

SUMMARY

Emeritus/Emerita Faculty Resolutions (18)

November 17, 2025

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.

Pamplin College of Business (4)

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| Kevin Boyle | Department Head Emeritus of Agricultural and Applied Economics and Willis Blackwood Professor Emeritus of Real Estate |
| John C. Easterwood | Associate Professor Emeritus of Finance |
| John J. Maher | Thomas M. Wells and Kathy Dargo Professor Emeritus of Accounting and Information Systems |
| Steven D. Sheetz | Professor Emeritus of Accounting and Information Systems |

College of Engineering (5)

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| Alan J. Brown | Professor Emeritus of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering |
| Robert A. Canfield | Professor Emeritus of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering |
| Lenwood S. Heath | Professor Emeritus of Computer Science |
| R. Benjamin Knapp | Executive Director Emeritus of the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology and Professor Emeritus of Computer Science |
| Carin Roberts-Wollmann | Professor Emerita of Civil and Environmental Engineering |

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (1)

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|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| James C. Klagge | Professor Emeritus of Philosophy |
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College of Natural Resources and Environment (2)

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| A.L. Hammett, III | Professor Emeritus of Forest Products |
| Audrey Zink-Sharp | Professor Emerita of Wood Science |

College of Science (4)

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| Frederick "Fred" W. Faltin | Professor of Practice Emeritus of Statistics |
| E. Scott Geller | Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychology |
| Hans H. Haller | Professor Emeritus of Economics |
| Joseph S. Merola | Professor Emeritus of Chemistry |

Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine (1)

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| Virginia Buechner-Maxwell | Professor Emerita of Large Animal Internal Medicine |
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Admin (1)

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| Charlie Phlegar | Senior Vice President Emeritus for Advancement |
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RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 20 years, Kevin Boyle, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and in the Blackwood Department of Real Estate in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in his teaching, research, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, he has made significant contributions to the study of environmental and natural resource economics and real estate and land economics by authoring or co-authoring more than 100 refereed journal articles, book chapters, and technical reports; and

WHEREAS, his research has garnered nearly 18,000 citations and has shaped how a generation of scholars think about the valuation of nonmarket resources using stated preference and revealed preference methods; and

WHEREAS, he has participated in projects generating in excess of \$12M in external grant funding over the course of his career; and

WHEREAS, he has been named a fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association and the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists; and

WHEREAS, he has played an instrumental role in establishing the Bachelor of Science in Real Estate degree and the Blackwood Department of Real Estate at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he has provided many years of distinguished contributions to department, college, and the university through dedicated service on numerous commissions and committees; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he has taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, placing strong emphasis on academic standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he has mentored dozens of graduate students who will continue to advance the body of knowledge well into the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Kevin Boyle for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Department Head Emeritus of Agricultural and Applied Economics and Willis Blackwood Professor Emeritus of Real Estate.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Kevin Boyle, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 33 years, John C. Easterwood, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Finance, Insurance, and Business Law in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, he published work in top journals, including the *Journal of Finance*, *Journal of Corporate Finance*, *Journal of Banking and Finance*, *Strategic Management Journal*, and *Review of Economics and Statistics*; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he designed and taught a wide variety of undergraduate, MBA and Ph.D.- level courses covering topics such as corporate finance, fixed-income securities, financial analytics, and banking, placing strong emphasis on academic standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he led the department's search efforts for recruiting tenure-track faculty for 15 years and led the college's undergraduate scholarship and awards committee for 15 years; and

WHEREAS, with devotion, he educated hundreds of students every year, collaborated with colleagues and doctoral students on research, and effectively led the department as acting department head; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to student learning and teaching effectiveness were recognized with a Pamplin College of Business Certificate of Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, he served as director of the department's Ph.D. program, supervised several doctoral dissertations, and materially enhanced the quality of the program; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and the university through dedicated service on numerous commissions and committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. John C. Easterwood for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Associate Professor Emeritus of Finance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending John C. Easterwood, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 40 years, John J. Maher, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Accounting and Information Systems (ACIS) in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the faculty in the Department of ACIS, and in its predecessor, the Department of Accounting, he was a dedicated teacher of a large number of courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels; and

WHEREAS, he served as director of the Department of ACIS Ph.D. program for 15 years and as the department head for more than five years; and

WHEREAS, he published numerous refereed journal articles in both academic and practice-related journals, and refereed proceedings in the accounting and information systems field; and

WHEREAS, he has been a three-time recipient of the Pamplin College of Business Teaching Excellence Award and was recognized as Pamplin's Outstanding Faculty in Doctoral Education in 2009; and

WHEREAS, he served on numerous dissertation committees and delivered numerous presentations at academic meetings; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through his dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. John J. Maher for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Thomas M. Wells and Kathy Dargo Professor Emeritus of Accounting and Information Systems.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending John J. Maher, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 29 years, Steven D. Sheetz, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Accounting and Information Systems in the Pamplin College of Business; and

WHEREAS, with enthusiasm, he taught many undergraduate and graduate courses; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he served as a core faculty member and taught multiple graduate courses in the widely acclaimed Master of Information Technology multidisciplinary online program; and

