SUMMARY

Emeritus/Emerita Faculty Resolutions (36)
April 9, 2024

The title of emeritus or emerita is conferred on retired Virginia Tech faculty members, as defined in chapter 2 of the Faculty Handbook, who have made exemplary contributions to the university and are recommended to the Board of Visitors for approval by the provost and president.

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

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences** (5)
Anton Baudoin Associate Professor Emeritus of Plant and Environmental Sciences
Dennis Dean Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry
Peter Kennelly Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry
Neal Vines Director Emeritus of Information Technology
Eric Wong Professor Emeritus of Animal Science

**College of Architecture, Arts, and Design** (4)
Mario Cortes Associate Professor Emeritus of Architecture
Donna Dunay Professor Emerita of Architecture
Marcia Feuerstein Associate Professor Emerita of Architecture
Wendy Jacobson Associate Professor Emerita of Landscape Architecture

**College of Engineering** (2)
Layne Watson Professor Emeritus of Computer Science
Gary Whiting Professor of Practice Emeritus of Chemical Engineering

**College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences** (10)
Jacqueline Bixler Alumni Distinguished Professor Emerita of Spanish
Nancy Bodenhorn Associate Professor Emerita of Counselor Education
Douglas Cannon  Professor of Practice Emeritus of Communication
Katherine Cennamo  Professor Emerita of Instructional Design and Technology
Anthony Colaianne  Associate Professor Emeritus of English
William “Wat” Hopkins  Professor Emeritus of Communication
Kenneth Potter  Assistant Professor of Practice Emeritus of Instructional Design and Technology
Suchitra Samanta  Collegiate Associate Professor Emerita of Sociology
Jane Ann Wemhoener  Senior Instructor Emerita of English
Kris Wernstedt  Professor Emeritus of Urban Affairs and Planning

**College of Natural Resources and Environment (3)**
Eric Hallerman  Professor Emeritus of Fish Conservation
Donald Orth  Professor Emeritus of Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Stephen Schoenholtz  Professor Emeritus of Forest Hydrology and Soil Science

**College of Science (2)**
Felicia Etzkorn  Professor Emerita of Chemistry
Brent Opell  Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences

**College of Veterinary Medicine (2)**
Gregory Daniel  Professor Emeritus of Radiology
Jennifer Hodgson  Professor Emerita of Microbiology and Veterinary Educational Innovation

**Pamplin College of Business (5)**
Arthur Keown  Professor Emeritus of Finance
Derek Klock  Professor of Practice Emeritus of Finance
George Morgan  Professor Emeritus of Finance
Cliff Ragsdale  Professor Emeritus of Business Information Technology
Roberta Russell  Professor Emerita of Business Information Technology
University Libraries (2)
Marc Brodsky  Associate Professor Emeritus of University Libraries
Peter Potter  Director Emeritus of Publishing, University Libraries

Administration (1)
Ken Smith  Vice Provost Emeritus of Academic Resource Management
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 42 years, Anton Baudoin, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science and later in the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught or co-taught over 3,900 students through the courses including: Agricultural Technology, Pest Management: Insects, Diseases, and Weeds, Principles of Biology, Plant Pathology, and Integrated Pest Management, and Principles of Plant Disease Management, Diseases of Crop Plants, Epidemiology of Plant Diseases, and Identifying Plant Pathogens; and

WHEREAS, he was awarded a College of Agriculture and Life Science's Certificate of Teaching Excellence in 2003 and 2016, as well as the university-wide William E. Wine Award in 2017; and

WHEREAS, he advised or co-advised six Ph.D. students, 10 M.Sc. students, and served on more than 45 additional graduate student advisory committees and helped the students develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions through his research on grapevine diseases and fungicide resistance, discovering for the first time in North America that grapevine pathogens had developed resistance to several commonly used fungicide groups; and

WHEREAS, his research also contributed to our understanding of plant pathogens as potential biological control agents of weeds, the epidemiology of boxwood blight, and of Entomosporium leafspot of photinia; and

WHEREAS, he supported Cooperative Extension programming by presentations to grape growers, Master Gardeners and others in many areas of the state; and

WHEREAS, he has served in leadership roles in his professional society, as editor-in-chief of the peer-reviewed journal the Plant Health Instructor for the American Phytopathological Society (APS) and was awarded the nationwide Excellence in Teaching Award of the APS in 1994, as well as serving in leadership roles such as vice president, president, and past-president in the APS Potomac Division, and was awarded the APS Potomac Division's Distinguished Service Award in 2004; and

WHEREAS, he 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. Anton Baudoin for his distinguished service to the university with the title Associate Professor Emeritus of Plant and Environmental Sciences.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Anton Baudoin, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS for 38 years, Dennis Dean Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Departments of Anaerobic Microbiology (1985-1994) and Biochemistry (1994 – present) in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated a commitment to Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community in his research, teaching, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, he brought international visibility to Virginia Tech by advancing the fundamental scientific understanding of mechanisms underlying nitrogen fixation and the biological processes that lead to the assembly of iron sulfur clusters; and

WHEREAS, he made major contributions to the field of biochemistry through his work focusing on the mechanism for biological nitrogen fixation and the pathways for assembly of simple and complex metalloclusters; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 215 refereed journal articles and book chapters that have been heavily cited in the literature with over 26,000 citations, averaging more than 1,200 per year; and

WHEREAS, he maintained a consistently funded research program for over 47 years, supported by numerous grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; and

WHEREAS, he has served on over 20 grant review panels for the NSF, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. DOE; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught and lectured in a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, placing strong emphasis critical thinking and problem-solving skills; and

WHEREAS, he has been a champion of promoting, supporting, and celebrating undergraduate research at Virginia Tech, including creating the endowed Dennis Dean Undergraduate Research Symposium, the Fralin Scholars Program, and the Dennis Dean and Cynthia Day Endowment for underserved undergraduate students; and

WHEREAS, he directed 13 graduate student committees, mentored 14 postdoctoral trainees and 55 undergraduate research trainees, and served on dozens of graduate student committees, helping them develop successful careers in both academia and industry; and

WHEREAS, he has supported and mentored the career development of dozens of faculty members and emerging campus leaders from numerous departments and colleges at Virginia Tech; 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; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community as a dedicated university leader in numerous capacities, including serving as the director of the Fralin Biotechnology Center from 2002 to 2008, director of the Institute for Biomedical & Public Health Sciences from 2006 to 2008, interim director of the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute from 2008 to 2010, director of the Fralin Life Sciences Institute from 2008 to 2020, director of the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute from 2012 to 2014, and the Virginia Tech Vice President for Research & Innovation from 2015 to 2016; and

WHEREAS, he received many professional honors and awards, including fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, and Purdue University Distinguished alumnus; and

WHEREAS, for his nationally recognized scholarly attainments, research contributions, service to his profession, and leadership in education and outreach to students at all levels he was named University Distinguished Professor, Virginia Tech’s pre-eminent faculty rank.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Dennis Dean for his distinguished service to the university with the title of University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry.

