

SUMMARY

New Appointments to Endowed Chairs, Professorships, or Fellowships (4)

March 20, 2023

Each college has formal procedures for the nomination and appointment to endowed chairs, professorships, and fellowships that include review by a college honorifics committee or promotion and tenure committee.

After review by the appropriate college committee the college dean makes recommendations for approval by the provost and the Board of Visitors. Such an appointment may continue through the active career of the professor at the university, unless it is relinquished in favor of some other honored or administrative appointment or unless the appointment has specific term limitations that may be renewable.

The following faculty members are recommended for endowed chairs, professorships, or fellowships at Virginia Tech.

College of Science (1)

Daniel Stilwell	Seale Coastal Zone Observatory Faculty Fellowship
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College of Veterinary Medicine (1)

Christopher Byron	C. R. Roberts Professorship
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Pamplin College of Business (2)

Tabitha James	R.B. Pamplin Professorship in Business Information Technology
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Anthony Vance	Ralph Medinger Lenz Professorship
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ENDOWED FACULTY FELLOWSHIP
Seale Coastal Zone Observatory Faculty Fellowship
in the Center for Coastal Studies

The Seale Coastal Zone Observatory Faculty Fellowship in the Center for Coastal Studies at Virginia Tech was established in 2022 with a generous gift from William Seale '86 '88 (B.S. Chem, MBA) and Carol Seale '88 (B.S. AHRM). The endowment supports the enhancement of the national and international prominence of a strategic collaboration focused on healthy coastal and ocean ecosystems. This collaboration is led by the Virginia Tech Center for Coastal Studies and the Virginia Tech College of Science. The Seale's funding for this initiative has provided support for basic and applied research that are fundamental to making sound decisions to benefit society and define solutions for healthy and sustainable oceans. The Seale Coastal Zone Observatory Faculty Fellowship also recognizes outstanding faculty whose work supports the mission of the Seale Coastal Zone Observatory. A recipient shall hold the fellowship for a period of three years with possible renewal.

Dr. Kevin Pitts, dean of the College of Science, has nominated Dr. Daniel Stilwell, professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of the Virginia Tech Center for Marine Autonomy and Robotics, to be the recipient of this faculty fellowship. The nomination is supported by the director of the Center for Coastal Studies, Dr. Robert Weiss.

Dr. Stilwell is currently a professor in the Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Virginia Tech. He earned his Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Johns Hopkins University in 1999, M.S. in electrical engineering from Virginia Tech in 1993, and B.S. in computer engineering from University of Massachusetts in 1991.

Dr. Stilwell's research is focused on marine robotics and autonomy; design of advanced autonomous underwater vehicle systems (AUV); field robotics; decentralized control and estimation; and stochastic control. He has led or co-led the development of multiple AUV systems including the 690 AUV which is a general-purpose system with 500m depth, bathymetric sonar, advanced navigation sensors, and acoustic/satellite/RF communication and the Javelin AUV, with 4000m depth, 36 hours at 4 knots bathymetric sonar, acoustic/satellite/RF communication with extremely low-cost and designed to work in team for rapid deep-ocean mapping.

Dr. Stilwell has received substantial funding in support of projects involving marine robotics and autonomy, including 72 sponsored research projects totaling more than \$20M. Additionally, he has given 30 invited keynote presentations and seminars and contributed to more than 138 publications. Among his many honors and accolades, Dr. Stilwell received a Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program Award from the National Science Foundation; the 2015 Rudolf Kalman Best Paper Award from the Dynamic Systems and Control Division of American Society of Mechanical Engineers; and the Milestone Award from the XPRIZE Foundation, awarded to VT Ocean XPRIZE team under his leadership.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Daniel Stilwell, Ph.D. be appointed a Seale Coastal Zone Observatory Faculty Fellowship in the Center for Coastal Studies at Virginia Tech for a three-year term, effective January 1, 2023, with a salary supplement and operating support as provided by the endowment and eminent scholar match, if available.

March 20, 2023

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP
C.R. Roberts Professorship of Clinical Veterinary Medicine

The C.R. Roberts Professorship of Clinical Veterinary Medicine was established in 2002 with a gift to the Virginia Tech Foundation from Dr. Kent C. Roberts, DVM and the Roberts Family Ltd. Partnership. Dr. C.R. Roberts was one of the first and among the top ranked veterinarians in corporate America, and throughout his long and distinguished career and even during his retirement, he was an enthusiastic participant and advocate of veterinary medicine. In order to recognize the pioneering career of Dr. C.R. Roberts, his family created this endowment to provide opportunities for other pioneering efforts in veterinary medicine and to recognize excellence in clinical veterinary medicine.

Dr. Christopher Byron joined the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine (VMCVM) in 2014 after completing an equine surgery residency and becoming board certified in veterinary surgery. He worked in both academia as well as private practice as an equine surgeon prior to coming to Virginia Tech. He was hired into a faculty appointment at Virginia Tech as an associate professor and achieved tenure in 2018.

Dr. Byron is one of the rare faculty members who has been able to excel in all mission areas of a land-grant university: service, teaching, research, and outreach. His clinical and research interests include pathobiology and treatment of osteoarthritis in horses as well as multidisciplinary research in the development of cancer treatments and identification of surgeon performance metrics. He has authored or co-authored over 80 manuscripts, abstracts, and book chapters. Dr. Byron advises and teaches M.S., Ph.D., and professional students, and has a strong record of research productivity as evidenced by serving as principal investigator and co-principal investigator on grant totaling over \$4M.

