SUMMARY
Emeritus/Emerita Faculty Resolutions (31)
November 14, 2022

The title of emeritus or emerita is conferred on retired full professors, associate professors, administrative officers, Extension or libraries faculty with continued appointment, and senior Extension agents who have given exemplary service to the university and who the president specifically recommends to the Board of Visitors for approval.

The following faculty members are recommended for emeritus or emerita designation at Virginia Tech.

**College of Architecture, Arts, and Design (1)**
Steven Thompson Associate Professor Emeritus of Architecture

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (4)**
Walter Lee Daniels Thomas B. Hutcheson Jr. Professor Emeritus of Plant and Environmental Sciences
Gregory Kevin Evanylo Professor Emeritus of Soil and Environmental Science
Glenda Gillaspy Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry
Edwin Jones Professor Emeritus of Wildlife Science and Associate Dean and Director Emeritus of Virginia Cooperative Extension

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (7)**
Gary Downey Professor Emeritus of Science, Technology, and Society
Thomas Gardner Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English
Nikki Giovanni University Distinguished Professor Emerita of English
George Glasson Professor Emeritus of Science Education
Amy Nelson Associate Professor Emerita of History
Gary Skaggs Professor Emeritus of Educational Research and Evaluation
Karen Swenson Professor Emerita of English
College of Natural Resources and Environment (1)

Laurence Carstensen Professor Emeritus of Geography

College of Engineering (5)

Thomas Diller Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering
Lawrence (Ken) Harmon Associate Professor Emeritus of Industrial and Systems Engineering
Saad Ragab Professor Emeritus of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics
Joseph Schetz Professor Emeritus of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering
Michael Taaffe Associate Professor Emeritus of Industrial and Systems Engineering

College of Science (6)

Patricia Amateis Associate Professor Emerita of Chemistry
Thomas Burbey Professor Emeritus of Hydrogeology
Richard Gandour Professor Emeritus of Chemistry
Terry Herdman Professor Emeritus of Mathematics, Director Emeritus of the Interdisciplinary Center for Applied Mathematics, and Associate Vice President Emeritus for Research Computing
John Phillips Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences
Robert Rogers Professor Emeritus of Mathematics

Pamplin College of Business (6)

Ralph Badinelli Ralph Medinger Lenz Professor Emeritus of Business Information Technology
Wanda (Kay) Hunnings Associate Dean Emerita for Administration
Ruth Lytton Professor Emerita of Financial Planning
Steve Markham Digges Family Professor Emeritus of Entrepreneurial Leadership
Terry Rakes  William C. and Alix C. Houchens Professor Emeritus of Business Information Technology

Robert Sumichrast  Dean Emeritus of the Pamplin College of Business

Administration (1)

Tom Tillar  Vice President Emeritus of Alumni Affairs
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 31 years, Steven R. Thompson has faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the architecture programs in the School of Architecture + Design in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, now the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design; and

WHEREAS, he established a deep poetical ground to imaginatively teach the constructive, technical, and craft-based aspects of the education of an architect to generations of undergraduate and graduate students; and

WHEREAS, through his extensive participation in study abroad programs, studios, and required courses and seminars he encouraged students to learn outside the confines of the classroom under the sky amidst nature, cities, towns, villages, and places; and

WHEREAS, he served with selfless dedication as chair of the graduate programs in architecture for a period of 10 years from 2004-2014, and from 2000-2004 as coordinator of the undergraduate architecture thesis year; and

WHEREAS, under his care the graduate programs in architecture received recognition in prestigious national rankings; and

WHEREAS, during his 14 years of administrative service in support of graduate and undergraduate education in architecture he never lost sight of the centrality and destiny of each and every student amidst the myriad growing pressures on higher education; and

WHEREAS, he initiated in collaboration with associate professor Hunter Pittman a rammed earth design-build house construction project in Giles County, Virginia from 2002-2007, in which third year undergraduate architecture students in the Bachelor of Architecture program participated; and

WHEREAS, he actively participated with well over 200 students on their senior capstone architectural projects and as a thesis committee chair or member at the M.Arch. and Ph.D. levels; and

WHEREAS, he sustained an unwavering advocacy and offered wise council for generations of students and faculty across his didactic life at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he cultivated a deep relationship to the Commonwealth of Virginia and surrounding states through his teaching and intensive research and outreach endeavors in Saltville, Virginia and at Middleton Place, Charleston, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the architecture programs, school, college, and university through teaching 25 distinct courses and dedicated service on numerous committees, culminating in his recent service as a college representative to the Virginia Tech faculty senate; and

WHEREAS, he held steadfastly to belief in the importance of having a faculty at large that
plays a vital role in the life of the university;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Steven R. Thompson for his distinguished service to the university with the title Associate Professor Emeritus of Architecture.