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

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 34 years, Peter J. Kennelly, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Biochemistry in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; and

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

WHEREAS, he taught undergraduate and graduate courses with dedication and skill, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the field of biochemistry through his work in Archaea focusing on signal transduction mechanisms; 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 authored or co-authored over 40 research papers in refereed journals, in addition to several articles, book chapters, and reviews; and

WHEREAS, for over 20 years he has served as coauthor of the highly respected international teaching textbook Harper's Illustrated Biochemistry; and

WHEREAS, he served as head of the Department of Biochemistry from 2005 to 2015, and served again as interim head from 2022-23, delaying his retirement to serve in that role; and

WHEREAS, as department head he expanded the research portfolio to include biomedical areas such as pathogenic microorganisms, the interactions of pathogen with their insect vectors, and drug discovery; and

WHEREAS, as department head he also recruited nine new tenure-track faculty, enhancing the quality and diversity of the department; and

WHEREAS, as department head he grew the undergraduate program from 300 to 600 students, and secured accreditation of the Virginia Tech biochemistry program by the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB); and

WHEREAS, he played a lead role in developing a state of the art "mass spectrometry incubator" to perform modern '-omic' analyses and assist investigators in developing new projects through a combination of training, assistance in grant writing, and the opportunity to generate preliminary data free of charge; and

WHEREAS, he served as a member of the ASBMB's Education and Professional Development committee, and then was awarded the ASBMB'S 2024 William C. Rose Award for Exemplary Contributions to Education; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Peter J. Kennelly for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Peter J. Kennelly, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 24 years, Neal Vines, faithfully served Virginia Tech and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences as a faculty member; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) as an Extension farm management agent, computer resources agent, and director of information technology; and

WHEREAS, he was recognized as an early leader in information technology (IT) at the state, regional, and national levels, contributing to the early adoption of computer technology and software applications in county extension offices, Agricultural Research and Extension Centers (ARECs), and 4-H Educational Centers; and

WHEREAS, he led projects to install the first local area networks in all Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) offices and Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station (VAES) centers, most of which are still in operation today; and

WHEREAS, he managed the statewide initiative to deploy computers to all VCE and AREC faculty and staff along with an in-depth training program on the use and application of the equipment and associated software; and

WHEREAS, he worked with his counterpart in CALS Communications and Marketing to build the first VCE website and one of the first extension websites in the country showcasing VCE publications and educational program offerings; and

WHEREAS, he has built a collaborative relationship with the Virginia Tech Division of IT to implement projects such as the first statewide data network linking all VCE and VAES locations with the central campus, deploying the campus telephony system to field offices, and a build-out of a fiber network to over 80% of CALS’ off-campus locations; and

WHEREAS, he has chaired IT leadership councils, and served as a coach and mentor for numerous IT professional colleagues; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Neal Vines for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Director Emeritus of Information Technology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Neal Vines for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 33 years, Eric A. Wong, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member, first in the Department of Animal Science, then in the Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences, and now in the School of Animal Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he held the John W. Hancock Professorship in Animal Sciences from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences from 2008 to 2023; and

WHEREAS, he made significant research contributions to poultry molecular biology focusing on the role of the intestine and yolk sac in nutrient uptake and host defense, which resulted in greater than 250 peer reviewed papers and abstracts; and

WHEREAS, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of molecular biology, biotechnology, and poultry science; and

WHEREAS, he served as mentor and advisor for numerous undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral research associates, and helped them develop successful careers in both academia and industry; and

WHEREAS, he was active in promoting diversity by serving as director and co-director of the Virginia Tech Postbaccalaureate Research and Education Program (PREP) and on the University Faculty Diversity Committee; and

WHEREAS, he was active in his professional societies having served as section editor and on the editorial board for the journal Poultry Science; and

WHEREAS, he has served on numerous grant review panels including the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Binational Agriculture and Research Development fund; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees, notably as chair of the Animal and Poultry Sciences’ and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ promotion and tenure committees; and

WHEREAS, he was involved in the inception of the graduate Molecular Cell Biology and Biotechnology program at Virginia Tech, including serving as instructor in a program core course; and

WHEREAS, he served as the chair of the Biotechnology Oversight Committee, which later became the Institutional Biosafety Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Eric A. Wong for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Animal Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Eric A. Wong, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 31 years, Professor Mario Cortes faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the School of Architecture in the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated generosity and warmth, and instilled a sense of curiosity in generations of students and faculty across his didactic life at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, through his extensive participation and leadership 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, and villages; and

WHEREAS, he imparted his extensive knowledge of building structures by not only teaching structures classes required for all architecture students, but also architecture design labs and other coursework, with an emphasis on robust and elegant structures; and

WHEREAS, he inspired countless students with his mastery of brush skills and the beauty and luminosity of colors in watercolor seminars which he taught every year, demonstrating the influence of both art and science in architecture for students; and

WHEREAS, he received professional honors and awards, including the Gabriel Prize from the Western European Architecture Foundation for his watercolor paintings, and teaching awards, including the creative achievement award from the College of Architecture and Urban Studies; and

WHEREAS, he cultivated a deep relationship with the town of Blacksburg and the Commonwealth of Virginia by providing structural design services for numerous architecture projects in the region, including the Blacksburg Farmers Market, a rammed earth design-build house in Giles County, and other impactful buildings; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, the college, and the university through dedicated service including leadership as the professional program chair in Architecture;

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Professor Mario Cortes for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 48 years, Professor Donna Dunay faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the School of Architecture in the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design; and

WHEREAS, she has taught generations of architects to work collaboratively and inclusively across disciplines, thinking critically while maintaining a spirit of curiosity and experimentation; and

WHEREAS, she has, through leadership and scholarship, emphasized civic responsibility in the education of the architect while strengthening relationships between education and practice; and

WHEREAS, she authored the influential book Town Architecture: Understanding a Virginia Town, a text which has inspired architects, planners, and public officials; and

WHEREAS, she has worked extensively at the national and state levels with the American Institute of Architects (AIA), including service on the National Diversity Committee, the National AIA Convention Educational Committee, and the Virginia Society of the AIA Honors Committee; and

WHEREAS, she held leadership positions in professional organizations, including chair of the International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA), chair of four National Architectural Accrediting Board accreditation teams, and the International Congress of Women Architects (UIFA); and

WHEREAS, through her work in the IAWA, she brought international visibility to the IAWA and Virginia Tech, lecturing widely, mounting exhibitions internationally, and giving voice and record to countless overlooked, yet significant, architects; and

WHEREAS, she received many professional honors and awards, including Fellow of the American Institute of Architects; distinguished professor of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture; and the AIA William C. Noland Medal; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the school, the college, and the university through dedicated service to students, colleagues, alumni, and the discipline and profession of architecture;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Donna Dunay for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emerita of Architecture.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Professor Donna Dunay for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 27 years, Marcia Feuerstein, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the School of Architecture in the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design; and

WHEREAS, she has demonstrated generosity and kindness in her work with students and colleagues, while bringing imagination and wonder to architectural discourse; and

