni Association, and the Virginia Tech Athletic Fund; and

WHEREAS, she has been instrumental in the enhancement of policies, procedures, and guidelines that raised the profile of the development program at Virginia Tech through her

advocacy for the implementation of increased endowment levels, the reinvestment fee, endowment reporting, and the recruitment of volunteer leaders to serve on various university and college-level boards; and

WHEREAS, she has been honored with the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education's (CASE) Crystal Apple Award for Teaching Excellence and is the recipient of Distinguished Alumni Awards from both the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education and Bethany College; and

WHEREAS, she maintained her designation as a certified financial planner throughout the course of her career and was recognized as a gift planning expert in the advancement profession; and

WHEREAS, she embodies the spirit of Ut Prosim, having provided 15 years of distinguished and selfless contributions to the university through dedicated service and philanthropy; and in doing so has earned the respect and affection not only of her colleagues but of an expansive network of donors and alumni who regard her as a true friend;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University recognizes Elizabeth A. Flanagan, Ph.D., for her distinguished service to the university with the title Vice President Emerita for Development and University Relations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Elizabeth A. Flanagan, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

August 29, 2016