RECOMMENDATION:
That the above resolution recommending Steven R. Thompson for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 41 years Walter Lee Daniels, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech in the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the faculty in the Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences, and then later in the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, he was a dedicated teacher to over 3,000 students of basic soil science, geomorphology, soil genesis, wetland soils, and mined land reclamation; and

WHEREAS, he served as the Thomas B. Hutcheson Jr. Endowed Professor for over 10 years; and

WHEREAS, he advised and counseled numerous graduate students during his career, serving as the graduate advisor for over 15 M.S. and over 10 Ph.D. students and served as a committee member for more than 50 additional graduate students; and

WHEREAS, because of their academic and research achievements, many of his former graduate students and post-doctoral associates are now working in important roles at a wide range of national and international university and business settings; and

WHEREAS, he made many significant research contributions in the areas of mined land reclamation and soil geochemistry, and authored over 200 scholarly publications, including more than 90 refereed journal articles, 10 book chapters, plus monographs, abstracts, over 50 reviewed proceedings, and numerous conference publications; and

WHEREAS, he received numerous professional honors and awards including fellow of the Soil Science Society of America (<0.3% of active members), and both the Reclamation Researcher of the Year and the Lifetime Contributions Award from the American Society for Restoration Sciences, in addition to several honors from the college, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and others;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Walter Lee Daniels for his service to the university with the title of Thomas B. Hutcheson Jr. Professor Emeritus of Plant and Environmental Sciences.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Walter Lee Daniels, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 37 years Gregory K. Evanylo, Ph.D. has served Virginia Tech in the Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences and the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to diverse Virginia agriculture through his soil fertility and quality research and extension programming; and

WHEREAS, he improved the quality of life of Virginia, U.S., and world citizens and the natural environment through his research and extension programming on soil, water and air quality; and

WHEREAS, he served local, state, and federal governments as a leader in waste by-product processing and use; and

WHEREAS, he supported municipal water and wastewater utilities and the composting industry through his service and advising activities; and

WHEREAS, he received numerous recognitions and awards from professional societies that he served, including the Soil Science Society of America (Fellow), the American Society of Agronomy (Fellow), and the United State Composting Council (Rufus Chaney Research Award); and

WHEREAS, he served as advisor and committee member to numerous domestic and international students on master’s and doctoral dissertations, and helped them develop successful careers; and

WHEREAS, he was recognized for his extension programming excellence by Virginia Cooperative Extension with the Alumni Extension Award and for his translational research by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences with the Applied Research Award; 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 Gregory Evanylo, Ph.D. for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Soil and Environmental Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Gregory Evanylo, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 24 years, Glenda Gillaspy, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in and as head of the Department of Biochemistry in the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, she demonstrated a commitment to the Principles of Community in her work with students and colleagues throughout her tenure; and

WHEREAS, she taught undergraduate and graduate courses with dedication and skill; and

WHEREAS, she mentored numerous M.S. and Ph.D. students of diverse backgrounds and, as head, established the department's first committee devoted to addressing issues of diversity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, she conducted seminal biochemical and molecular genetic research on the role of inositol phosphates as indicators of plant energy status and translated these insights into strategies for increasing the lifetime and biomass of agriculturally important plants; bringing international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, she authored or co-authored over 50 research papers in refereed journals, as well as several articles, book chapters, and reviews; and

WHEREAS, she has continually served the scientific research community as a reviewer for manuscripts and grant proposals, and as organizer of numerous scientific conferences; and

WHEREAS, she served as a mentor and role model for women in science for our students and female faculty, as well as many of Virginia Tech's female department heads; and

WHEREAS, as head, she established the Department of Biochemistry's first full-time student advising office; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership as head the department doubled its graduate enrollment and increased research expenditures to a similar extent; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership as head, the department reviewed and updated their undergraduate curriculum with a new, bioanalytical lecture and laboratory courses and new electives addressing the impacts of big data sets, systems analysis techniques, and molecular modeling on the discipline; and

WHEREAS, she provided thoughtful and decisive leadership that enabled the Department of Biochemistry to successfully address the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, her efforts as head to render the Department of Biochemistry a more
inclusive and supportive environment for all students, staff, and faculty, regardless of gender, ethnicity, and belief systems were recognized by the receipt of Virginia Tech's 2021 Exemplary Department Award for "Developing and Sustaining Academic-community Engagement Activities for Student Well-being and a Sense of Belonging";

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Glenda E. Gillaspy, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 11 years, Edwin J. Jones, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech and Virginia Cooperative Extension as a tenured professor, as an associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and as the director of Virginia Cooperative Extension; and

WHEREAS, he developed a leadership team and partnership with Virginia State University that was able to grow the numbers of Extension faculty and the visibility of Virginia Cooperative Extension throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, he led Virginia Cooperative Extension to develop a new approach to integrated programming and to strengthen its international efforts; and

WHEREAS, throughout his 38 year career as an Extension professional, he has held many leadership positions at the regional and national level, notably serving as chair of the National Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program, the National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals, the Extension Disaster Education Network, the Association of Southern Region Extension Directors, the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy, and was founding co-chair of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy 4-H Leadership Committee; and

WHEREAS, he was recognized for his leadership with the Association of Southern Region Extension Directors Excellence in Leadership Award, and the prestigious Ruby Award by the Extension organization, Epsilon Sigma Phi; and

WHEREAS, he received his Bachelor of Science from the University of Washington and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Virginia Tech;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Edwin J. Jones for his distinguished service to the university and the Commonwealth with the title of Professor Emeritus of Wildlife Science and Associate Dean and Director Emeritus of Virginia Cooperative Extension.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Edwin J. Jones, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 39 years, Gary Downey, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Science, Technology, and Society, and its predecessors, rising to the rank of Alumni Distinguished Professor; and

WHEREAS, he has built an international reputation in the field of Science and Technology Studies (STS) for his scholarship, leadership, pedagogy, and mentorship; and

WHEREAS, he has been an important innovator and leader in the field of STS, having co-founded the sub-discipline of Engineering Studies and the Making and Doing movement in the field, and having served as president of the International Society for the Social Studies of Science; and

WHEREAS, he published five books, 55 peer-reviewed articles and chapters, and gave over 150 presentations, including numerous keynote addresses; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses including the long-standing and highly successful Engineering Cultures curriculum; and