WHEREAS, he received several National Science Foundation (NSF) and other external grant awards; and

WHEREAS, he published numerous articles in peer-reviewed academic and practice-related journals, conference proceedings, and book chapters; and

WHEREAS, his published articles have been widely cited across multiple disciplines; and

WHEREAS, through his research on group cognitive mapping and the use of information systems in crises, he brought positive international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he directed M.S. and Ph.D. students, and has served on numerous doctoral dissertation committees; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through participation on numerous committees, including serving as chair of the department personnel and as the college representative on the university graduate curriculum committees; and

WHEREAS, he served his professional community as a reviewer for multiple academic journals and as a member of the editorial boards of several journals; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his dedication to high-quality research, teaching, and service, he was named the PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Senior Faculty Fellow;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Steven D. Sheetz for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Accounting and Information Systems.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Steven D. Sheetz, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 45 years, Alan J. Brown, Ph.D., CAPT, USN (Ret.), faithfully served the U.S. Navy and two major U.S. academic institutions- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), as director of the famous 2N Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering course, and Virginia Tech, as a faculty member in the Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering (AOE) in the College of Engineering for the past 27 years; and

WHEREAS, he pioneered a new and critical area of naval engineering research by developing advanced, multi-objective analytical and statistical optimization methods to rigorously explore the entire design solution space, introducing innovative compelling methodologies that have profoundly influenced modern naval ships design; and

WHEREAS, he has earned broad acclaim as a world-renowned naval engineering expert, contributing to a wide range of topics in over 70 papers published in Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME) and American Society of Naval Engineers (ASNE) technical publications; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the AOE department as lead of the ocean engineering faculty; restructured Virginia Tech's undergraduate ship design course, which is now one of only two such undergraduate programs in the United States, along with the U. S. Naval Academy, that teach warship design; and created the only open submarine design course in the United States; and

WHEREAS, he demonstrated strong leadership in developing the next generation of naval engineers, advising more than 50 graduate students who now hold key positions in industry, academia and the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA); and

WHEREAS, he held leadership positions and was recognized with prestigious career awards in the most significant professional organizations, such as SNAME, and the ASNE, in both of which he was elected a Fellow; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees, as evidenced by receiving the Dean's Award for Excellence in Service and the Dean's Certificate of Teaching Excellence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Alan J. Brown, CAPT, USN (Ret.), for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Alan J. Brown, Ph.D., CAPT, USN (Ret.) for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 42 years, Robert A. Canfield, Ph.D., LtCol, USAF (Ret.), faithfully served the U.S. Air Force and three major U.S. academic institutions, first as professor and deputy department head of Aeronautics and Astronautics at the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT), and then at Virginia Tech as professor in the Kevin T. Crofton Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering (AOE) in the College of Engineering for the past 16 years, including 11 years as assistant department head, two years as interim department head, and one year as distinguished visiting professor at the U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA); and

WHEREAS, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) recognized him as a Fellow for pioneering research in design methods adopted throughout industry for automated structural optimization, technical advancement of future vehicle concepts, and leadership in multidisciplinary design optimization (MDO); selected him for its prestigious MDO Award for Technical Excellence and Sustained Service Award for his professional impact and leadership, including serving as chair of the AIAA MDO Technical Committee (TC), chair of the MDO TC Awards Subcommittee, and general co-chair and technical chair of two AIAA Conferences; and

WHEREAS, he established the Virginia Tech Airworthiness Center to fund and direct researchers from three engineering departments; has mentored the next generation of aerospace engineers, advising more than 40 graduate students to degree completion; taught eight courses of record in the Department of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering, ten courses at the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT), and two courses at the U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA); substantially revised AOE's core sophomore computational methods course and its pedagogical delivery; and has been recognized by the College of Engineering for top student evaluations of teaching; and

WHEREAS, as assistant department head of academic affairs he initiated the most extensive revision in three decades of the undergraduate curriculum for aerospace and ocean engineering majors, shepherding curriculum changes through university governance; supervised award-winning academic advising staff who served hundreds of undergraduate students each year; and scheduled each year dozens of graduate students to assist in teaching and dozens of faculty members to instruct all AOE undergraduate and graduate courses; and

WHEREAS, as interim department head of academic affairs for AOE, he oversaw two external graduate program reviews; inaugurated the Advanced Power and Propulsion Lab (APPL) in collaboration with the Department of Mechanical Engineering; and planned for department space and facilities during the architectural design of Mitchell Hall; and

WHEREAS, he contributed for many years to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees, as evidenced by his selection for the Academy of AOE Excellence and the Dean's Award for Excellence in Service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Robert A. Canfield, LtCol, USAF (Ret.), for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Aerospace and Ocean Engineering.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Robert A. Canfield, Ph.D., LtCol, USAF (Ret.) for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 38 years, Lenwood S. Heath, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Computer Science in the College of Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he demonstrated a commitment to Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in his work with students and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught and lectured in undergraduate and graduate courses, directing 19 master's theses and 20 doctoral theses; and

