SUMMARY
Emeritus/Emerita Faculty Resolutions (10)
November 16, 2020

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (1)
George W. Norton  Professor Emeritus of Agricultural and Applied Economics

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (3)
Eileen Crist  Professor Emerita of Science, Technology, and Society
Kathleen R. Parrott  Professor Emerita of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management
Beth M. Waggenspack  Associate Professor Emerita of Communication

College of Engineering (4)
Randel Dymond  Professor Emeritus of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Diana Farkas  Professor Emerita of Materials Science and Engineering
Gerald Luttrell  Professor Emeritus of Mining and Minerals Engineering
Matthew Mauldon  Associate Professor Emeritus of Civil and Environmental Engineering

College of Science (1)
Erik T. Nilsen  Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences

Pamplin College of Business (1)
M. Joseph Sirgy  Professor Emeritus of Marketing
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 40 years, George W. Norton, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia as a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in the economics of international agricultural development and trade, production, and farm management to more than 2500 students, emphasizing student experiential learning in a global context; and

WHEREAS, he served as advisor or co-advisor for 22 doctoral dissertations, 62 master's theses, as a committee member of numerous other graduate students, and guided 40 undergraduate research interns, helping students prepare for successful careers in academia, government, and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to agriculture in Virginia, the United States, and many developing countries through evaluating impacts of agricultural research, implementing integrated pest management programs, and contributing to agricultural development more broadly; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 140 refereed journal articles, books, and book chapters; and

WHEREAS, he helped bring international visibility to Virginia Tech through research and outreach in more than 40 countries; and

WHEREAS, he was principal or co-principal investigator on grants totaling more than $70M; and

WHEREAS, he made leadership, committee, and review contributions to professional organizations, including the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), International Association of Agricultural Economists, Southern Agricultural Economics Association, and Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics; and

WHEREAS, he received many professional honors and awards, including Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association and Virginia Tech Alumni Awards for Excellence in Graduate Academic Advising and for Excellence in International Outreach and Research; 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. George W. Norton for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending George W. Norton, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 16, 2020
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, beginning in 1997, Eileen Crist, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Science, Technology and Society in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, she made major contributions to the graduate program Science and Technology Studies (STS), serving on 20 Ph.D. committees, 14 M.S. committees, and supervising seven dissertations; and

WHEREAS, she founded and directed the undergraduate degree in Humanities, Science, and Environment, which awarded 61 bachelor of arts degrees from 2009 to 2017; and

WHEREAS, she taught numerous undergraduate and graduate courses in Science and Technology Studies; and

WHEREAS, her many publications in the areas of STS and Environmental Theory addressed a broad range of scientific and lay audiences, and made important contributions to advancing public understanding and debate; and

WHEREAS, she served the profession by serving as assistant editor and editorial board member of five academic journals; and

WHEREAS, as co-director of the Choices and Challenges Project for 14 years, she made major contributions to public outreach;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Eileen Crist, for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Associate Professor Emerita of Science, Technology, and Society.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Eileen Crist, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

November 16, 2020
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 32 years, Kathleen R. Parrott, Ph.D. served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, she was inducted into the Kitchen and Bath Industry Hall of Fame by the National Kitchen and Bath Association in 2020 for her contributions to the growth and professionalization of the kitchen and bath industry; and

WHEREAS, she participated in numerous cooperative extension programs serving the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, she taught a variety of graduate and undergraduate courses at Virginia Tech introducing students to the fundamentals of kitchen and bath design, social issues in housing, and environmental issues in housing; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions to experiential learning by supervising international and national study tours, independent studies, and field studies; and

WHEREAS, she was recognized by the Housing Education and Research Association for the impact of her research on the discipline; and

WHEREAS, she published over 20 book chapters and 20 refereed journal articles on housing issues; and

WHEREAS, she reviewed and edited dozens of cooperative extension publications, brochures, and fact sheets; and

WHEREAS, she obtained funding for her research from a diverse array of entities including the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