WHEREAS, he successfully chaired 18 Ph.D. committees and 31 M.S. committees, and served on 42 further graduate committees, and helped these students to develop successful academic and non-academic careers; and

WHEREAS, he guided and shaped the Science, Technology, and Society program throughout his career, and provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, school, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Gary Downey for his distinguished service to the university with the title Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Science, Technology, and Society.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Gary Downey, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 40 years, Thomas Gardner, 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, he has upheld Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community in his teaching, research and service responsibilities;

WHEREAS, in a distinguished publishing career including nine books, 27 essays, and numerous reviews and review essays, he made significant contributions to the study of American poetry, including work on Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson; and to the lyric essay through his own collections, Poverty Creek Journal, Sundays, and Lyric Theology; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community so as to be appointed for five years as Clifford A. Cutchins, III Professor and as an Alumni Distinguished Professor in 2010; and

WHEREAS, his many years of excellence in writing and scholarship earned him, among many other grants and awards, a Phi Beta Kappa Sturm Award for Outstanding Faculty Research, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Commonwealth of Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award, and a Fulbright Bicentennial Chair in American Studies at the University of Helsinki; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the English curriculum, earning him the William E. Wine Award teaching award; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students on M.A. and Ph.D. 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. Thomas Gardner for his distinguished service to the university with the title Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 35 years, Nikki Giovanni 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 has upheld Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community in her teaching, research and service responsibilities, an exemplar of the university’s motto Ut Prosim (That I May Serve), being recognized for this work as first the Gloria D. Smith Professor of Black Studies and, since 1999, as a University Distinguished Professor; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions to poetry, African American literature, and the international Black community, being awarded no fewer than 31 honorary doctorates from 31 different institutions; and

WHEREAS, she published 21 books of poetry, hundreds of poems, 12 children’s books, 7 edited books, 8 books of nonfiction, along with dozens of uncollected pieces; and

WHEREAS, her work has been included in prestigious venues, like the National Civil Rights Museum and The 100 Best African American Poems, with her books often included on the New York Times bestseller list; and

WHEREAS, The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni: 1968-1998 earned an American Book Award, The Juneteenth Freedom Award, and a Literary Excellence Award; and

WHEREAS, her book Rosa earned Book of the Month, the Caldecott Honor Book Award, the Coretta Scott King Award for Illustration, the Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Best Book Award, the Best Children’s Book of the Year award, and a place on the New York Times Bestseller list; and

WHEREAS, she has been honored by being named featured poet or artist, artist in residence, hall of fame inductee, or distinguished poet on no fewer than 50 occasions by 50 different organizations or universities; and

WHEREAS, she has been granted many prestigious awards throughout her career, including the Maya Angelou Lifetime Achievement Award, the Literary Lifetime Achievement Award, the 50 Great African-American Women Award, the 25 Living Legends designee, the Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award, the N.A.A.C.P. Image Award, and 6 other lifetime achievement awards; and

WHEREAS, she was honored by being presented the United States Senate Certificate of Commendation; and

WHEREAS, the success of her work led to her becoming a subject of scholarly and historical study herself, including Nikki Giovanni (Twayne Publishers, 1992) by Virginia Fowler, becoming the subject of a one-man show, and having her portrait and biography featured in “Robert Shetterly’s Americans Who Tell the Truth”; and
WHEREAS, she so ably served the community as a leader in literacy, poetry, and justice that she has been awarded hundreds of distinguished honors and prestigious awards, having "Nikki Giovanni Days" named in several communities, and becoming an honorary citizen of or being given the keys to more than a dozen cities, in addition to being honored by city, state, and national governments; and

WHEREAS, she was named Woman of the Year by both Ebony Magazine, Mademoiselle Magazine, and Ladies Home Journal; and

WHEREAS, she so inspired a generation of people of color, especially young poets, that she has become an institution of American arts and letters; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the English curriculum, placing strong emphasis on poetry, creativity, children’s literature and voice; and

WHEREAS, with dedication to the power of poetry, she created the Giovanni-Steger Poetry Prize, which is the largest annual national undergraduate poetry award in the country, awarded annually to undergraduate poets from a range of majors in a world-class ceremony; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees, boards, and committees judging literary awards, visiting classes, and writing blurbs to help promote other poets’ work, earning her a service award from the Upward Bound program, a Service Award from the Virginia State Conference NAACP, and a service recognition in 2013; and

WHEREAS, through her work as a poet and social justice advocate, she brought international visibility to Virginia Tech, including serving as the voice of the university after the tragedy of April 16, 2007, including giving an impassioned convocation address, “We Are Virginia Tech” on April 17, 2007, which has become a famous rallying cry for Hokies worldwide; and

WHEREAS, her work as a poet and communicate leader has earned worldwide fame, resulting in hundreds of television, radio, and other media interviews, keynote addresses, lectures, readings, and pieces about her, with Professor Giovanni always serving as a strong ambassador for Ut Prosim and Virginia Tech;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Nikki Giovanni for her distinguished service to the university with the title University Distinguished Professor Emerita of English.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Nikki Giovanni for emerita status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 35 years, George E. Glasson, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Science Education Program in the School of Education; and

WHEREAS, he established himself as a leader in science education and place-based education through funded research, his service to K-12 educators, locally and internationally, his publications, outreach and national and international presentations on best practices in science education; and

WHEREAS, he served as science education program leader from 1996 through 2021, developing the program into a highly reputable and respected science education program, preparing highly qualified science teachers for secondary schools throughout the Commonwealth and abroad; and

WHEREAS, he has been recognized by faculty, colleagues, and school administrators for excellence in science teacher preparation and in consulting for enhancing science instruction with in-service teachers at both elementary and secondary levels; and