WHEREAS, she has been an advocate for women in the profession of architecture, correcting the historical record and challenging historical and cultural biases through education and scholarship; and

WHEREAS, she authored, co-authored, and edited 13 books and book chapters and numerous other publications on architecture and its media, inspiring students, educators, and architects to think more broadly about architecture and its agency as a research-based practice; and

WHEREAS, she has been invited to lecture widely, at professional and academic events, both nationally and internationally, extending her scholarship into numerous areas of architectural expertise including history, theory, and design as research; and

WHEREAS, she has been a liaison between the academy and the profession through extensive professional service, representing Virginia Tech, the Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center, and the School of Architecture at national and regional scales; and

WHEREAS, she introduced students to the challenges and rewards of community-based experiential learning practices, cultivating relationships from Southwest Virginia to Northern Virginia through 11 community outreach design studios taught since 1988; and

WHEREAS, she has maintained a formative connection to the challenges of creative practice through designed and realized works; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the school, the college, and the university through dedicated service to students, colleagues, and alumni in support of building a strong Virginia Tech community in Northern Virginia;

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Marcia Feuerstein, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 30 years, Wendy R. Jacobson faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Landscape Architecture Program, School of Design in the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design (AAD); and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught design studios and lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses; and

WHEREAS, she directed many B.L.A. and M.L.A. students, of which 12 were recipients of the annual Stanley Abbott Award for best senior project and thesis; and

WHEREAS, with a view to exposing students to disparities derived from racial, cultural, and socioeconomic histories she taught many outreach and engagement studios to historically disadvantaged communities, resulting in seven community commendations; and

WHEREAS, she brought statewide visibility to Virginia Tech through her outreach and engagement efforts, in making 39 public presentations and producing 21 community planning design reports; and

WHEREAS, she drew upon her professional practice background in landscape architecture and urban design in Canada, Malaysia, and Australia to develop a broader range of interdisciplinary and international study opportunities for landscape architecture students and was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the university Office of International Education in recognition of her contributions to international education at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, she brought international visibility to Virginia Tech by leading a team of international students to a second-place finish in the Urban Memory and Landscape Workshop and Design Competition at Tongji University, Shanghai; and

WHEREAS, she was a recipient of a College Excellence in Outreach Award; and

WHEREAS, she was a recipient of the Celebrated Collaborator Award for 10 years of commitment to serving communities through her work with the Community Design Assistance Center; and

WHEREAS, she shared her knowledge of community planning and design nationally by authoring papers and presenting her work at the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture annual meeting; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the program, school, college, and the university through dedicated service on numerous committees, over 70 at the program/departmental level, over 45 within AAD, and five at the university level;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Wendy R. Jacobson for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Associate Professor Emerita of Landscape Architecture.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Wendy R. Jacobson for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 45 years, Layne T. Watson, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Computer Science in the College of Engineering (formerly part of the College of Arts and Sciences), and as a courtesy faculty member in the departments of Mathematics and Aerospace and Ocean Engineering; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated a commitment to Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in his work with students and colleagues; and

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

WHEREAS, he directed 61 M.S. and Ph.D. theses, nine of which won departmental best thesis awards, and served on hundreds of M.S. and Ph.D. committees across multiple colleges; and

WHEREAS, he was principal or co-principal investigator on grants totaling nearly $28M doing truly multidisciplinary research; and

WHEREAS, through his work in homotopy methods and parallel computing, he brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 600 refereed journal articles, book chapters, and conference papers, and edited ten books; and

WHEREAS, he received many professional honors and awards, including Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers fellow, numerous best paper awards, Virginia Tech Alumni Award for Excellence in Research, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency BioSPICE Special Recognition Award, Society for Wood Science and Technology George Marra Award for Excellence in Writing, and the Dean's Award for Excellence in Research; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of service to the department, college, university, and profession via numerous commissions, committees, and editorial assignments;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognize Dr. Layne T. Watson for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Computer Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Layne T. Watson, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over seven years, Gary Whiting, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Chemical Engineering in the College of Engineering; and

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

WHEREAS, he impactfully contributed to the campus community through his work in advising, focusing on academic progress and career guidance and through his support for the Chemical Engineering honor society Omega Chi Epsilon; and

WHEREAS, he has ably supported undergraduate students in his position as the Joseph H. Collie Professor, bringing a breadth and depth of chemical industry knowledge, including technical, business, and marketing, together with his dedication and patience in serving the undergraduate community; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate courses ranging across the core of curriculum as well as the sophomore seminar and the business and marketing for process industries, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students and helped them develop successful careers in 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. Gary Whiting for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor of Practice Emeritus of Chemical Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 43 years, Jacqueline E. Bixler, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures 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 has been recognized for this work by being appointed as Alumni Distinguished Professor in 2003 and reappointed to the role in 2013; and

WHEREAS, she ably served the community as both department chair of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures and as director of the School of Performing Arts; and

WHEREAS, she has earned international respect for her scholarly work in Latin American theatre, focusing on Mexican performance art, authoring seven books and edited volumes on Mexican playwrights, and publishing more than 60 articles on Mexican, Argentine, Peruvian, and Chilean theatre; and

WHEREAS, she currently serves as editor of the *Latin American Theatre Review*, a journal devoted to the study and dissemination of Latin American and Latinx theatre; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, she organized the seventh Latin American Theatre Today held at Virginia Tech, hosting nearly 200 scholars, directors, and actors from the United States, Latin America and Europe for five days of presentations, scholarly debate, and live performances; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught and lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses, and was recognized for this work as an inductee in the Academy of Teaching Excellence, and a recipient of the Alumni Excellence in Teaching Award, the Diggs Teaching Scholar Award, and three Certificates of Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, she advised numerous undergraduate and master’s students and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings; and

WHEREAS, she was honored with the 2016 SCHEV Outstanding Faculty award, the commonwealth’s highest honor for faculty in Virginia’s public and private colleges and universities, recognizing their commitment to excellence in teaching, research, knowledge integration, and public service; and

WHEREAS, she 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. Jacqueline E. Bixler for her distinguished service to the university with the title Alumni Distinguished Professor Emerita of Spanish.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Jacqueline E. Bixler, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

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

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught and lectured in graduate counselor education courses; and

WHEREAS, she directed M.A.Ed. and Ph.D. students and chaired 24 Ph.D. committees in counselor education and supervision; and

WHEREAS, she was principal or co-principal investigator on grants researching the training of clinical faculty in Southwest Virginia as part of the Southwest Virginia Professional Education Consortium, as well as a content specialist for school counseling and for gender equity for a National Science Foundation-funded project to develop increased opportunities and avenues for young women to enter information technology careers in Appalachian areas; and

WHEREAS, through her work in preparing and equipping counselors to serve in schools in the United States and abroad, she brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, she authored or co-authored 30 refereed journal articles, book chapters, and reviews; and

WHEREAS, she served as associate director of academic programs in the School of Education for nine years and as acting director in 2015; and

WHEREAS, she served the local community through participation in the Montgomery County Public Schools Mental Health Advisory Committee and Strategic Planning Action Team on Mental Health; and

