SUMMARY

New Appointments to Endowed Chairs, Professorships, or Fellowships (5)

August 27, 2024

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 Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (1)

Emily Satterwhite — Edward S. Diggs Endowed Professorship in Humanities

College of Engineering (2)

Greg Young — Mary Virginia Jones Research Professorship in Rocketry

Brian Kleiner — Preston and Catharine White Professor and Director

College of Science (2)

Anne Driscoll — Jean Dickinson Gibbons Faculty Fellowship in Statistics

Scotland Leman — Jean Dickinson Gibbons Faculty Fellowship in Statistics

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP
Edward S. Diggs Professorship in Humanities

The Edward S. Diggs Endowed Professorship in Humanities was established by Hattie Wilson Diggs in memory of her husband Edward Singleton Diggs, a 1914 graduate of the university, to recognize and promote excellence in research and teaching in humanities. With the unanimous support of the *ad hoc* review committee representing the Diggs Teaching Scholar Association and the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Honors and Awards Committee, Dean Laura Belmonte nominates Dr. Emily Satterwhite, professor in the Department of Religion and Culture, as the Edward S. Diggs Professor of Humanities.

Dr. Satterwhite has been a faculty member at Virginia Tech since 2005, earning promotion and tenure to associate professor in 2012 and promotion to professor in 2023. She earned her Ph.D. in American Studies from Emory University in 2005.

Dr. Satterwhite's achievements in teaching, research, and public engagement fulfill the goals of the Diggs Scholar Professorship to recognize and promote excellence in research and teaching. Her books, articles, and chapters have explored economic changes in coal regions, religious expression in rural communities, environmental activism in response to resource extraction, digital mapping, and myths of Appalachian exceptionalism. Dr. Satterwhite is an award-winning teacher whose excellence in the classroom has been recognized within the university and across the region. She has a remarkable record of service to the university community, the Appalachian region, and the Commonwealth of Virginia. In collaboration with Dr. Katrina Powell, she is co-director of the Monuments Across Appalachian Virginia (MAAV) project funded by a $3M grant from the Mellon Foundation, among the largest grants ever bestowed upon a humanities program at Virginia Tech. Dr. Satterwhite is widely recognized as an effective, thoughtful, and inspirational leader in the effort to pursue environmental justice in southwest Virginia and Appalachia.

The Department of Religion and Culture mentoring committee nominated Dr. Satterwhite for the Diggs Professorship because of her "abiding commitment to outstanding undergraduate education" and her "embodiment of the Diggs commitment to enhance the undergraduate learning environment" alongside "distinguished scholarship."

RECOMMENDATION:

That Dr. Emily Satterwhite be appointed the Edward S. Diggs Professor of Humanities for a five-year term effective August 10, 2024, with the appropriate salary stipend and operating budget as provided by the endowment.

August 28, 2024

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP
Mary Virginia Jones Research Professorship in Rocketry

The Mary Virginia Jones Research Professorship in Rocketry was established with a generous gift from Mary Virginia Jones. The creation of this professorship allows Virginia Tech to generate new interest in rocketry. Dean Ross has nominated Dr. Greg Young as the Mary Virginia Jones Research Professor, based on the recommendations of the Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering and the Honorifics Committee.

Dr. Young has excelled in rocketry research since he joined Virginia Tech four years ago. He has built new laboratories and facilities in the Prices Fork Research Facility and at the Advanced Propulsion and Power Laboratory to support his groundbreaking research in solid rocket fuel science, technology, and manufacturing. He has graduated seven M.S. and Ph.D. students, and in the last four years has published 14 journal papers and 17 conference papers that have stoked a rapidly rising citation rate. He has built new partnerships including a recent Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI) through which he has brought together, under Virginia Tech leadership, top researchers and engineers from six prestigious universities including Penn State, Georgia Tech, and Stanford University. As such, he has put Virginia Tech at the center of national and international research in solid rocket propulsion.

Dr. Young is one of the top teachers in Aerospace and Ocean Engineering, impacting hundreds of students per year. He has developed a new graduate course in high-speed propulsion, serves on our strategic planning committee, and serves as faculty advisor for the Virginia Tech student chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA).

Through his scholarship and teaching in rocketry, Dr. Young has made outstanding contributions to Virginia Tech, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to the nation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Dr. Greg Young be appointed to the Mary Virginia Jones Research Professorship in Rocketry for a renewable period of five years, effective August 10, 2024, with a salary supplement and operating budget as provided by the endowment.

August 28, 2024

ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP
Preston and Catharine White Professor and Director

The Preston and Catharine White Endowment for the Myers-Lawson School of Construction was established with a generous gift from Preston and Catharine White. This endowment allows for support of the school's director to be known as the Preston and Catharine White Professor and Director. By virtue of his position of director, Dean Ross has nominated Dr. Brian M. Kleiner for this professorship with confirmation of the Myers-Lawson School of Construction Honorifics Committee.

Dr. Kleiner was the founding director of the Center for Innovation in Construction Safety, Health, and Well-being (IC-SAFE) at Virginia Tech, which was credited with over $12M of National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) external funding to improve the safety of the construction industry. He has served on the NIOSH Sector Council for Construction for over a decade. Dr. Kleiner is also North American Director of the International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB). In 2014, Kleiner received the Distinguished Professor Award by the Construction Industry Institute (CII). In 2013, he was awarded a U.S. Department of Defense Patriot Award. In 2012, he was recognized for his commitment to diversity and inclusion by being awarded the McPherson Memorial Award for Achievements in Diversity.