WHEREAS, he advanced the science education program by integrating student centered inquiry-based critical thinking instructional practices, technology and place-based learning experiences to foster critical thinkers for solving problems and making contributions in a global society; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university, by serving on varied committees, and actively participating in initiatives devoted to diversifying the professoriate through recruitment and mentoring of underrepresented graduate students; and

WHEREAS, he was a mentor of faculty and graduate students, and has played a significant role in preparing university professionals to advance science and STEM education nationally and internationally;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. George E. Glasson, for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Science Education.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 30 years, Amy Nelson, Ph.D., expertly served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of History in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, with distinction, she taught and lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses, and won eight college and university level teaching and advising awards; and

WHEREAS, she directed or served on 18 M.A. and Ph.D. students’ thesis committees, and 20 M.A. students’ research paper committees; and

WHEREAS, she was principal or co-principal investigator on grants researching Soviet history, digital humanities, and the use of technology in teaching and learning; and

WHEREAS, through her work in Soviet history, animal studies, and digital history, she brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, she authored or co-authored two books and over 15 refereed journal articles and book chapters; and

WHEREAS, she held leadership positions in professional organizations, including the American Society for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies and the Southern Conference on Slavic Studies; and

WHEREAS, she received many professional honors and awards, including the Heldt Prize in Slavic/Eastern European/Eurasian Studies; and

WHEREAS, she 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. Amy Nelson for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Associate Professor Emerita of History.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Amy Nelson, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 22 years, Gary Skaggs, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the School of Education in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught and lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses in psychometrics, educational statistics, and measurement; and

WHEREAS, he directed M.A. and Ph.D. students, and served on over 50 M.A. and Ph.D. committees in Educational Research and Evaluation; and

WHEREAS, he was principal or co-principal investigator on grants researching standard setting in large scale educational testing; and

WHEREAS, through his work in educational measurement, he brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 50 refereed journal articles, book chapters, and reviews; and

WHEREAS, he served on the editorial board of the Applied Measurement in Education journal; and

WHEREAS, he held leadership positions in professional organizations, including the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME); and

WHEREAS, he received many professional honors and awards, including NCME's Bradley Hanson Award in 2005; 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. Gary Skaggs, for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Educational Research and Evaluation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Gary Skaggs, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 34 years, Karen Swenson, 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 has upheld Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community in her teaching, research, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, through two books and many essays and presentations, she made significant contributions to Old Norse, medieval, and Renaissance literature and mythology; and

WHEREAS, she ably served the community as an early adopter and innovator of online teaching, for which she was awarded many grants; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the literature curriculum, placing strong emphasis on innovation in student learning; and

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

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Karen Swenson, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 39 years, Laurence W. Carstensen, Jr., Ph.D., served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Geography, first in the College of Arts and Sciences, and then in the College of Natural Resources that was subsequently renamed the College of Natural Resources and Environment; and

WHEREAS, he served as department head from 2006-2016 and provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, the colleges in which he served, and the university through dedicated service on numerous committees; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to geographical scholarship through his dedicated teaching across a wide range of courses offered at the lower- and upper-division undergraduate and advanced graduate level on the topics of geographic information systems and science, cartography, geographic visualization, spatial analysis, web mapping, GIS programming, and modeling; and

WHEREAS, he served graduate education in the department and university by co-directing the interdisciplinary doctoral program in Geospatial and Environmental Analysis; and

WHEREAS, he was instrumental in developing, maintaining, and enhancing an innovative curriculum in geographic information systems and science that required tremendous commitment and expertise to remain current with changing technology over 39 years; and

WHEREAS, his leadership was instrumental in the creation and success of a new B.S. Meteorology program; and

WHEREAS, he published over 40 peer-reviewed research publications, co-authored the Atlas of Virginia, a publication used widely by K-12 educators across the Commonwealth of Virginia, and published multiple modules of the GeoSim simulation software series; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students on M.S. and Ph.D. dissertations and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings; and

WHEREAS, he served the university’s land grant mission by providing outreach and service over multiple decades to the Virginia Geographic Alliance and the Virginia State Geographic Bee; and

WHEREAS, his accomplishments were recognized by his peers when he received the Outstanding Service Award of the Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers for his many service activities including over 15 years chairing and organizing the World Geography Bowl at regional and national meetings, in addition to receiving the Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award of the National Council for Geographic Education twice;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Laurence W. Carstensen, Jr. for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Geography.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Laurence W. Carstensen, Jr., Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 43 years, Thomas E. Diller, Ph.D., has faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Mechanical Engineering beginning as an assistant professor, then as an associate professor, and finally as a professor; and

WHEREAS, he has made significant contributions in the engineering, entrepreneurial, and interdisciplinary aspects of heat transfer, and in particular heat flux and temperature measurements and sensors, including 10 patents with the latest occurring in 2021, nine book chapters, 53 refereed journal articles, and 79 peer-reviewed conference papers; and

WHEREAS, he has ably served the department, college, university, and profession as a member, chair, founding member, assistant department head, and organizer of numerous committees, councils, centers, and conference sessions; and