WHEREAS, she held leadership positions in professional organizations, including president of the New River Valley Counselor Association and as chair of the Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Awards committee; and

WHEREAS, she received professional honors and awards, including the Virginia Tech College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Excellence in Advising and Outstanding Mentor Awards, as well as the Virginia Counselor Association’s William H. Van Hoose Career Service Award; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the school, 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. Nancy Bodenhorn, for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Associate Professor Emerita of Counselor Education.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 13 years, Douglas Cannon, Ph.D. served Virginia Tech faithfully as a professor of practice in the School of Communication in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he was an accredited public relations professional for more than 30 years, with military communication accreditation since 2010, and certification in crisis communication from the Institute for Crisis Management since 1996; and

WHEREAS, he meritoriously served 28 years in the U.S. Army and retired as Lieutenant Colonel; and

WHEREAS, he was inducted into the PRSA College of Fellows in July 2014, and served on the Board of Governors for the Religion Communication Council for more than 10 years; and

WHEREAS, he ably served as a scholar of public relations and a teacher of graduate and undergraduate courses in public relations, served as associate director and interim director for the School of Communication, and served as a representative of the university in leadership roles in the Public Relations Society of America; and

WHEREAS, he was a noted leader in educational and professional standards in public relations, chaired the Universal Accrediting Board of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) to assist and to mentor public relations professionals and educators in achieving accreditation in public relations; and

WHEREAS, he encouraged and supported four colleagues to pursue and achieve accreditation in public relations, strengthened the educational standards for public relations for the School of Communication, and helped raise the profile for the School of Communication; and

WHEREAS, he tirelessly led the School of Communication efforts to secure accreditation from the PRSA and led the school’s efforts toward accreditation from the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication; and

WHEREAS, he served as an instrumental leader during the transition from a department to a school of Communication and the launch of its graduate option in reputation management;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Douglas Cannon for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor of Practice Emeritus of Communication.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Douglas Cannon, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 27 years, Katherine S. Cennamo, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Instructional Design and Technology program in the School of Education, within the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

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

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught and lectured in graduate courses; and

WHEREAS, she advised numerous students on Ph.D. dissertations and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industry settings; and

WHEREAS, she was actively engaged in extramural research, participating with a research team that was awarded more than $2M in external funding, researching instructional design applications and the use of technology in teaching; and

WHEREAS, through her work in the application of learning theories to instructional products, and in particular, video-based learning, she brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, she authored or co-authored more than 47 refereed journal articles, book chapters, and reviews; and

WHEREAS, she authored or co-authored five textbooks on the integration of technology into the classroom, and instructional design; and

WHEREAS, she served as an external evaluator for Public Broadcasting Services’ “TeacherLine” and “Vital” modules for educators, funded through the Department of Education, and for the Virginia Space Grant Consortium’s Gender-balanced Education, a professional development program for educators, funded through the National Science Foundation; and

WHEREAS, she received many professional honors and awards, including the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award (CIDER-Virginia Tech) and XCaliber Certificate of Excellence (Virginia Tech Center for Innovation in Learning); and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the school, 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. Katherine S. Cennamo for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emerita of Instructional Design and Technology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Katherine S. Cennamo, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 46 years, Anthony Colaianne, 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, with dedication, he has taught more than 25 undergraduate and graduate courses, directed the undergraduate research of 30 students, and chaired a dozen master's committees, was the recipient of three Certificates of Teaching Excellence as well as the Alumni Teaching Award; and

WHEREAS, through his critical work in interdisciplinary medieval studies and advocacy for humanities education he brought national and international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he wrote and edited several multi-volume scholarly works and numerous peer-reviewed articles on early British literary works and figures; and

WHEREAS, he has served the university through multiple terms in the Faculty Senate, as associate chair and director of advising in the Department of English, as acting director of the Humanities program, and as a member of numerous other university, college, and department committees; and

WHEREAS, his local and national outreach on issues related to the role of the humanities in general education includes numerous invited talks and presentations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Anthony Colaianne for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Associate Professor Emeritus of English.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Anthony Colaianne, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 36 years, W. Wat Hopkins, Ph.D., served Virginia Tech as professor of communication in the School of Communication, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he faithfully as a scholar of mass communication law, as a teacher of graduate and undergraduate courses in communication and journalism, as a department administrator, and as a representative of the university across the commonwealth and in the local community; and

WHEREAS, he was a noted scholarly expert on mass communication law who wrote five books on legal topics, edited two others, and contributed chapters on legal issues to six volumes as well as authored 20 articles for law reviews or scholarly journals, 12 encyclopedia entries on legal topics, and 23 refereed papers on First Amendment topics such as privacy, defamation, and protected speech; and

WHEREAS, he edited Communication Law and Policy, the quarterly research journal of the Association for Education in Journalism and the Mass Communication (AEJMC) Law and Policy Division from 2002 through 2021 and served on the editorial boards of Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly from 1993 to 2015, Southwestern Mass Communication Journal from 1992 to 1999, and Media Law Notes from 1987 to 1988; and

WHEREAS, he was an expert witness on libel issues in eight court cases between 2000 and 2022; and

WHEREAS, he was an active member and officer in the AEJMC and the Virginia Coalition for Open Government for nearly 40 years; and

WHEREAS, he was recognized in March 2023 by the 48th Annual AEJMC Southeast Colloquium for significant contributions to legal scholarship and to the AEJMC Law and Policy Division; and

WHEREAS, he received the AEJMC Distinguished Service Award in 2022, the AEJMC Dorothy Bowels Award for Public Service in 2015, and the Henry M. Phillips Research Grant in Jurisprudence from the American Philosophical Society in 1993; and

WHEREAS, he regularly taught undergraduate courses in Communication Law, Media Writing, and Free Speech in Cyberspace as well as graduate special topics courses in communication law; and

WHEREAS, he meritoriously served the former Department of Communication as assistant department head from 2007 to 2009 and director of graduate studies from 1999 to 2000; and

WHEREAS, he was appointed by the speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates to serve on Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council from 2000 to 2008; and

WHEREAS, he served Montgomery County, Virginia, from 1996 to 2011 as a member of the school board and chaired that body from 2001 to 2003;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. W. Wat Hopkins for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Communication.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending W. Wat Hopkins, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 26 years, Ken Potter, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Instructional Design and Technology program in the School of Education within 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; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the study and application of innovative technologies in instructional settings and the design and development of electronic performance systems to support online learning; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community as the program area leader for Instructional Design and Technology, from 2018-2023, and as the faculty coordinator of the Instructional Technology Master of Arts (ITMA) enterprise program, from 2000-2023; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of graduate courses, introducing students to the field of Instructional Design and Technology, placing strong emphasis on how design can enhance industry and education; and

