

**RESOLUTION TO NAME THE RESIDENCE HALL LOCATED AT
570 WASHINGTON STREET, SW, FOR JANIE AND WILLIAM HOGE**

WHEREAS, Mrs. Janie Hoge and Mr. William Hoge, Sr. have been documented in the writings of Virginia Tech history as allies and heroes to the first African-American students enrolled at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, Janie and William Hoge, both born in the 1880s and the children of former slaves, had limited education: Mr. Hoge was educated through the third grade and Mrs. Hoge's formal schooling ended with the seventh grade; and

WHEREAS, Janie and William Hoge resided at 306 East Clay Street, adjacent to the Virginia Tech campus, and opened their home, providing room and board to the first African-American students enrolled at Virginia Tech, who studied engineering and were members of the Corps of Cadets, yet were denied housing on campus in the barracks; and

WHEREAS, in the twilight of their lives in the 1950s and 1960s, Janie and William Hoge provided great care to students Irving Peddrew; Lindsay Cherry; Floyd Wilson; Charlie Yates; Matthew Winston, Sr.; Essex Finney, Jr.; Robert G. Wells; and James L. Whitehurst, Jr., and played a key role in opening up this institution of higher education to a much younger generation of black Virginians, offering love, compassion, and guidance to those young trailblazers; and

WHEREAS, the residence hall built in 1966 and located at 570 Washington Street, SW, today houses Virginia Tech engineering living-learning communities, and naming this residence hall for Janie and William Hoge would be a fitting tribute to their legacy and influence on early engineering students from diverse backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, this naming will serve as a reminder of the unselfish care and dedication of Janie and William Hoge to a cause that continues to reverberate through the years since the first African-Americans enrolled at Virginia Tech, and further recognizes the reach of the university beyond campus borders and into the surrounding community in a spirit of partnership, inclusiveness, and compassion to create a welcoming environment for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in acknowledgement of the personal contributions and sacrifices of Janie and William Hoge toward the integration of Virginia Tech and their roles as valued, yet unsung members of the university community, the residence hall built in 1966 and located at 570 Washington Street, SW, will henceforth be known as Hoge Hall.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution naming the residence hall built in 1966 and located at 570 Washington Street, SW, as Hoge Hall to honor Janie and William Hoge be approved.

August 13, 2020