WHEREAS, he has been very active in terms of technology transfer and entrepreneurship, having established two companies and having sat on the board of directors of another; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he has taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the mechanical engineering curriculum, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he has advised 49 students on M.S. theses and 12 on Ph.D. dissertations and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Thomas E. Diller for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Thomas E. Diller, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 31 years, L. Kenneth Harmon, Ph.D., has faithfully served Virginia Tech in various advisory, administrative, adjunct, and regular faculty positions in the Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE) in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, he served as a regular faculty member of the ISE Department for 30 years, preceded by four years as adjunct faculty and associate director of the Virginia Productivity Center and six years as a member of the ISE Department Industry Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, he served as coordinator for the ISE Department Extended Campus/Distance Learning Graduate Program and of the College of Engineering Graduate Programs in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, he served as director, Engineering Administration Graduate Program and of the Systems Engineering Graduate Program; and

WHEREAS, he served as co-founder and director of the ISE System Performance Laboratory (SPL) located in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, partnering with the university division of continuing and professional education he developed the first contract graduate program which has been offering on-site courses for over 15 years at the National Reconnaissance Office, a federal government agency in Northern Virginia with employees/students located worldwide, requiring that he hold a TS/SCI security clearance for this period; and

WHEREAS, he recruited, prepared and supervised numerous adjunct faculty who taught courses in the Systems Engineering and Engineering Administration graduate programs including a distinguished professional who became full-time regular ISE faculty and program director for Engineering Administration; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he developed several new graduate courses, two graduate certificates in Technology Management and Human-System Integration, taught more than 2,000 students in nine different graduate courses, administered the comprehensive final examination for more than 250 graduate students, served as an advisor to both graduate and undergraduate students in capstone project courses; and

WHEREAS, his contributions to supplemental funding from grants and projects totaled more than $2.5M, making it possible to provide financial support for numerous graduate students in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, he served the profession as a senior member and ongoing contributor to both the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) and the Institute of
Industrial and Systems Engineers (IISE), having served on the INCOSE Corporate Advisory Board, INCOSE Academic Council and the IISE Industry Advisory Board, providing leadership for several research working groups and contributing various journal articles and conference papers; and

WHEREAS, his outreach contributions have included serving on the Virginia 4-H Foundation Board (STEM focus) the U.S. Senate Productivity and Quality Award in Virginia (board member and examiner), U.S. President’s Quality Award (examiner), and recipient of the Dean’s Excellence in Outreach Award;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. L. Kenneth Harmon for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Associate Professor Emeritus of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending L. Kenneth Harmon, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 38 years, Saad Ragab, Ph.D., has faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the field of fluid mechanics with specific applications to turbulence, hydrodynamic stability, aerodynamics, and computational analyses, evidenced by over 190 publications including books, book chapters, peer-reviewed articles, reports, conference proceedings, and talks on these subjects; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community as an associate editor for the Journal of Fluids Engineering and the Mathematical Problems in Engineering, served as session chair for multiple conferences, and was on the organizing committee for conferences and symposia; and

WHEREAS, he supported the research and innovation mission of the university, evidenced by participation in projects with a personal share of over $3M in funding; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses across the engineering mechanics curriculum, placing strong emphasis on foundational knowledge, broad application of this knowledge to many different disciplines, and student learning, this being recognized by multiple teaching awards; and

WHEREAS, he mentored or co-mentored 24 students on M.S. and Ph.D. 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. Saad Ragab for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Saad Ragab, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 52 years, Joseph A. Schetz, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the area of hypersonic and supersonic vehicles, skin-friction measurements, sensor development, and the multidisciplinary design optimization of the Truss-Braced Aircraft; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community as department head of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering and led to its transformation from a predominantly undergraduate teaching department to a powerhouse in both undergraduate and graduate teaching and research; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the curriculum, placing strong emphasis on student learning, including distance learning; and

WHEREAS, he achieved a rare distinction of guiding 77 students to complete their Ph.D. dissertations and helped them develop successful careers in academic, government, and industrial settings, both here and abroad; and

WHEREAS, he held leadership positions in professional organizations, including the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), and the Society for Naval and Marine Engineering and was elected to be a fellow of the AIAA, ASME, and the Royal Aeronautical Society; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees as witnessed by his recently winning the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Service and the AIAA’s Distinguished Service Award;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Joseph A. Schetz for his distinguished service to the university with the title Fred D. Durham Chair Emeritus of Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 20 years, Michael Robert Taaffe, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE) in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught and lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses, directed M.S. and Ph.D. students, and was recognized for his teaching at Purdue University’s School of Industrial Engineering and at Virginia Tech by being awarded the 2021 SPORN Award for outstanding teaching of an introductory engineering subject and the 2022 Alpha Pi Mu Outstanding Teaching Award for ISE; and

WHEREAS, through his work, many publications, and conference presentations in computational and approximate methods in stochastic operations research, simulation-experiment theory and methods, and in computational statistics, he brought national and international visibility to Virginia Tech; and the quality of his work was recognized by several grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Office of Naval Research, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forestry Service, and several others; and

WHEREAS, while also serving as associate editor of Operations Research, Operations Research Letters, Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) Journal on Computing (stochastic modeling and analysis), INFORMS Journal on Computing (simulation analysis), Institute of Industrial & Systems Engineers (IIE) Transactions on Simulation, IIE Transactions on Operations Engineering, and as editor of INFORMS Applied Probability Newsletter; and

WHEREAS, he held leadership positions in professional organizations, including president of the INFORMS Society of Simulation, president of the IISE Division of Operations Research, council member of the INFORMS Applied Probability Society, and also provided professional service as an active manuscript reviewer for several journals and was on numerous professional conferences’ organizing committees; and he served on many NSF Proposal Review Panels and international university review committees; and