WHEREAS, he advised dozens of students on M.A. committees and Ph.D. dissertations and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industry settings; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Kenneth Potter for his distinguished service to the university with the title Assistant Professor of Practice Emeritus of Instructional Design and Technology.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 19 years, Suchitra Samanta, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Sociology and the program in Women’s and Gender Studies 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, she made significant contributions to the fields of women’s and gender studies as well as Asian American studies through her transdisciplinary work, which examines and communicates the deeply human aspects of religion and gender construction among South Asian women; and

WHEREAS, she has published one book, two creative anthologies, and numerous research articles, poems, and works of creative fiction; and

WHEREAS, she has contributed dozens of pieces of public scholarship to both local and international media outlets; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she has taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in Women’s and Gender Studies as well as Sociology, including a study abroad program in India, Gender and Asian America, and courses developed in collaboration with the Department of Religion and Culture; and

WHEREAS, she supported the Indian Students Association (ISA) and developed new courses on the Asian American experience in response to student demand; and

WHEREAS, she has organized and/or led numerous campus and community outreach programs and has been featured in the press; and

WHEREAS, her teaching has been recognized with the University Sporn Teaching Award for Excellence in Teaching Introductory Subjects, the William E. Snizek Undergraduate Teaching Award in the Department of Sociology, and many Thank-a-Teacher notes from former students; and

WHEREAS, her service has been recognized with the 2021 Distinguished Faculty Award from the Virginia Tech ISA for services to the Virginia Tech and Indian community, as well as the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences’ Diversity Award; and

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

WHEREAS, she has presented her work at a wide variety of academic conferences; and

WHEREAS, she 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. Suchitra Samanta for her distinguished service to the university with the title Collegiate Associate Professor Emerita of Sociology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Suchitra Samanta, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for more than 20 years, Jane Ann Wemhoener, faithfully served Virginia Tech, the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (CLAHS), and the Department of English as a Senior Instructor; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she has taught more than 15 undergraduate courses examining the scope and depth of literatures across the globe, receiving a Certificate of Teaching Excellence and the Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching, and gaining entrance into Virginia Tech’s exclusive Academy of Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions to international education and curriculum development initiatives in the Commonwealth of Virginia, at Virginia Tech, and abroad, serving as the first and only executive director of the Virginia Council for International Education, serving as the international programs coordinator for the Department of English, receiving Virginia Tech's International Faculty Development Award, promoting international faculty development opportunities, and developing five international education programs for Virginia Tech students; and

WHEREAS, she has facilitated leadership, service learning, and civic engagement experiences through local, national, and international outreach initiatives, chairing and serving on Virginia Tech’s Commission on Outreach and International Affairs, receiving the CLAHS Award for Excellence in Outreach and the Outstanding Service-Learning Educator Award, and establishing partnerships between her students and numerous non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, her local, national and international outreach on issues related to international education includes invited talks, presentations, and other forms of engagement at the university level and beyond; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees including serving as the assistant director of the Professional Writing program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Jane Ann Wemhoener for her distinguished service to the university with the title Senior Instructor Emerita of English.

RECOMMENDATION

That the above resolution recommending Jane A. Wemhoener for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 17 years, Kris Wernstedt, Ph.D., served as a faculty member in the Urban Affairs and Planning program of the School of Public and International Affairs in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, and more recently the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the interdisciplinary science of risk and decision making by managers in the public realm, private sector, and civil society in the Commonwealth of Virginia, throughout the U.S., and in Europe and Africa; and

WHEREAS, he helped lay the intellectual groundwork for advocacy by non-governmental organizations and states for federal reforms to better address land contamination; and

WHEREAS, he promoted global missions of Virginia Tech and Virginia through appointment as a Fulbright Scholar and through visiting professorships in major East African universities, promoting research, teaching, student exchanges, and institutional collaboration of Virginians across international borders; and

WHEREAS, he chaired the Urban Affairs and Planning program through reaccreditation and master’s curriculum reform; and

WHEREAS, he directed 26 and served on over 60 other PH.D. or M.A. committees across eight different programs; and

WHEREAS, he taught a wide variety of courses ranging across the full urban planning curriculum, placing strong emphasis on critical thinking and the innovative use of video and podcast communication tools; and

WHEREAS, he served as principal or co-principal investigator on federal grants to research flooding, emergency management, environmental cleanup, behavioral responses to COVID, digital technology use, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, he influenced the outcomes of federal programs by reviews of over 100 proposals awarding more than $50M, influencing the course of scientific progress and affecting communities throughout the Commonwealth and nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Kris Wernstedt for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Urban Affairs and Planning.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Kris Wernstedt, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 34 years, Eric Hallerman, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation in the College of Natural Resources and Environment; and

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

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to fisheries science and conservation through his work in genetics focusing on risk assessment, management and public policy regarding genetically modified fish and shellfish, genetic improvement of aquaculture stocks, and population genetics of fish and wildlife populations; and

WHEREAS, he ably served his professional community as a life member of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) and president of the Genetic Section, the Introduced Fishes Section, and the Virginia Chapter, and on numerous editorial boards; and

WHEREAS, he has served on a number of National Research Council committees and subcommittees; and

WHEREAS, he has been recognized for his scientific work by the Virginia Museum of Natural History with the Thomas Jefferson Award for Outstanding Contribution to Natural Sciences and by the AFS with the Stevan Phelps Memorial Award in Genetics; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the fish and wildlife 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 has been recognized for his dedication to teaching excellence with the Excellence in Fisheries Education Award from the AFS; 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. Eric Hallerman for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Fish Conservation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Eric Hallerman, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 43 years, Donald J. Orth, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation in the College of Natural Resources and Environment; and

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

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the conservation and management of fishes through his work in streams and rivers focusing on instream flow and fish habitat relationships; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the university and community as a Certified Fisheries Professional, department head, the Thomas H. Jones Professor, and an editor and reviewer; and

WHEREAS, he supported the development and success of fellow faculty; and

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

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. Donald J. Orth for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Fish and Wildlife Conservation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Donald J. Orth, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for more than 17 years, Stephen H. Schoenholtz, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a professor in the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation and as director of the Virginia Water Resources Research Center in the College of Natural Resources and Environment; and

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

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to sustainable management of water and soil resources through his research in the United States and New Zealand focusing on effects of land use on water and soil quality; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the university community and Commonwealth in a leadership role for research, training, and service as director of the Virginia Water Resources Research Center; and

WHEREAS, he supported the National Institutes for Water Resources and the Soil Science Society of America as an elected officer; and

WHEREAS, he developed the Water: Resources, Policy, and Management undergraduate degree program and the Blue Planet Pathways minor program; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught the capstone Watershed Assessment, Management, and Policy course for the Water: Resources, Policy, and Management undergraduate degree, the Blue Planet minor, the Watershed Management Graduate Certificate, and the Watershed Management minor, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students on M.S. and Ph.D. dissertations and post-doctoral research associates and helped them develop successful careers in academic, government agency, and private sector settings; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Stephen H. Schoenholtz for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Forest Hydrology and Soil Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Stephen H. Schoenholtz, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 23 years, Felicia Etzkorn, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, she made significant advances in understanding the molecular mechanisms of cell division and collagen protein folding and stability in work funded by the National Institutes for Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF); and