Dr. Byron has administrative and leadership experience as the equine section chief and Large Animal Medicine and Surgery Service chief in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital; Large Animal Medicine and Surgery representative on the Veterinary Teaching Hospital Board; Large Animal Medicine and Surgery clerkship leader; and has been the department head of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, since January 2023.

Dr. Byron is an exceptional clinician, an accomplished researcher, a respected teacher, and an experienced leader.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Dr. Christopher R. Byron be appointed the C.R. Roberts Professor of Clinical Veterinary Medicine effective March 20, 2023 with a salary supplement as provided by the endowment and, if available, with funds from the eminent scholars match program.

March 20, 2023

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP
R. B. Pamplin Professorship in Business Information Technology

The R. B. Pamplin Professorship in Business Information Technology was established in 1992 to attract and retain eminent scholars in the Pamplin College of Business. Interim Dean Roberta Russell has nominated Dr. Tabitha James for appointment as the R. B. Pamplin Professorship in Business Information Technology, in concurrence with the recommendations of the college and departmental faculty honorifics and awards committees and with the support of Dr. Quinton Nottingham, head of the Department of Business Information Technology.

Dr. James received her Ph.D. in Management Information Systems in 2002 from the University of Mississippi and joined the faculty of the Department of Business Information Technology as an assistant professor the same year. She was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 2008 and was promoted to professor in 2021.

Dr. James is an internationally recognized scholar whose research addresses societally important questions in two related areas: behavioral information privacy and security and the psychological impact of technology use. She has published 40 research articles including four in Pamplin's elite journals during the last five years. Her work shows an accelerating trajectory in research and growing impact and intellectual leadership. Her paper "*A theory of multi-level information privacy decisions*" with Dr. France Belanger in the department of Accounting and Information Systems has helped integrate disparate theoretical perspectives in the privacy domain. Her use of organismic integration theory to explore associations between user's exercise motivations and fitness technology future set use published in *Management Information Systems Quarterly* will likely have a significant influence the field of privacy research.

Dr. James' contributions to our educational mission are also exceptional. She has taught 13 different undergraduate and graduate courses and her work to develop, extend, and enhance graduate education in data visualization has been particularly noteworthy. She consistently receives very strong evaluations of teaching effectiveness from her students and peers. Dr. James is also active in doctoral education as instructor for the doctoral seminar in information technology and she has co-chaired three Ph.D. student dissertation committees and served on several others.

Dr. James' service contributions are also noteworthy. She has served as an associate editor for two journals, served on four journal editorial boards, and several special issues, receiving several best reviewer awards. She is an outstanding and highly collegial colleague who contributes in many ways to the ongoing effective functioning of the Business Information Technology Department, the Pamplin College of Business, and Virginia Tech. In short, Dr. James is a highly accomplished scholar fully deserving of this professorship.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Dr. Tabitha James be appointed to the R. B. Pamplin Professorship in Business Information Technology effective June 25, 2023, with a salary supplement as provided by the endowment and, if available, with funds from the eminent scholars match program.

March 20, 2023

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP
Ralph Medinger Lenz Professorship

The Ralph Medinger Lenz Professorship was established in 1988 with a generous gift from Ferguson Enterprises in honor of Ralph Medinger Lenz, Virginia Tech Class of 1931. The professorship is awarded to an outstanding professor who demonstrates excellence in scholarly research within the Pamplin College of Business. Interim Dean Roberta Russell has nominated Dr. Anthony Vance for appointment as the Ralph Medinger Lenz Professorship, in concurrence with the recommendations of the Pamplin College of Business faculty honorifics and awards committee and with the support of Dr. Quinton Nottingham, head of the Department of Business Information Technology.

Professor Vance received a Ph.D. in Management Science from Université Paris-Dauphne in 2008, a Ph.D. in Computer Information Systems from Georgia State University in 2009 and a Ph.D. in Information Processing Science from University of Oulu, Oulu Finland in 2010. He joined the faculty of the department of Business Information Technology in 2021 as professor, and currently serves as a Commonwealth Cyber Initiative Fellow.

Dr. Vance's research interests are in the areas of behavioral and organizational cybersecurity and applications of neuroscience to cybersecurity. Dr. Vance is an internationally recognized and highly impactful scholar. He has published 34 articles, 12 of which have been published in Pamplin elite journals. His papers *"The phishing funnel model: A design artifact to predict user susceptibility to phishing websites"* (2021) and *"More harm than good: How security messages that interrupt us makes us vulnerable"* (2016) received Information Systems Research's Best Published Paper Award. Dr. Vance has generated an impressive and consistent record of research excellence.

Dr. Vance is actively involved in his academic field. He currently serves as senior editor for Management Information Systems Quarterly and is an editorial board member and guest editor for the Journal for the Association of Information Systems. He been actively involved in the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) 8.11/11.13 Information Systems Security Group since 2010 and currently chairs the IFIP WG8.11/WG11.13 Information Systems Security Research Group. The aim of this working group is the creation, dissemination, and preservation of well-formed research about information systems security. In short, Dr. Vance is a highly accomplished scholar fully deserving of this professorship.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Dr. Anthony Vance be appointed to the Ralph Medinger Lenz Professorship effective June 25, 2023, with a salary supplement as provided by the endowment and, if available, with funds from the eminent scholars match program.

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