WHEREAS, he served the profession by being a member for several years of and chairperson of many award committees, including as chair of the INFORMS George B. Dantzig Best Dissertation Committee, as chair of the George Nicholson Best Student Paper Prize Committee, as chair of the IISE Pritsker Doctoral Dissertation Award, and as a member of the INFORMS Simulation Society Lifetime Achievement Award, the INFORMS Simulation Society Best Publication Award, and others; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of service contributions to his home department, college, and university at Virginia Tech, University of Minnesota, and Purdue University, including serving as the graduate program director both for the Virginia Tech ISE
Department as well as the Operations and Management Science Department at the University of Minnesota;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT REOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Michael Robert Taaffe for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Associate Professor Emeritus of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Michael Robert Taaffe, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 26 years, Patricia G. Amateis, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry in the College of Arts and Science and the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught thousands of undergraduate students in General Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning. She also started the General Chemistry Recitation/Studio program, authored the laboratory manual for General Chemistry, and developed one new course; and

WHEREAS, she served as the Department of Chemistry orientation advisor and freshman advisor for over two decades; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the Department of Chemistry, serving as director of general chemistry for over two decades and director of undergraduate programs for five years as well as providing dedicated service on numerous college and university committees; and

WHEREAS, she was recognized by numerous teaching awards, including the University Sporn Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the University Alumni Teaching Award for Excellence in Teaching, the William E. Wine Teaching Award, and the Jimmy W. Viers Teaching Award; and

WHEREAS, she has made significant contributions to chemistry education as the co-author of a general chemistry textbook used in numerous colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, she was a member of the University Honors Program staff for several years and was a senior fellow in the Honors Residential Commons; and

WHEREAS, she made contributions in research in student success through the development of chemistry recitations and placement assessment strategies; and

WHEREAS, she was heavily involved in community science outreach through chemistry presentations at elementary, middle, and high school public school students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Patricia G. Amateis for her distinguished service to the university with the title Associate Professor Emerita of Chemistry.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Patricia G. Amateis, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 26 years, Thomas J. Burbey, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Geosciences in the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community in his teaching, research and service responsibilities;

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the science of hydrogeology through his work focusing on the flow of water in fractured bedrock, and the interactions of hydrology and surface deformation; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community as a program manager at the National Science Foundation; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the geosciences curriculum, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students on M.S. and Ph.D. 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. Thomas J. Burbey for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Hydrogeology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Thomas J. Burbey, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 29 years, Richard D. Gandour, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as the department head and a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, he was hired as the head of the Department of Chemistry and guided it through a challenging time by modernizing the operations by providing computers for all staff members and establishing an in-house information technology support team. He also appointed a committee to write a governance document for transitioning from a head to an elected chair, instituted peer review of faculty activities reports, and formed, with the help of senior faculty members, a Department of Chemistry Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, he made significant research contributions to anti-HIV contraceptives, antimicrobial drug development, and medicinal chemistry through work with Virginia Tech collaborators and others, and prior to joining Virginia Tech he was elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for his contributions to molecular recognition; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community by consulting for Landos Biopharma, a Blacksburg-based company now listed on the NASDAQ; and

WHEREAS, he supported the National Institutes for Health by serving on numerous grant review committees, reviewed many proposals for other federal agencies and associations, and reviewed manuscripts for high-impact journals; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in organic chemistry, introduced the flipped-classroom approach to teaching large classes in 2000, developed an intensive writing course for chemistry majors, and strongly emphasized punctiliousness and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he was the major professor for graduate students completing five M.S. theses and eight Ph.D. dissertations, helping them develop successful careers in academia, government, foundations, and industry. He also directed the research of nine postdoctoral associates, and guided 157 undergraduates in research; and

WHEREAS, he made numerous contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees and mentoring several junior faculty members;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Richard D. Gandour for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Chemistry.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 48 years, Terry L. Herdman, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics in the College of Science, including 35 years as the Founding Director of the Interdisciplinary Center for Applied Mathematics and 17 years as the Associate Vice President for Research Computing; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community and modeled Ut Prosim in his teaching, research, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the modeling, analysis, parameter identification, and approximation for systems governed by Volterra and functional differential equations; and

WHEREAS, his research was funded by 12 federal agencies, one state agency, and three corporations; and

WHEREAS, he was an award-winning teacher, who directed nine M.S. theses and nine Ph.D. dissertations, organized an international exchange program for graduate students, and directed the undergraduate program in applied and computational mathematics at the Blacksburg campus and the graduate program in interdisciplinary applied mathematics at the Falls Church campus; and

WHEREAS, he played a central role in developing Virginia Tech’s strength in applied mathematics and led the Interdisciplinary Center for Applied Mathematics to international prominence; and

WHEREAS, he pioneered and championed research computing at Virginia Tech and built one of the strongest university-based research computing teams in the country; and

WHEREAS, he played numerous university and professional management and leadership roles, including serving as an associate editor for the Journal of Integral Equations and Applications, serving as a member, vice chair, and chair of the board of directors of Oak Ridge Associated Universities, serving on the governing boards of UT Battelle, of the Southeastern Universities Research Association, and of Mu Alpha Theta; and serving as the vice president for Education of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Terry L. Herdman for his distinguished service to the university with the titles Professor Emeritus of Mathematics, Director Emeritus of the Interdisciplinary Center for Applied Mathematics, and Associate Vice President Emeritus for Research Computing.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Terry L. Herdman, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 22 years, John B. Phillips, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in his teaching, research, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the Department of Biological Sciences he taught a variety of courses in behavioral biology ranging from sophomore to graduate level; and

WHEREAS, he served on multiple department, college, and university committees; and

WHEREAS, he trained multiple M.S. and Ph.D. students and sponsored numerous undergraduate research students and summer interns as well as multiple post-doctoral appointees; and

