

SUMMARY

Emeritus/Emerita Faculty Resolutions (3)

June 7, 2022

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (1)

Mary Ann Hansen

Extension Specialist Emerita

Pamplin College of Business (1)

Loren Paul Rees

Andersen Professor Emeritus
of Business Information Technology

Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine (1)

Richard Vari

Professor Emeritus of Basic Science Education

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 37 years, Professor Mary Ann Hansen has faithfully served Virginia Tech with distinction in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, as Extension Plant Pathologist and manager or co-manager of the Plant Disease Clinic from 1984 to the present, she has played a critical role for the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) mission of Virginia Tech by providing timely and accurate diagnoses of plant problems and research-based pest management information for VCE agents and growers across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, for the last 28 years she has also served as an instructor, teaching or co-teaching a variety of undergraduate or graduate courses for many hundreds of students, including General Biology, Pest and Stress Management of Trees , Plants, Genes, and People, Clinic Experience, and Plant Problem Diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, despite her primary focus on Extension, Professor Hansen has maintained consistently high student ratings for teaching and has inspired many undergraduates to pursue graduate education in plant pathology and graduate students to pursue careers in plant diagnostics; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the Virginia Boxwood Blight Task Force, she participated in a team of researchers, Extension agents, specialists, and regulatory personnel from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to create the Boxwood Blight Task Force website, a one-stop information source on the invasive fungal disease, boxwood blight which was introduced to Virginia in 2011, that has been recognized as a model for other websites on this topic nationally; and

WHEREAS, she has served in leadership roles in her professional society, the American Phytopathological Society's Potomac Division (Vice President, President, Past-President, 2010-12) and was awarded the APS Potomac Division's Distinguished Service Award in 2015; and

WHEREAS, she has participated as a co-Principal Investigator on grants and shared her expertise through international programs by introducing VCE agents to plant disease problems in South Africa in 2005, chaperoning Virginia Tech exchange students to South Africa in 2004, and conducting a diagnostics project with a tomato farmers' cooperative in Ghana in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Professor Hansen has been dedicated to creating quality educational resources and training opportunities for VCE agents, growers, and Master Gardeners by developing a series of frequently viewed plant disease videos, hosted on the Virginia Master Gardener YouTube channel, instructional videos for Extension agents, and both experiential and virtual plant diagnostics workshops for agents and Master Gardeners, ultimately receiving the 2017 CALS Andy Swiger Land Grant Award and two mini-grants from the National Plant Diagnostic Network for her efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Professor Mary Ann Hansen for her service to the university with the title of Extension Specialist Emerita.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Professor Mary Ann Hansen for emerita status be approved.

June 7, 2022

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 40 years, Loren P. Rees, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the faculty in the Department of Business Information Technology, he was an outstanding teacher of a wide range of courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels; and

WHEREAS, he has received the University Wine Award, and on multiple occasions the M.B.A. Association Outstanding Professor Award, the Pamplin College of Business Certificate of Teaching Excellence, the Pamplin College of Business Ph.D. Teaching Award, the Virginia Tech Certificate of Teaching Excellence, the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council University Outstanding Professor Award, and has been a member of the Virginia Tech Academy of Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, he advised and counseled numerous graduate students in the Department of Business Information Technology during his career including service as chair of nine Ph.D. dissertation committees and membership on 38 college and university Ph.D. committees; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions in research to the fields of management science and information technology, authoring over 50 research articles in his career, and has been recognized by his appointment to the Andersen Professorship of Business Information Technology; and

WHEREAS, he dutifully served on over 40 departmental, college, and university commissions and committees, including the University Council; and

WHEREAS, he served in a number of important offices and on numerous professional committees including as President of the Southeastern Chapter of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Loren P. Rees for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Andersen Professor Emeritus of Business Information Technology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Loren P. Rees, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

June 7, 2022

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 13 years, Richard C. Vari, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Departments of Basic Science Education and Health Systems and Implementation Science in the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, he made additional and significant contributions to the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine as Senior Dean for Academic Affairs through his work in establishing and overseeing the curriculum of a new medical school, including leadership of successful efforts in achieving full accreditation for the school; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the local, regional, national, and international medical education community for approximately 40 years as a leader in prominent professional organizations including the International Association of Medical Science Educators, the American Society of Nephrology, and the American Physiological Society, and in 2017 he received the Paul Glaser Distinguished Teacher award, a very prestigious national award, from the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges; and

WHEREAS, he supported the medical and graduate students at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and two other institutions by serving as a faculty sponsor for various student interest groups, and by serving as a beloved, respected, and admired advisor, mentor, and friend who helped his students pursue and succeed in their career trajectories in both academic and professional settings; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of medical school courses ranging across the entire four-year curriculum, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning and establishing the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine as a national leader in problem-based learning and in interprofessional education; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the Department of Basic Science Education, the Department of Health Systems and Implementation Science, Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute, and Virginia Tech through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Richard C. Vari for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Basic Science Education.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Richard C. Vari, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

June 7, 2022