

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION HONORING DONALD HORSLEY

WHEREAS, Donald Horsley served as president of the board of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services from 2023 to 2025, and in that capacity served concurrently as an ex officio member of the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. During his two-year tenure, he has been a member of the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee and the Buildings and Grounds Committee; and

WHEREAS, an alumnus of Virginia Tech having earned a degree in animal science in 1969, Don is proprietor of Land of Promise Farms, which he runs in partnership with his wife, Diane, and two sons, Ryan and Shane, who are also former Hokies, and together they were inducted into Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' Hall of Fame in 2013; and

WHEREAS, voted Virginia's Farmer of the Year in 2011, Don is a long-time 4-H livestock volunteer. Known for their show pigs, Land of Promise Farms has supplied many pigs to Virginia 4-H students to be shown across the state and beyond; and

WHEREAS, he has also been a strong agriculture advocate in local, state, and national government. He has served as a member of the Virginia Beach Planning Commission, the local Farm Bureau Board, the board of the Southern States Cooperative, the Virginia Beach Agriculture Reserve Program Committee, and the Agricultural Advisory Committee. He has been involved in Virginia's Pork Industry Association, the State Fair Board, and the Agribusiness Council, as well as the National Pork Producers Council and Pork Forum and the American Soybean and National Corn Growers Associations; and

WHEREAS, the administration and the members of the board truly appreciate Don's service and have enjoyed getting to know him and his wife, Diane, at board meetings and other university events;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University hereby extend their sincere appreciation to Don Horsley for his outstanding service and for his faithful dedication to the university and its missions.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the resolution recognizing Donald Horsley for his service as a member of the Board of Visitors be approved.

August 20, 2025