WHEREAS, she was the major advisor for 12 Ph.D. and seven M.S. graduate students, she directed the research of seven postdoctoral associates, she advised 57 undergraduate students who learned biomedical research skills in her lab, and she helped all students develop successful careers in academia, government, and industry; and

WHEREAS, she published over 116 papers, abstracts, and reviews, served as an advisor for Virginia Tech Post-baccalaureate Research and Education Program (VT-PREP), and will continue to publish papers from her research; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, she designed and developed one of the first courses in the world dedicated to green chemistry and taught it for 14 years, and she wrote the textbook “Green Chemistry: Principles and Case Studies”, published in 2020 by the Royal Society of Chemistry, that was used in this course and has been adopted at several other universities and colleges; and

WHEREAS, she has been active in the international green chemistry movement, participating in monthly online meetings of the Beyond Benign Green Chemistry Teaching and Learning Community (GCTLC), served as a consultant to the American Chemical Society Green Chemistry Institute in developing three one-week-long green chemistry modules for organic chemistry that are freely available online, and was instrumental in the Department of Chemistry signing the Green Chemistry Commitment with Beyond Benign; and

WHEREAS, she will continue her involvement in the international green chemistry movement, participating in monthly online meetings of the Beyond Benign GCTLC, and will continue to serve as a consultant to the American Chemical Society Green Chemistry Institute to develop one-week-long green chemistry modules for organic chemistry; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught undergraduate and graduate courses in organic and green chemistry and assiduously kept current with modern pedagogy, such as the flipped classroom with video lectures, case studies, and group project work, with strong emphasis on student-centered learning; and

WHEREAS, she supported the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Science Foundation (NSF) by serving on numerous grant review committees, reviewed many proposals for other agencies internationally and reviewed manuscripts for high-impact journals; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees, running the Highlands Seminars in Chemistry program for eight years (which included a modernization of the reservation
system), served on the department personnel committee for eight years, and served on the College of Science Honorifics Committee, the Faculty Senate, and the University Faculty Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, she mentored several new faculty members, was instrumental in starting the Graduate Women in Chemistry student organization and the Faculty Women in Chemistry group, developed the pregnancy accommodations for Department of Chemistry laboratory workers and successfully advocated for their implementation, and won the College of Science Diversity Award;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Felicia Etzkorn for her distinguished service to the University with the title Professor Emerita of Chemistry.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Felicia Etzkorn, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 45 years, Brent Opell, 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 lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses; and

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

WHEREAS, he was principal or co-principal investigator (PI) on more than 15 grants totaling more than $1M, including serving as PI on three grants from the National Science Foundation and one from the National Geographic Society; and

WHEREAS, through his work in Organismal Biology, he brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 100 refereed journal articles, and four book chapters; and

WHEREAS, he presented his work at more than 25 research conferences and meetings; and

WHEREAS, he received many professional honors and awards, including the Virginia Tech Certificate of Excellence three times, the Department of Biological Sciences Outstanding Teacher Award twice, and the William E. Wine Award for Faculty Achievement; 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. Brent Opell for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Brent Opell, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 16 years, Gregory B. Daniel, D.V.M., M.S., D.A.C.V.R., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine; and

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

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to veterinary radiology through his work focusing on nuclear medicine; and

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

WHEREAS, he was principal or co-principal investigator on 48 grants researching all imaging modalities and characteristic changes related to specific disease; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored over 141 refereed journal articles and 31 book chapters; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the D.V.M. and B.M.V.S. curriculums, placing strong emphasis on standards of student learning; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished service as department head, section chief of radiology service, University Radiation Safety Committee member, and served several terms as a member of the department promotion and tenure committee; and

WHEREAS, he served the college as interim dean from 2017 through 2020, providing strong organizational leadership during a challenging period of transition; and

WHEREAS, he held leadership positions in professional organizations, including the American College of Veterinary Radiology as president, American Association of Veterinary Clinicians as president, and as an American Veterinary Medical Association delegate; and

WHEREAS, he received many professional honors and awards, including the Virginia and Edward Thompson Award, the Turnwald Family Innovation Award, Distinguished Virginia Veterinarian, and the Wilford S. Bailey Distinguished Alumni Award from Auburn University;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Gregory B. Daniel for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Radiology.

RECOMMENDATION:
That the above resolution recommending Gregory B. Daniel, D.V.M., M.S., D.A.C.V.R., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 16 years, Jennifer L. Hodgson, B.V.Sc., Ph.D., M.R.C.V.S., D.A.C.V.M., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Pathobiology and later in the Department of Population Health Sciences in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine (VMCVM); and

WHEREAS, she prepared future veterinarians to serve animals and clients across the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond by teaching core courses in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine curriculum, leading Veterinary Bacteriology and Mycology and co-leading Moving and Sensing, Sensing and Seeing, and providing an average of 30 lectures and 31 laboratory sessions each year, and from 2016, adding an average of 23 integrative sessions each year; and

WHEREAS, from 2008 through 2022, she served as the associate dean for professional programs in the VMCVM; and

WHEREAS, she orchestrated a major revision to the veterinary medicine professional curriculum implemented in 2016, and wrote major sections of the successful 2014 and 2021 reaccreditations of the VMCVM; and

WHEREAS, she created and served as editor in 2017 for the preeminent text on veterinary education, “Veterinary Medical Education: A Practical Guide” and for the second edition in 2023; and

WHEREAS, she authored or co-authored, across her career, more than 60 refereed journal articles, 60 refereed presentations for national and international conferences, 150 other presentations, two keynote addresses, 18 book chapters, 30 scientific presentations, and five extension publications and on-line resources; and

WHEREAS, she was principal or co-principal investigator on eight research grants totaling over $500k while at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, she received many professional honors and awards, including selection into the Honorary Societies of Phi Zeta, Phi Kappa Phi, and Omicron Delta Kappa; the 2014 VT Excellence in Access and Inclusion Award; the Zoetis Distinguished Teaching Award; the 2018 National American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) Distinguished Veterinary Teaching Award, the 2020 AAVMC Presidential Award for Meritorious Service; and the 2021 National Student American Veterinary Medical Association Award for Support of Student Wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, she served the public and profession by chairing the Academic Affairs Committee of the AAVMC and co-chairing the AAVMC Working Group on Competency-Based Veterinary Education, the AAVMC Council for Outcomes-based Veterinary Education, the AAVMC Advocate Working Group for Competency-Based Veterinary Education, and the Veterinary School Accreditation of Australasia Committee for the Australian Veterinary Board Council, and also served as a member of the AAVMC’s Veterinary Medical Educational Initiative;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Jennifer L. Hodgson for her distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emerita of Microbiology and Veterinary Educational Innovation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Jennifer L. Hodgson, B.V.Sc., Ph.D., M.R.C.V.S., D.A.C.V.M. for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 48 years, Arthur J. Keown, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Finance, Insurance, and Business Law in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he designed and taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the finance curriculum, placing strong emphasis on program development and support for student athletes, financial wellness, and literacy for students, teaching over 1,300-1,500 students each year; and

