

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION HONORING LETITIA “TISH” LONG

WHEREAS, Letitia Long was appointed to the Board of Visitors in 2017 and reappointed in 2021. She holds the rare distinction of having served on every committee: as a member of the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee and the Governance and Administration Committee; and as both member and chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the Compliance, Audit, and Risk Committee, and the Finance and Resource Management Committee. As Vice Rector from 2019 to 2021 and Rector from 2021 to 2023, she was also a member of the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, an alumna of Virginia Tech, Ms. Long earned her bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in 1982 and went on to earn a master's in mechanical engineering from Catholic University of America, as well as an honorary doctorate of strategic intelligence from the National Intelligence University; and

WHEREAS, her distinguished career included the positions of the first Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence, the first CIO of the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Deputy Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency. She became the first woman to lead a major U.S. Intelligence agency when she was named the fifth Director of the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Long received the 2017 Virginia Tech Distinguished Achievement award and was inducted into the Academy of Engineering Excellence in 2020. Beyond Virginia Tech, she is the recipient of two Presidential Rank Awards of Meritorious Executive, two Department of Defense Medals for Distinguished Service, and three National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medals. Internationally, she received a Medal of Merit by the King of Norway, was appointed Chevalier in the National Order of the Legion of Honor of France, and was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland. In 2022, she received the Lundahl-Finnie Lifetime Achievement Award from the US Geospatial Intelligence Foundation for her contributions to geospatial intelligence; and

WHEREAS, Tish has served on the advisory boards for VT's School of Public and International Affairs and Ted and Karyn Hume Center for National Security and Technology. Other board service includes Raytheon, Noblis, Hypersat, Quadrant, Octo, and chairman of the board of the Intelligence and National Security Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the administration and the members of the board truly appreciate the time and support that Tish has dedicated to this Board and university and have enjoyed getting to know her and her husband, John, over the course of her eight years of service;

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 Letitia “Tish” Long for her outstanding service and for her faithful dedication to the university and its missions.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the resolution recognizing Letitia “Tish” Long for her service as a member of the Board of Visitors be approved.

August 20, 2025