WHEREAS, while at Virginia Tech, Dr. Phillips maintained continuous research funding from a variety of federal agencies including four different programs at the National Science Foundation, the National institutes of Health, Oak Ridge National Labs, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Research Council of Norway, and from the Fetzer Institute; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Phillips published over 55 scientific research papers in leading scientific journals after coming to Virginia Tech and delivered multiple invited seminars and talks at national and international institutions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. John B. Phillips for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending John B. Phillips, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 34 years, Robert Rogers, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Mathematics in the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to partial differential equations, continuum mechanics, calculus of variations, and acoustics; and

WHEREAS, he supervised the dissertations of nine Ph.D. students, as well as research projects by students at all levels; and

WHEREAS, he was a creative and highly appreciated classroom teacher who co-authored a much-cited graduate textbook on partial differential equations; and

WHEREAS, he was active in both professional and university service, including four substantial roles in department leadership that culminated in service as associate chair during pandemic-driven disruptions; and

WHEREAS, his external funding from the National Science Foundation and from the Office of Naval Research supported research, innovative teaching, and diversity enhancement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Robert Rogers for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Mathematics.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Robert Rogers, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 37 years Ralph D. Badinelli, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a member of the faculty in the Department of Business Information Technology in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he was an outstanding teacher at the undergraduate and graduate levels, was appointed to the Ralph Medinger Lenz Professorship of Business Information Technology, and received the College of Business Certificate of Teaching Excellence and the IBM Faculty Award; and

WHEREAS, he advised and counseled numerous graduate students in the Department of Business Information Technology and university during his career, including serving as chair of three doctoral dissertation committees and membership on 31 college and university Ph.D. committees, and seven M.B.A. committees; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions in research in the field of operations and supply chain management and service management, authoring over 29 research articles and a textbook, *Modeling Service Systems*, as well as receiving three National Science Foundation grants; and

WHEREAS, he dutifully served on over 23 departmental, college and university committees; and

WHEREAS, he served in a number of important offices and on numerous professional committees including his role as an executive officer of the Service Research and Innovation Institute;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Ralph D. Badinelli for his service to the university with the title of Ralph Medinger Lenz Professor Emeritus of Business Information Technology.

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

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 28 years, Kay Hunnings faithfully served Virginia Tech and its affiliated corporations in a series of roles of increasing responsibility and impact; and

WHEREAS, she has effectively served the Pamplin College of Business for the last 15 years as Associate Dean for Administration; and

WHEREAS, through her work she diligently and professionally managed the college’s budget and finances assuring a continually improving financial position; and

WHEREAS, she managed all business and operations elements for the college making significant contributions to improvements in the college’s systems; and

WHEREAS, she created a culture of service, trust, and fairness in her office; and

WHEREAS, she contributed to improving the sense of community in the college through her efforts supporting diversity and inclusion and through her service as the college’s work-life liaison; and

WHEREAS, she ably served as the business manager, secretary-treasurer and then director of accounting and financial reporting for the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, she provided sustaining mentorship for women through her participation and leadership in Pamplin’s Women in Business; and

WHEREAS, she served as one of five Virginia Tech leaders selected to participate as an Academic Leaders Network Fellow for the Atlantic Coast Conference; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Kay P. Hunnings for her distinguished service to the university with the title Associate Dean Emerita of Administration.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Kay P. Hunnings for emerita status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 38 years, Ruth Lytton, Ph.D., has faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Apparel, Housing and Resource Management, the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, and finally in the Department of Finance, Insurance and Business Law; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions to the above-named departments through establishment of the Certified Financial Planning (CFP) program in 1997, and management of the program thereafter as founding and continuing director; and

WHEREAS, her uncommon leadership, passion, and engagement have culminated in national recognition of the strength of Virginia Tech’s CFP program from an initial position of obscurity, and she provided exemplary instruction, driving both students and professionals to be industry leaders; and

WHEREAS, her dedication to the field of personal finance has been widely acknowledged, resulting in recognition by industry professionals, and most recently by the national organization of financial advisors with the NAPFA National 2020 Special Achievement Award as recognition that her service has greatly advanced the environment for the advising profession; and

WHEREAS, she received many honors and awards, including teaching and student advising awards; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contribution to the body of scholarly and research work in her field as author or coauthor of numerous books and published articles, providing presentations of her work at international and national symposiums and conferences; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Ruth Lytton for her distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emerita of Financial Planning.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Ruth Lytton, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 44 years, Steven E. Markham, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Management in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community in his teaching, research, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught doctoral, masters, executive, Extension, and undergraduate classes in the principles and practices of general management, the dynamics of organizational behavior, e-management, leadership, entrepreneurship, managing change, visualization, quality, multi-level research methods, and managerial analytics; and

WHEREAS, he is an active researcher on topics which help improve organizational effectiveness, such as organizational configuration and control, visual information displays, absenteeism, MIS utilization, innovation productivity gainsharing and Scanlon plans, intergroup processes, leadership development and assessment, and team building with the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator [MBTI], and identification of organization entities using Within And Between Analysis; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community for more than a decade as the founder and director of the AT&T Center for the Scientific Visualization of Organizations at Virginia Tech, where he employed numerous faculty and graduate students while earning a number of corporate level awards for excellence in applied, high impact research; as a University Honors Fellow at Salford University in Manchester, England; as one of the longest serving members of the board of reviewers of the premier academic leadership journal, Leadership Quarterly where he also served as an associate editor; and by actively engaging with local businesses to design and implement a variety of long-term organizational improvement programs; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees, including the Department of Management personnel committee, several departmental administrative review committees, and as both a member and chair of the Department of Management promotion and tenure committee, as well as numerous faculty search committees; he was also a member of the honorifics committee, served as the college commencement marshall, the chair of the undergraduate assurance of learning committee, and many other assessment committees, and at the university level; and

