SUMMARY
Emeritus/Emerita Faculty Resolutions (7)

June 8, 2021

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (1)
Pavli Mykerezi Director Emeritus of Agricultural Technology Program

College of Engineering (2)
Peter Athanas Professor Emeritus of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Finley Charney Professor Emeritus of Civil and Environmental Engineering

College of Science (1)
Thomas Ollendick University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychology

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (2)
Nancy Metz Professor Emerita of English
John Ryan (posthumous) Professor Emeritus of Sociology

Pamplin College of Business (1)
Richard Perdue R.B. Pamplin Professor Emeritus of Hospitality and Tourism Management
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 14 years, Pavli Mykerezi, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Agricultural Technology Program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to experiential learning through his work in agricultural technology focusing on expanding agricultural technology programs globally; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community as a director and promoter of agricultural education; and

WHEREAS, he supported the instructors and students; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of associate degree courses across the agricultural technology curriculum, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students with hands-on, experiential learning opportunities and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the program, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Pavli Mykerezi for his distinguished service to the university with the title Director Emeritus of the Agricultural Technology Program.

RECOMMENDATION:
That the above resolution recommending Pavli Mykerezi, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

June 8, 2021
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for more than 28 years, Peter M. Athanas, Ph.D. served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, with unwavering professionalism, he taught and lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses; and

WHEREAS, he directed more than 90 M.S. and 20 Ph.D. students (and has one more of each in progress), and served on over 220 M.S. and Ph.D. committees in total; and

WHEREAS, he was principal or co-principal investigator on grants researching high-performance reconfigurable computing and signal processing; and

WHEREAS, through his work in computer architectural enhancements, he has brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 150 refereed journal and conference papers, as well as a two book chapters; and

WHEREAS, he disclosed ten patents and was granted at least four as U.S. patents; and

WHEREAS, he served on proposal review panels, such as for the National Science Foundation; and

WHEREAS, he held leadership positions in professional organizations, including as chair of several technical conferences in the domain of computer engineering; and

WHEREAS, he provided approximately 30 years of service as a reviewer for many professional publications; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, the college, and the university through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognize Dr. Peter M. Athanas for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Peter M. Athanas, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

June 8, 2021
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 20 years, Finley Charney, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the field of civil engineering through his work in the general area of structural engineering, and in the specific areas of structural analysis and loads, seismic design, and wind engineering; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he developed and taught undergraduate and graduate courses, including undergraduate structural analysis, graduate structural analysis, wind engineering, structural dynamics, and earthquake engineering design; and

WHEREAS, he contributed significantly to the service missions of the department, college, university, and profession through his regular participation in key committees and organizations, including the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Army Corp of Engineers, and the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program; and

WHEREAS, his research has been recognized by the Raymond C. Reese Award of the American Concrete Institute and by being a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and his contributions to the profession include several editions of the authorized design guides to both wind and seismic loads for the USA; and

WHEREAS, he served as an outstanding advisor for graduate students having served as advisor or co-advisor for 10 Ph.D. students and 35 M.S. students; and

WHEREAS, he expanded the breadth of knowledge in the structural engineering program by consistently inviting and coordinating seminar speakers in part through the Center for Extreme Load Effects on Structures (CELES) Lecture Series which he founded, organized, and led;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Finley Charney for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Finley Charney, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

June 8, 2021
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 41 years, Thomas H. Ollendick, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Psychology in the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught and lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses; and

WHEREAS, he served as the mentor and dissertation advisor for 45 Ph.D. students, and served on numerous M.S. and Ph.D. committees in Psychology; and

WHEREAS, he received several National Institute of Mental Health grant awards for his clinical and research interests ranging from the study of diverse forms of child psychopathology to the assessment, treatment, and prevention of these child disorders from a social learning/social cognitive theory perspective; and

WHEREAS, through his collaborative work with colleagues across the world in Great Britain, China; Australia, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, South Africa, Japan, Colombia, Brazil, the Netherlands, and Germany, he brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 350 research publications, over 100 book chapters, and 38 books; and

