**RESOLUTION HONORING 2025 UT PROSIM MEDAL RECIPIENT**
**PATRICIA A. CALDWELL '71**

**WHEREAS,** Virginia Tech is very proud to recognize among its most esteemed alumni Ms. Patricia A. Caldwell, a member of the class of 1971 who received her bachelor of science degree in Mathematics from Virginia Tech, and has been a loyal and enthusiastic volunteer and supporter of the university; and

**WHEREAS,** Ms. Caldwell is a fourth-generation Hokie with a rich heritage at Virginia Tech that started with her great-grandfather, Daniel Franklin Hale, who was a member of the university's inaugural class; and

**WHEREAS,** Patricia Caldwell has garnered professional prestige throughout her long and distinguished career in the financial services industry, serving in executive leadership roles as a co-founder and managing director of Gordian Group, LLC, demonstrating outstanding achievement and the value of Virginia Tech's influence in her life with its emphasis on the ideals of leadership, loyalty, service and Ut Prosim – *That I Might Serve;* and

**WHEREAS,** Pat Caldwell has had an extensive tenure of service and continued engagement at Virginia Tech, serving multiple terms as a Director on the Virginia Tech Foundation Board of Directors and its Executive and Development/Advancement Committees and being an avid participant on the College of Science Roundtable Advisory Board including service as former chair; a lifetime member of the Women in Leadership and Philanthropy Council; and supporting two of the university's historic and exceptional fundraising efforts as a member of the campaign steering committees for the Campaign for Virginia Tech: Invent the Future and Boundless Impact; and

**WHEREAS,** Pat Caldwell was the first recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Science, received the 2009 Alumni Distinguished Service Award, and was inducted into the College of Science Hall of Fame in 2013, all a testament to her unwavering commitment and devotion to her alma mater; and

**WHEREAS**, Pat Caldwell's many years of active participation in the university community have inspired her desire to create a wide variety of educational opportunities for Virginia Tech students while promoting her core values of service and hard work. Her support of many university initiatives benefit not only students, but faculty and the broader community; and

**WHEREAS,** consistently providing volunteer leadership and philanthropic support across the breadth of the university, Pat Caldwell is an inspirational example of how a meaningful life is achieved not only through personal success, but also in service to others, and

**WHEREAS**, the extraordinary generosity of Ms. Caldwell has allowed her to be recognized as a member of the Ut Prosim Society at the President's Circle level, the university's most prestigious donor recognition society;

**NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that in recognition of Ms. Caldwell's many years of leadership and notable service to the university and to her community, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University confers upon Patricia Ann Caldwell its highest award, the 2025 Ut Prosim Medal.

**RECOMMENDATION**:
That the resolution conferring the 2025 Ut Prosim Medal to Patricia A. Caldwell be approved.

March 25, 2025

**RESOLUTION HONORING**
**2025 UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT**
**WILLIAM HENIKA**

**WHEREAS**, William “Bill” Henika is arguably the most knowledgeable current authority on Virginia and Appalachian geology; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Henika is an unsung hero whose work and remarkable contributions to the field of geological sciences has catapulted the Virginia Tech Department of Geosciences to international prominence in geochemical, mineralogical, and experimental geology disciplines; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Henika began his career at the Schnabel Foundation Company which evolved into the Schnabel Foundation and Schnabel Engineering, Inc. and became a national industry leader in the design and construction of excavation support and engineering consulting; and

**WHEREAS**, having discovered a passion for geology, Bill Henika broadened his career by entering National Service in 1968 as a scientist with the Virginia Division of Mineral Resources. He formed a partnership with Virginia Tech geologists in concert with his government and industry careers that spanned over 40 years and allowed him to secure grants and establish other partnerships to bolster research at the university; and

**WHEREAS**, his partnership with Virginia Tech led Bill Henika to create the United States Geological Survey office at the institution in 1977, spurring the Geology department to grow substantially in size and reputation and making Virginia Tech ***the*** authority in Appalachian geology and the top geosciences program in the southeastern United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Henika is an exemplar of Virginia Tech’s drive to push the boundaries of knowledge and foster innovation and discovery, and he remains a pioneer who defied convention and made invaluable impacts on society through his outsized contributions to the field of geological sciences, extending access to internship and research opportunities to countless students and completing the south-central portion of the 1993 Virginia Geologic State Map that is still utilized today; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill Henika has made an international impact through the core values of hard work, determination, and vision that has resulted in professional success and worldwide acclaim;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that with great pride and in recognition of his professional accomplishments, service, leadership, and commitment to making the world a better place in ways that bring honor to his profession and to the university, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University confers the University Distinguished Achievement Award for 2025 to Mr. William “Bill” Henika.

**RECOMMENDATION**:
That the resolution conferring the 2025 University Distinguished Achievement Award to. William “Bill” Henika be approved.

March 25, 2025