WHEREAS, he has claimed several teaching awards including the 1982 Wine Award, the 1995 Alumni Teaching Excellence Award, the 1999 SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Award for the Commonwealth of Virginia, the 2015 Pylon Honor Award, and was named Alumni Distinguished Professor in 2016; and

WHEREAS, he published work in top journals such as the Journal of Finance, the Journal of Financial Economics, and the Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis; and wrote six college textbooks over the course of his career; and

WHEREAS, he contributed to his profession serving as co-executive editor for the Journal of Financial Research, co-editor of the Financial Management Association (FMA) Survey and Synthesis Series, as well as serving on the board of directors of the FMA; and

WHEREAS, he ably supported the community over the years serving as department head of Finance, Insurance, and Business Law, as chair of the Virginia Tech Services Board of Directors for over 20 years, and in developing a Financial Literacy Program for all Virginia Tech students, in addition to serving as a member of the President’s Council; 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. Arthur J. Keown, for his distinguished service to the university with the title Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Finance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Arthur J. Keown, Ph.D., for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 16 years, Derek D. Klock, CFP®, Professor of Practice in Finance, faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Finance, Insurance, and Business Law in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld the Principles of Community in his work with students, faculty, and alumni; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he made significant contributions to the Department of Finance, Insurance, and Business Law by teaching multiple finance courses and Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) Board-registered courses, and through his service as a career advisor for students in his responsibilities as departmental career advisor and as co-advisor for the Virginia Tech chapter of the Financial Planning Association, and a co-advisor for Bond And Securities Investing by Students (BASIS) for several years; and was a critical participant in moving the CFP® program to the Department of Finance, Insurance, and Business Law; and

WHEREAS, his devotion to the academic field of personal finance and financial planning has been fruitful, yielding collaborative development of numerous educational materials, case materials and activities for multiple editions of a collegiate-level personal finance textbook, development of ancillary materials for instructors of that textbook and co-authoring and publication of multiple textbooks for financial planners; and

WHEREAS, he received multiple awards and honors recognizing his excellence in teaching and advising, including the Virginia Tech Career Services Excellence in Career Advising Award in 2009, both Virginia Tech and Pamplin College’s Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Certificate in 2014 and the Virginia Tech Omicron Delta Kappa G. Burke Johnson Excellence in Teaching Award in 2020; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community in his capacity as both a CFP® and Virginia Tech Professor of Practice, through presentations of research and professional observations as an invited speaker at numerous CFP® Board Registered Programs Conferences, as well as at other programs and conferences; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Professor Derek D. Klock, CFP®, for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor of Practice Emeritus of Finance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Derek D. Klock, CFP®, for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 39 years, George E. Morgan, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Finance, Insurance, and Business Law in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he was recognized as a top researcher with published work in top journals, such as the Journal of Finance, the Journal of Banking and Finance, and the Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis; and

WHEREAS, he created the Bond and Securities Investing by Students (BASIS) program, and the Credit Education Investment Team (CREDIT) student organization, serving continuously as the faculty advisor for BASIS since its inception in 2006, and as the founding faculty member for CREDIT, creating opportunities through both programs for students to gain authentic experience in fund and loan management; and

WHEREAS, with devotion, he educated hundreds of students every year at the undergraduate, M.B.A., and Ph.D. levels, served as interim department head, collaborated with colleagues on research, and was a member of the governing board for the National Science Foundation's Integrative Research and Education in Advanced Networking program at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he designed and taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the topics of fixed income markets, portfolio management, international finance, and banking, placing strong emphasis on standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he published impactful research on financial institution management and regulation, valuation, and risk management; 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 Morgan, for his distinguished service to the university with the title Professor Emeritus of Finance.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 33 years, Cliff Ragsdale, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Business Information Technology 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, as a member of the faculty in the Department of Business Information Technology, he was an outstanding teacher at the undergraduate and graduate levels, having received the Pamplin College of Business Outstanding Faculty in Doctoral Education Award in both 2008 and 2017 and the Pamplin College of Business Certificate of Teaching Excellence Award in 1993; and

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

WHEREAS, from 2015 to 2023, he dutifully served as the academic director of the Center for Business Analytics, developing the curriculum, and recruiting students who wished to earn an M.A. in business administration with a focus on business analytics; and

WHEREAS, he advised 32 students on M.S.B.A. and Ph.D. dissertations and helped them develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions in research in the fields of management science and operations management, authoring over 55 research articles, the textbook *Spreadsheet Modeling and Decision Analysis: A Practical Introduction to Management Science (9th edition)*, and through his appointment as the Bank of America Professor of Business Information Technology; and

WHEREAS, he served his profession regionally and nationally, in leadership roles in the National and Southeast Region of the Decision Sciences Institute (DSI), and the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science, and was recognized for this work by his election as a fellow of the DSI and recipient of the Lifetime Distinguished Educator Award by the DSI in 2021; 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. Cliff Ragsdale for his distinguished service to the university with the title Bank of America Professor Emeritus of Business Information Technology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Cliff Ragsdale, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 39 years Roberta S. Russell, Ph.D., faithfully served Virginia Tech in the Pamplin College of Business until her retirement in 2023; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the faculty in the Department of Business Information Technology, she was an outstanding teacher at the undergraduate and graduate levels, having received the College of Business Certificate of Teaching Excellence, the University Certificate of Teaching Excellence, and the MBA Association Certificate of Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, she advised and counseled numerous graduate students in the Department of Business Information Technology and university during her career, including service as chair of two Ph.D. dissertation committees and membership on 35 college and university Ph.D. committees and eight master’s committees; and

WHEREAS, she made significant contributions to research in the field of operations and supply chain management, authoring over 30 research articles in her career, and co-authoring two nationally acclaimed textbooks, “Service Operations Management” (2nd edition) and “Operations and Supply Chain Management” (11th edition), and was recognized with the Gyrna Quality Award from the American Society for Quality for research excellence; and

WHEREAS, she dutifully served on over 30 departmental, college, and university commissions and committees, received the Pamplin College of Business Excellence in Diversity Award, was head of the Department of Business Information Technology Department from 2017 to 2022, and acted as interim dean of the Pamplin College of Business from 2022 to 2023; and

WHEREAS, she served in a number of important offices and on numerous professional committees including as president of the American Production and Inventory Control Society’s Educational and Research Foundation, as well as president of the Southwest Virginia Chapter of the same;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Roberta S. Russell for her service to the university with the title of Professor Emerita of Business Information Technology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Roberta S. Russell, Ph.D., for emerita status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 15 years, Marc Brodsky faithfully served Virginia Tech as public services and reference archivist and a faculty member in the Special Collections and University Archives Department of the University Libraries

WHEREAS, through his hard work and dedication, he permanently aligned archival reference services and primary source education programming with the core mission of the department, University Libraries, and university; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to develop and expand the instructional programming for Special Collections and University Archives, spanning simple introductory sessions on using primary sources to more specialized instruction on historical topics; and