His Ph.D., awarded in 1990 from the State University of New York, focused on the role of the humans in increasingly automated systems. His teaching has focused on courses related to leadership, project management, occupational safety and health, and work system analysis and design. He has authored or co-authored more than 175 peer-reviewed papers and has led approximately $10M in funded research projects.

Under his leadership, the Myers-Lawson School of Construction was transformed into a uniquely structured and successful School with top three programs in construction management and construction engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Dr. Brian M. Kleiner be appointed the Preston and Catharine White Professor and Director of the Myers-Lawson School of Construction, effective August 10, 2024, for the period of his directorship and for a period not to exceed five years, with a salary supplement and operating budget provided by the endowment.

August 28, 2024

FACULTY FELLOWSHIP
Jean Dickinson Gibbons Faculty Fellowship in Statistics

The Jean Dickinson Gibbons Faculty Fellowship in Statistics was established in 2023 with a generous gift from its namesake to enhance the national and international prominence of Virginia Tech's Department of Statistics. Dr. Gibbons, who earned her Ph.D. in statistics in 1960 from Virginia Tech, established this fellowship to support the teaching, service, and research of a faculty member within the statistics department. A recipient shall hold the fellowship for a period of three years with possible renewal.

Dr. Kevin T. Pitts, dean of the College of Science, has nominated Dr. Anne Driscoll, collegiate associate professor of statistics, to be the recipient of this fellowship, concurring with the recommendation of the Department of Statistics Honorifics Committee.

Dr. Driscoll received a Ph.D. in statistics in 2011 and became a collegiate faculty member in 2016. In 2019, she was promoted to collegiate associate professor. She currently serves as the associate department head, the director of the undergraduate program, and chairs the Virginia Tech Department of Statistical Corporate Partners program.

Dr. Driscoll's research focuses on statistical quality control and publishes in top quality journals like the *Journal of Quality Technology and Quality Engineering*. Her work is recognized internationally, leading to invited talks at conferences like the International Symposium on Statistical Process Monitoring in Spain and the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS) in Belgium. She also serves on NASA's Composite Overwrapped Pressure Vessels (COPV) Analytical Team. In addition to research in quality control, she has several collaborative articles with faculty and students in areas such as biomechanics and biomedical engineering. She has served on 28 different M.S. and Ph.D. committees from a variety of departments.

Dr. Driscoll is known as one of the best teachers in the statistics department and has consistently received praise from students for her graduate service course that has over 150 students enrolled. Her other courses also get excellent evaluations from students and faculty. She has led the development of the new undergraduate program in statistics and in creating the successful Data Analysis and Applied Statistics program.

Dr. Driscoll's service is also exemplary, both within and outside the university. She is a member of the college's collegiate faculty and professor of practice promotion committee, as well as the teaching award committee. Externally, she is a member of the Joint Research Conference Committee and chairs the program for the Quality and Productivity Section of the America Statistical Association. Additionally, she chairs the Brumbaugh Award Selection Committee of the American Society for Quality.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Dr. Anne Driscoll be appointed to the Jean Dickinson Gibbons Faculty Fellowship for a three-year term, effective August 10, 2024, with operating support as provided by the fellowship fund..

August 28, 2024

FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

Jean Dickinson Gibbons Faculty Fellowship in Statistics

The Jean Dickinson Gibbons Faculty Fellowship in Statistics was established in 2023 with a generous gift from its namesake to enhance the national and international prominence of Virginia Tech's Department of Statistics. Dr. Gibbons, who earned her Ph.D. in statistics in 1960 from Virginia Tech, established this fellowship to support the teaching, service, and research of a faculty member within the statistics department. A recipient shall hold the fellowship for a period of three years with possible renewal.

Dr. Kevin T. Pitts, Dean of the College of Science, has nominated Dr. Scotland Leman, associate professor of statistics, to be the recipient of this fellowship, concurring with the recommendation of the Department of Statistics Honorifics Committee.

Dr. Leman joined the Department of Statistics in 2007 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 2014. Since 2019, he has served as the director of the department's graduate program. Dr. Leman's research endeavors have attracted over $25M in grants, with over $4M in attributed funding. Much of his work is collaborative, with his innovative approaches attracting top faculty from departments such as computer science and engineering. His work on basketball rankings gained significant media attention, and his research on prediction of civil unrest led to several important publications and recognition from the U.S. Department of Defense. Under Dr. Leman's mentorship, numerous graduate students have published papers and secured prestigious positions in academia and industry. His dedication to mentoring is evident as he has published with most of his 12 graduate students, two of whom have received awards.

Dr. Leman has been an exemplary director of our graduate program, fostering a collaborative environment among graduate students and faculty. He developed a weekly discussion that brings together faculty and students. His leadership in the graduate committee has been instrumental in selecting outstanding new students, and his mentorship has guided many through both academic and personal challenges.

Dr. Leman also has a strong commitment to education at both the undergraduate and graduate level. He was essential in developing curricula and courses for the Computational Modeling and Data Analytics (CMDA) program. He has introduced three new graduate level courses, enhancing and modernizing the department's curriculum. His graduate data analytics courses generated significant interest, a testament to his engaging teaching style. These courses are the foundation of the proposed new data science master's degree. His exceptional teaching ability is evidenced by Student Perception on Teaching (SPOT) scores that consistently exceed the departmental average, and his classes attract students from various disciplines.

<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u>

That Dr. Scotland Leman be appointed the Jean Dickinson Gibbons Faculty Fellow for a three-year term, effective August 10, 2024, with operating support as provided by the fellowship fund.

August 28, 2024