WHEREAS, he represented Pamplin on the faculty senate, served at the university commencement as a marshall, and served on many committees including the university center research evaluation for the graduate school, the university research committee, and the internal audit/management advisory committee; and

WHEREAS, with dedication and commitment, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the management curriculum, while placing strong
emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students in both the Pamplin College of Business and College of Engineering on M.S. and Ph.D. 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 and in many fields of endeavor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Steven E. Markham for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Digges Family Professor Emeritus of Entrepreneurial Leadership.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Steven E. Markham, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 36 years Terry R. Rakes, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a member of the faculty in the Department of Business Information Technology in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he was an outstanding teacher of 28 courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels, having received the University Wine Award, the College of Business Certificate of Teaching Excellence, the University Certificate of Teaching Excellence, the College of Business Ph.D. Teaching Award, the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council University Outstanding Professor Award, and was 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 and university during his career including service as chair of seven Ph.D. dissertation committees and membership on 32 Ph.D. committees, and chair of five M.S. thesis committees; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions in research in the fields of management science and information technology, authoring over 40 research articles in his career, and was recognized by his election as a fellow of the Decision Sciences Institute and his appointment to the William C. and Alix C. Houchens Professorship of Information Technology; and

WHEREAS, he dutifully served on over 50 departmental, college, and university commissions and committees, including the university council, and was a member of the university Academy of Faculty Service; and

WHEREAS, he served in a number of important offices and on numerous professional committees including president of the National and Southeast Region of the Decision Sciences Institute, and president of the Southeastern Chapter of the Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences, and was a recipient of each of these organizations’ Distinguished Service Awards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Terry R. Rakes for his service to the university with the title of William C. and Alix C. Houchens Professor Emeritus of Business Information Technology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Terry R. Rakes, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 28 years, Robert T. Sumichrast, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member and then dean of the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he provided clear and thoughtful leadership to the Pamplin College of Business, increasing the college’s research reputation and sense of community, while at the same time increasing both undergraduate and graduate enrollment; and

WHEREAS, his leadership upheld and advanced Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community emphasizing the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the college, including establishing the office of the associate dean for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he contributed significantly to the college and university’s future through his vision for, and leadership in design and fundraising to make the Global Business and Analytics Complex a reality; and

WHEREAS, he supported enhancements to the advancement model in the Pamplin College of Business leading to greater participation of alumni in the life of the college and significant increases in philanthropic support for the college; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the university community through his collegial participation on the council of deans, university council, and other committee assignments; and

WHEREAS, he served as the college’s associate dean for graduate and international programs and director of the M.B.A. program for four years, developing innovative new masters’ programs; rankings for the M.B.A. program during his tenure as associate dean improved and the enrollment in international programs, including study abroad, greatly expanded; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the faculty of the Pamplin College of Business he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in the management science curriculum, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, his research has been published in several of the most prestigious peer-reviewed journals in the fields of management science and operations management, making him an expert in the field and enhancing the reputation of the Pamplin College of Business and Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he chaired or was a member of over 40 graduate committees, and helped those students 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 and commissions;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Robert T. Sumichrast for his distinguished service to the university with the title Dean Emeritus of the Pamplin College of Business.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Robert T. Sumichrast, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 46 years, Thomas C. Tillar, Jr., Ed.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech in many roles, including in the Division of Student Affairs, as director of alumni relations, as vice president for alumni relations, interim senior vice president for advancement and special assistant to the dean of the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he helped plan, design, and raise funds for the Holtzman Alumni Center which opened in 2005 as part of the new alumni and conference center complex encompassing the Skelton Conference Center and Inn at Virginia Tech, and in recognition of his efforts the Alumni Center Grand Hall was renamed Tillar Grand Hall in October 2021; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he served the alumni of Virginia Tech, leading many university engagement initiatives introducing innovative new practices to better serve an alumni constituency that grew from 40,000 to 240,000; and

WHEREAS, with commitment, he directed annual giving programs for 11 years increasing annual giving from $700,000 to $2M annually; and

WHEREAS, with devotion, at the request of President Charles Steger, he formed and chaired the committee that oversaw the creation of the April 16th Memorial; and

WHEREAS, with enthusiasm, he edited and published, “Tech Triumph – A Pictorial History of Virginia Tech” originally distributed to donors as a gift premium in 1984; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he served students, having earned his B.S., M.A.Ed., and Ed.D. degrees from Virginia Tech, receiving the Dissertation of the Year Award from the Virginia Educational Administrators in 1979 for his research on mentoring freshman during their early career exploration and decision making; and

WHEREAS, with loyalty, he demonstrated extraordinary leadership and service throughout his career which was acknowledged when he received the Pi Kappa Alpha Loyalty Award in 2014 and the Alumni Distinguished Service to the University Award in 2019; and

WHEREAS, he served in senior leadership positions on numerous volunteer committees serving the community, including the Montgomery Regional Hospital board of directors, Pi Kappa Alpha Educational Foundation, and Shelter Home, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, he diligently served as a member of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), receiving the Frank L. Ashmore Award for Lifetime Achievement for service to the profession and CASE;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Thomas C. Tillar, Jr. for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Vice President Emeritus of Alumni Affairs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Thomas C. Tillar, Jr., Ed.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 14, 2022