WHEREAS, he worked with hundreds of students, ranging from grade school to graduate school, to help them complete assignments based on the use of primary sources; collaborated with dozens of faculty to develop instructional sessions for Virginia Tech students; led an average of 25 instructional sessions per semester for 15 years, with at least five and as many as 40 students per class; and

WHEREAS, he introduced students to the challenges of reading and transcribing handwritten text from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries; and created and taught the popular “Demystifying Special Collections” instruction course, designed to reach library employees and new university graduate teaching assistants; and

WHEREAS, he responded to thousands of virtual and in-person reference requests, at a rate of an average of 31 requests per month for 15 years, from researchers, administrators, faculty, students, journalists, television and film producers, genealogists, and community members; provided countless researchers with scanned material to support their research requests, ranging from a few pages to over 1,000; and

WHEREAS, he supported extended stay researchers through assembling a large volume of archival material for consultation; and maintained a regular reference shift and trained others on reading room management and how to complete reference requests in a timely and effective manner; and

WHEREAS, he served as acting University Archivist from 2021 to 2023, which was a critical time for supporting activities for Virginia Tech’s 150th Sesquicentennial celebration in 2022; devoted countless hours, late nights, and weekends to the development of “Celebrating Virginia Tech: A Chronology of 150 Years,” a collaborative exhibit in Newman Library which includes a digital component; and worked with over 100 donors of university-related historical material; and

WHEREAS, he participated in nearly a dozen different grant programs from federal agencies, state groups, and on-campus programs; received a National Distinction Award in 2019 and was nominated for the President’s Award for Excellence in 2019; and collaborated on projects with a wide range of departments and academic programs
including history, English, forestry, art, science and technology studies, university relations, cooperative extension, athletics, architecture and urban studies, material culture, Appalachian studies, and many others; and

WHEREAS, he published articles, book chapters, and short essays on the diverse topics of the archival challenges of teaching with primary sources, veterans studies, and science fiction collections; created frequent blog posts for the Special Collections blog, which he established and initially managed; presented papers at national, regional, state, and local professional conferences and other meetings on archival and historical topics; served on committees for professional organizations including the Appalachian Studies Association, the Society of American Archivists, and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference; and served as an editorial board member of publications including the Smithfield Review, Appalachian Curator, and Archival Practice; and

WHEREAS, he served the university and University Libraries as a member of a variety of committees, workgroups, task forces, and other groups, as a work-life liaison, as a member of the Solitude and Fraction Family House Review Committee, as a member of the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies, and was a member of numerous search committees, most importantly for the Dean of Libraries; and

WHEREAS, he upheld Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community in his work as a teacher, archivist, and colleague; exemplified the spirit of Ut Prosim through classroom instruction and community outreach; promoted diversity, equity, and inclusion through his teaching, scholarship, mentoring, outreach, and service activities; and provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, the University Libraries, and the university;

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Marc Brodsky for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over seven years, Peter James Potter faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the University Libraries; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Virginia Tech magna cum laude in 1984 with a B.A. in History, at the top of his class of graduating history majors, for which he received the J. Ambler Johnston History Prize; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community in his teaching, research, and service responsibilities with a career in academic publishing spanning nearly four decades, including over 25 years as editor-in-chief at Penn State University Press and Cornell University Press; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to University Libraries through his work at Virginia Tech from 2016 to 2023, becoming the first director of publishing services in the University Libraries, and in this role founding Virginia Tech Publishing, the university’s first home-grown scholarly publishing enterprise; and

WHEREAS, while leading the Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) initiative, a five-year pilot project of the Association of American Universities, Association of Research Libraries, and Association of University Presses, he helped significantly advance the goal of making humanities and social science scholarship accessible on the open web; and

WHEREAS, he led Virginia Tech’s participation in TOME, through which over $400,000 in grants were awarded to Virginia Tech faculty, resulting in their books being published in open access editions, thereby increasing their impact while simultaneously enhancing the global reputation of Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he ably contributed to the broader academic community as a speaker at universities and conferences on the future of scholarly publishing; and

WHEREAS, he played an important role in efforts to research and reflect on the history of Virginia Tech in the years leading up to the university’s Sesquicentennial celebration in 2021-2022, including serving on the Council on Virginia Tech History from 2017 to 2023 and as chair of the Projects and Products Working Group established in 2018 by the Sesquicentennial Steering Committee, which resulted in numerous publications including two books published by Virginia Tech Publishing: No Ordinary Moment: Virginia Tech, 150 Years in 150 Images by Aaron Purcell, et al., and a 2nd edition of Virginia Tech, Land-grant University, 1872-1997: History of a School, a State, a Nation by Peter Wallenstein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Peter James Potter for his distinguished service to the university with the title Director Emeritus of Publishing, University Libraries.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Peter James Potter for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024
RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 30 years, Kenneth S. Smith, Ph.D., has served Virginia Tech in the Office of Budget and Financial Planning, the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost, and as Chief Operating Officer of the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus; and

WHEREAS, as university budget manager during his five years in the Office of Budget and Financial Planning he advanced the production of the Authorized Budget Document of the university, implemented the first institutional funding formulas for recurring distributions of Equipment Trust Funds and Eminent Scholar Funds, and created models for self-supporting funding models for emerging online professional programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, he joined the office of the Senior Vice President and Provost where he served three provosts for more than 18 years and was instrumental in the reorganization of colleges that occurred in 2002, in the start-up of multiple institutes and initiatives including the Institute for Critical Technologies and Applied Sciences, the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute, and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, he followed the last initiative he nurtured in the office of the Senior Vice President and Provost to become the founding Chief Operating Officer of the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus, the university’s major investment and expansion in the Washington, D.C. region, overseeing both design and programming of the new campus building and implementing many changes in regional services to improve the faculty and student experience in the Washington, D.C. region; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career with Virginia Tech, he has advocated for data informed decision making and resource allocation, culminating in the creation of the University Data Commons, an accessible, central repository of descriptive and predictive analytical tools for managers and the Partnership for an Incentive Based Budget, a performance budget model that linked resource allocation to a range of both outputs and qualitative outcomes; and

WHEREAS, he earned his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in 2010, and was the thankful beneficiary of patient mentoring from a long list of distinguished Virginia Tech leaders and educators, and in turn sought to pass that gift along through teaching service in the School of Education through contributions to professional development programs and through one-on-one mentoring and encouragement to many of the next generation of future university leaders; and

WHEREAS, he participated in the national higher education industry as an expert on management of summer terms, serving in various leadership roles in the North American Association of Summer Sessions, and presenting at national and international conferences to advance both information sharing within the higher education community and the Virginia Tech reputation within that community; and

WHEREAS, he has shown dedicated commitment and made significant contributions to the regional, national, and international success of the university, in the spirit of Ut Prosim (That I May Serve);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors expresses appreciation to Dr. Kenneth S. Smith and recognizes him for his distinguished service with the title Vice Provost Emeritus of Academic Resource Management and Chief Operating Officer Emeritus of the Innovation Campus.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Kenneth S. Smith, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

April 9, 2024