

## SUMMARY

### **Emeritus/Emerita Faculty Resolutions (2)**

**August 29, 2023**

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 (1)**

David Orden                                  Professor Emeritus of Agricultural and Applied Economics

#### **Administration (1)**

Rosemary Blieszner                                  Dean Emerita and  
Alumni Distinguished Professor Emerita of  
Human Development and Family Sciences

**RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. David Orden served Virginia Tech for 41 years as a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and as Director of the Global Issues Initiative in the Institute for Society, Culture and Environment (ISCE); and

**WHEREAS**, he has been an author or editor of five books, 53 referred journal articles, 42 book chapters, and 125 research monographs, conference proceedings, journal special issues, other research papers, and public policy outreach articles; and

**WHEREAS**, during the first half of his career he taught graduate and undergraduate courses in international economics and applied microeconomics, serving as advisor for 17 Ph.D. dissertations and M.S. theses; and

**WHEREAS**, he was a lead contributor to merger of the Ph.D. program with Economics, and establishment and development of ISCE, including in the Washington, D.C. area, and

**WHEREAS**, he brought international visibility to Virginia Tech through collaborations at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, and at Stanford University and, in the second half of his career, through 13 years in a joint appointment at the International Food Policy Research Institute in Washington, D.C.; and

**WHEREAS**, he made early contributions to diversity and inclusiveness through research and extension efforts addressing improvement of the livelihoods of low-income farmers in Virginia and throughout the southern United States; and

**WHEREAS**, he developed pathbreaking methods and empirical analysis of the effects of monetary policy on agricultural prices and trade, co-authored an award-winning book on U.S. farm support legislation, and provided analysis of these policies in domestic and international context over 25 subsequent years; and

**WHEREAS**, he provided economic and political analysis that contributed to the opening of the \$1 billion annual trade of avocados from Mexico to the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, he contributed through four books and related publications to building understanding of international regulation regarding agricultural and food safety and quality under the World Trade Organization (WTO), and provided assessments of the WTO rules and commitments, implementation, disputes, ongoing negotiations, and future prospects for international disciplines on agricultural support;

**WHEREAS**, he made significant contributions to social science capacity of developing countries as the founding director of an ongoing research competitive grants program that has funded over 130 projects throughout Pakistan, and as external examiner of 18 Ph.D. dissertations;

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

Agricultural and Applied Economics.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the above resolution recommending David Orden, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

August 29, 2023

## RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

**WHEREAS**, for over 42 years, Rosemary Blieszner, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Human Development and Family Science, as Alumni Distinguished Professor, as Associate Director of the Center for Gerontology, as dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, and as interim dean of the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design; and

**WHEREAS**, she has upheld Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in her teaching, research and service responsibilities, an exemplar of the university's motto *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve), and has been recognized for this work by being appointed as Alumni Distinguished Professor in 2002 and reappointed to the role in 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, she made numerous significant and influential contributions to the field of gerontology through publications and presentations of her theoretical and translational research on friendship, family relationships, and caregiving for persons living with mild cognitive impairment and dementia; and

**WHEREAS**, with dedication to undergraduate and graduate education she taught a variety of courses across the human development and family science curriculum, placing strong emphasis on student-centered and experiential learning, mentored master's and doctoral students, helping them develop successful careers in both academia and human service sectors, and served as a member of the university's Academy of Teaching Excellence and as Faculty Sponsor for the Class of 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, she provided continual service and leadership in her department, the Center for Gerontology, the colleges she led, and the university through active participation and chairing numerous advisory, review, and governance committees; and

**WHEREAS**, she made significant contributions to strengthening programs across the university in her service as associate dean of the Graduate School and assistant vice provost for enrollment and degree management; and

**WHEREAS**, after accepting the invitation to serve as interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, and being appointed as dean seven months into her tenure, she provided exceptional leadership, advocated for diverse faculty hiring, reinvigorated undergraduate enrollment efforts, strengthened marketing and communication to enhance the college's brand and promote accomplishments of faculty, students, and alumni, and promoted excellence in the college's areas of strength that focus on inclusion, social justice, and the human experience; and

**WHEREAS**, she provided inspirational mentorship and coaching to colleagues, students, and community members alike, embodying the values of excellence, compassion, service and integrity while serving as the interim dean of the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design; and

**WHEREAS**, she demonstrated a profound commitment to community building, promoting a culture of collaboration, diversity, and respect, thereby enhancing the overall educational experience and well-being of all members of the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design community; and

**WHEREAS**, she guided an 18-month exploration of the university's history as chair of the Sesquicentennial Steering Committee, leading the university community to a deeper understanding of its history and the respect owed to all who made it possible for the institution to thrive and grow; and

**WHEREAS**, she led the president's initiative to create a vision for the university's future, chairing the steering committee that developed "Envisioning Virginia Tech Beyond Boundaries, a 2047 Vision", and chairing the advisory committee that supported its successful implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, she showed exemplary service to her profession, including serving as President of the Gerontological Society of America, Chair of the American Psychological Association Committee on Aging, editor-in-chief of the Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Science, associate editor or editorial board member for ten scholarly journals, and undertook innumerable manuscript reviews; and

**WHEREAS**, she ably served the university's outreach and engagement mission by providing numerous presentations to community, church, and civic groups on gerontology topics and serving on several organizations' governing boards; and

**WHEREAS**, she received many professional honors, awards, and recognitions, including Alumni Fellow from Pennsylvania State University, Distinguished Alumna Award for Outstanding Service to a Chosen Field from Mercyhurst University, Petersen Visiting Scholar in Family Gerontology at Oregon State University, Distinguished Academic Gerontologist from the Southern Gerontological Society, and was elected fellow in five professional associations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Rosemary Blieszner for her distinguished service to the university with the title Dean Emerita and Alumni Distinguished Professor Emerita of Human Development and Family Science.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the above resolution recommending Rosemary Blieszner, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

August 29, 2023