WHEREAS, she was a founding faculty member of the Center for Real Life Kitchen Design at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university by chairing and serving on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognize Dr. Kathleen R. Parrott for her distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emerita of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Kathleen R. Parrott, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

November 16, 2020
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 36 years, Beth M. Waggenspack, Ph.D. served faithfully Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Communication in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions in the discipline of American public address, the role of women’s political rhetoric, and being recognized as one of the leading authorities on the rhetoric of first ladies;

WHEREAS, she was the author of over 50 published articles and book chapters and numerous conference papers; and

WHEREAS, she served her discipline through participation in the following professional organizations: National Communication Association, Central States Communication Association, Eastern Communication Association, Midwest Basic Course Directors, Russian-American Communication Association; and

WHEREAS, she served the Department of Communication in several administrative roles including associate department head, director of undergraduate programs, and director of the graduate program, and also served the College of Arts and Sciences as assistant dean for special projects; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught a wide variety of undergraduate courses, winning several Certificates of Teaching Excellence, was the recipient of the Alumni Teaching Award, and was inducted into Virginia Tech Academy of Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, she advised and mentored countless undergraduate students helping them to develop successful careers in communication; and

WHEREAS, she advised and mentored hundreds of graduate students and served on over 50 graduate committees; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Beth M. Waggenspack for her distinguished service to the university with the title Associate Professor Emerita of Communication.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Beth M. Waggenspack, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 22 years, Randel Dymond, Ph.D., P.E. 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, throughout his long career he taught literally thousands of civil and environmental engineering students in many areas of water resources engineering and geographic information systems and advised numerous graduate students through their M.S. and Ph.D. research work; and

WHEREAS, his research efforts and scholarly works have contributed greatly to the state of knowledge in numerous areas of water resources engineering by developing practical software tools for engineering applications including significant advancements and contributions to professional practice in stormwater management; and

WHEREAS, his excellence as an instructor was acknowledged by his receipt of a Certificate of Teaching Excellence, an Alumni Teaching Award, a Dean’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, an XCaliber Certificate of Excellence, and the James M. Robbins National Excellence in Teaching Award; and

WHEREAS, his contributions to instituting geographic information systems research and instruction at Virginia Tech is exemplified through his service as the founding director of the Virginia Tech Center for Geospatial Information Technology; and

WHEREAS, he brought recognition to the university through his outreach efforts to connect professional practice and education through his leadership in founding the Land Development Design Initiative (LDDI) at Virginia Tech and guiding LDDI for over 10 years; and

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

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Randel Dymond, Ph.D., P.E., for emeritus status be approved.

November 16, 2020
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 38 years Diana Farkas, Ph.D. has been a member of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, she has made significant contributions to the teaching, research, and service missions of Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, she has established an international reputation for pioneering work in computational materials science with a focus on intermetallic alloys and nano-crystalline materials, published over 235 papers, and co-organized 14 symposia in this field; and

WHEREAS, she has advised and mentored numerous graduate students and post-doctoral fellows, most of whom have positions in industry, academia, and national laboratories; and

WHEREAS, she played a significant role in Virginia Tech’s Computer-Activated Virtual Environment (CAVE) facility that brought great visibility to the university; and

WHEREAS, she has been recognized with many honors and awards including the Virginia Tech Alumni Award for Excellence in Research, a College of Engineering Dean’s Award for Excellence in Research, a Fulbright Scholar Award, a Faculty Award for Women from the National Science Foundation, and a Jefferson Science Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, she has been honored with Fellow status in the American Society for Metals, the Materials Research Society, and the Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS); and

WHEREAS, she has been a visiting scientist or visiting professor at numerous universities, national laboratories, and industry in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, she has served as Program Director in the Division of Materials Research at the National Science Foundation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Diana Farkas for her distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emerita of Materials Science and Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Diana Farkas, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

November 16, 2020
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 34 years, Gerald H. Luttrell, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Mining & Minerals Engineering in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, his unwavering enthusiasm in teaching undergraduate and graduate courses was recognized via his receipt of Virginia Tech’s Certificate of Teaching Excellence on five occasions and departmental Outstanding Faculty Award 10 times; and