WHEREAS, he held leadership positions as the director of the Department of Psychology’s Clinical Science program and in numerous professional societies; and

WHEREAS, he received many professional honors and awards including Distinguished Research Contributions to the Field of Clinical Child Psychology in 2007 from the American Psychological Association (APA), the Career/Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT) in 2013, and the Lifetime Achievement Award for Scientific Contributions from the Society of Clinical Psychology (APA) in 2017. He was also recognized as a Pioneer of Behavior and Cognitive Therapy from ABCT in 2019, was awarded the Academy of Cognitive Therapy’s lifetime achievement award in 2019, and was awarded the 2020 Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology distinguished scientist award; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Thomas H. Ollendick for his distinguished service to the university with the title of University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Thomas H. Ollendick, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

June 8, 2021
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 43 years, Nancy Metz, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of English in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions to the field of Victorian British literature, especially Dickens studies, and to the fields of composition, pedagogy, and e-Portfolios; and

WHEREAS, she shared her expertise by authoring or co-authoring two books, 22 articles, four book chapters, and nine book reviews; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the literature curriculum, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning, which were recognized by the Wine Award, the XCaliber Team Project Award, and election to the Academy of Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, she played a significant role in furthering global studies of Victorian literature and Charles Dickens, including organizing the Dickens Society Annual Meeting and a Victorians Institute conference and reviewing numerous manuscripts, especially as a member of the Editorial Board of the Dickens Studies Annual; and

WHEREAS, she advised numerous students on master's theses and helped them develop successful careers; and

WHEREAS, she held leadership positions in professional organizations, including as president and trustee of the Byron Society of North America, in particular; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees, including serving as director of undergraduate studies, associate chair, and coordinator of the university writing program; and

WHEREAS, she continues to serve the intellectual development of our community as a key member of the program committee of the Lifelong Learning Institute;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Nancy Metz for her distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emerita of English.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Nancy Metz, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

June 8, 2021
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 20 years, John W. Ryan, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a member of the faculty in the Department of Sociology in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he served as chair of the Department of Sociology for 18 years from 2001 to 2019; and

WHEREAS, he led and managed the growth of the Department of Sociology to include programs in Africana Studies, American Indian Studies, and Women’s and Gender Studies; and

WHEREAS, he served as interim director of the African Studies Department; and

WHEREAS, he was honored with International Association of Administrative Professionals Executive of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, he was honored with College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Administration; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the field of sociology of culture with a specialization in the production of culture and in community responses to violence; and

WHEREAS, he published five books and numerous articles, chapters, and research reports; and

WHEREAS, he was honored with College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, he served as visiting lecturer at Wageningen University of the Netherlands for 16 years where he taught courses on the sociology of organizations and the sociology of culture; and

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

WHEREAS, he mentored and advised many undergraduate and graduate students; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of professional service to the department, college, university, and profession;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. John W. Ryan posthumously for his service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Sociology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending John W. Ryan, Ph.D. posthumously for emeritus status be approved.

June 8, 2021
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 16 years, Richard R. Perdue, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Howard Feiertag Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the hospitality and tourism field through his work in the area of consumer behavior and tourism development; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the Virginia Tech community as department head from 2005-2014; served the Commonwealth of Virginia on the board of directors for the Virginia Hospitality and Tourism Association (now VRLTA) from 2014-2016; served the academy through numerous activities including editorship of the Journal of Travel Research from 2003-2014, president and chairman of the Travel and Tourism Research Association from 2012-2013, and as president of the International Academy for the Study of Tourism from 2004-2007; and

WHEREAS, he elevated the profile of Feiertag HTM and Virginia Tech through his international teaching activities in Austria, Croatia, Slovenia, and Australia; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the hospitality and tourism management curriculum including market data analysis, revenue management, and research methods, placing strong emphasis on high standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students on master’s theses and doctoral dissertations and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings worldwide; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Richard R. Perdue for his distinguished service to the university with the title R.B. Pamplin Professor Emeritus of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Richard R. Perdue, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

June 8, 2021