WHEREAS, his externally sponsored research initiatives in extractive metallurgy and particulate engineering contributed to the development of a wide variety of patented technologies for processing primary and secondary materials; and

WHEREAS, his scholarly contributions included authorship on nearly two dozen books/book chapters, more than 350 refereed publications and conference proceedings, and more than 500 trade journal articles and technical reports; and

WHEREAS, his research efforts and scholarly works were acknowledged via numerous major professional honors and awards from the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (AIME) and the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME), including the Antoine Gaudin Award in 2017, the Stefankó Best Paper Award in 2014, an SME Distinguished Member in 2014, the Robert H. Richards Award in 2012, a Henry Krumb Lecturer in 2000 and 2009, the Frank F. Aplan Award in 2007, the Percy Nicholls Award in 2005, and the Stephen McCann Educational Excellence Award in 1995; and

WHEREAS, as a capstone to his other professional recognitions, he was inducted into the prestigious National Academy of Engineering in 2013, a distinction currently held by only 11 other Virginia Tech faculty; and

WHEREAS, he selflessly initiated many extension activities and outreach programs, including more than 200 external short courses and workshops, which were recognized via the College of Engineering’s Dean’s Award for Outreach Excellence in 2011 and Dean’s Award for Excellence in Service in 1998; and

WHEREAS, he provided more than three decades of service as a reviewer for many professional publications, including a term as editor for the International Journal of Coal Preparation and Utilization; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of dedicated service to the department, the college, and the university via his active participation and leadership on numerous committees and commissions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognize Dr. Gerald Harvey Luttrell for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Mining & Minerals Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Gerald Luttrell, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 16, 2020
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 19 years, Matthew Mauldon, 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, throughout his long career he taught and lectured hundreds of civil engineering students in many areas of geotechnical engineering and advised numerous graduate students through their research work; and

WHEREAS, his contributions to civil engineering education included the development of civil engineering courses on the topics of engineering geology, rock mechanics, risk analysis, and natural hazards; and

WHEREAS, his research efforts and scholarly work has contributed greatly to improvements in fractured rock characterization, tunneling, and real-time mapping of engineering geologic data; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees coupled with national profession service as a member of the Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering editorial board and involvement with societies such as the American Society of Civil Engineers;

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Matthew Mauldon, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 16, 2020
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 35 years, Erik T. Nilsen, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Biological Sciences in the College of Science; and

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

WHEREAS, he chaired multiple M.S. and Ph.D. student committees; and

WHEREAS, he was principal or co-principal investigator on more than 30 grants, from the National Science Foundation and other granting agencies with total funds of over $2.5M; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 80 refereed journal articles, 15 book chapters, and two books; 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. Erik T. Nilsen for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Erik T. Nilsen, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 16, 2020
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 39 years, M. Joseph Sirgy, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Marketing in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to Virginia Tech, the Pamplin College of Business and the Department of Marketing, publishing extensively in the area of marketing, business ethics, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community as a co-founder and director of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS); board member of the Ethics Committee with the American Marketing Association (AMA), a board member of the Macromarketing Society, as well as the co-founder of the Community Indicators Consortium; and

WHEREAS, he has been recognized for his service to his discipline as the recipient of numerous awards and distinctions, including the EuroMed Management Research Award for outstanding achievements and groundbreaking contributions to well-being and quality-of-life research in 2012, and the Robert W. Nason Award for extraordinary and sustained contributions to the field of Macromarketing in 2019; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the Marketing, MBA, PMBA, EMBA and Real Estate curriculums, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning, and earning recognition for his dedication as a recipient of numerous awards for his teaching, including the Pamplin Excellence in Teaching Award and Warren Holtzman Outstanding Educator Award and the Certificate of Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students on master’s and doctoral dissertations and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings; 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. M. Joseph Sirgy for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Virginia Tech Real Estate Professor Emeritus of Marketing.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending M. Joseph Sirgy, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 16, 2020