WHEREAS, he served as principal or co-principal investigator on 30 grants totaling more than \$19M, conducting disciplinary and multidisciplinary research, with one grant continuing into 2026; and

WHEREAS, through his research and leadership since 1999, he established the area of computational biology and bioinformatics (CBB) in the Department of Computer Science, leading the hiring of six CBB faculty members, five of whom remain as tenure-track faculty in the department; and

WHEREAS, he has authored or co-authored 114 refereed journal articles, two book chapters, and 40 conference papers; co-authored or co-edited three books; and served as guest editor-in-chief for an issue of *Proceedings of the IEEE*; and

WHEREAS, he has served the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society as an area editor of *SIGACT News*; and is a lifetime member of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, a member of the Association of Computer Machinery (ACM), and a senior member of the IEEE; and

WHEREAS, he has refereed technical manuscripts for more than 80 journals and numerous conferences; and has reviewed technical funding proposals for agencies including the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Fund for Scientific Research (F.R.S. –FNRS, Belgium); and

WHEREAS, he received the Department of Computer Science Outstanding Department Contributor Award for Exemplary Faculty Service from Virginia Tech in 2019; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of dedicated service to the department, college, university, and profession through participation on numerous departmental, college, and university committees, including serving as chair of multiple faculty search committees and as editor for several professional journals;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Lenwood S. Heath for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Computer Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Lenwood S. Heath, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 13 years, R. Benjamin Knapp, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as the Founding Executive Director of the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology and a faculty member in the Computer Science Department in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated a commitment to Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in his work with students and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, he helped establish a seed grant program that supported faculty and students across the university, resulting in millions of dollars of externally funded research; and

WHEREAS, he created and hosted the ACCelerate Festival at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, engaging more than 100,000 attendees over the three festivals; and

WHEREAS, he was principal investigator or co-investigator on National Science Foundation (NSF) grants and on several pan-European grants and was granted 12 patents; and

WHEREAS, he served as principal investigator on a National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Research Lab, the only such lab in the history of Virginia Tech, and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored more than 200 refereed journal articles, book chapters, conference presentations, and reviews in fields ranging from gerontechnology to human-computer interaction to music technology; and

WHEREAS, he co-created and performed new music and presented invited keynote presentations around the world; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students on master's theses and doctoral dissertations, helping them develop successful careers in both academic and industrial settings; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, the institute, the Creativity and Innovation District, and the university through dedicated service on numerous university committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. R. Benjamin Knapp for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Executive Director Emeritus of the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology and Professor Emeritus of Computer Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending R. Benjamin Knapp, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 26 years, Carin Roberts-Wollmann, Ph.D., P.E. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a professor and associate department head for Graduate Studies in the Charles E. Via, Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, she is a nationally recognized expert in structural concrete, and her research and scholarly work have contributed significantly to the advancement of knowledge in structural engineering; and

WHEREAS, she served as an outstanding advisor for graduate students, mentoring over 100 M.S. and Ph.D. students, many of whom have become leaders in academia and industry; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught undergraduate and graduate courses in structural engineering, developed transformative courses such as *Bridges, Builders, and Society* and led study abroad programs exploring engineering marvels in Europe; and

WHEREAS, she contributed significantly to the service missions of the department, college, university, and profession through her role as director of the Thomas M. Murray Structural Engineering Laboratory, her leadership in technical committees of the American Concrete Institute (ACI) and the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI), her advocacy for Virginia Tech's Principles of Community, and her promotion of broad engagement in civil engineering; and

WHEREAS, she received many professional honors and awards, including recognition as a Fellow of the American Concrete Institute and a Fellow of the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Carin Roberts-Wollmann for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emerita of Civil and Environmental Engineering;

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Carin Roberts-Wollmann, Ph.D., P.E. for emerita status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 40 years, James C. Klagge, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Philosophy in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in his teaching, research, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to the study of the history of early analytic philosophy through his work focusing on Ludwig Wittgenstein, publishing numerous articles and four books; and

WHEREAS, he taught more than 8,000 students, offering a wide variety of courses across the philosophy curriculum, and placing strong emphasis on academic standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he ably served the community as an elected member of the Montgomery County School Board from 1996-2003, supported the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as a Silver Life Member, and received the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Service Award from the Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County branch in January 2016, as well as the Nannie B. Hairston Community Service Award in October 2018; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. James C. Klagge for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Philosophy.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending James C. Klagge, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 30 years, A. L. Hammett III, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a professor in the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials in the College of Natural Resources and Environment (CNRE); and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in his teaching, research, outreach, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, he has served the university community and Commonwealth through outstanding research, teaching, outreach, and service; and

WHEREAS, he has made significant contributions to sustainable management and use of forest and agricultural resources through his research on the development of natural products and the implementation of Virginia Tech projects and programs throughout the United States and in more than 40 countries; and

WHEREAS, he has made significant contributions to collaboration with private funders, including foundations, national and state forestry, forest products, and agricultural agencies, natural resource-based industries, and private landowners throughout the Commonwealth, the region, and the United States; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he developed and taught courses on campus and organized and taught more than 25 study abroad courses that focused on nature-based enterprise, international forestry and forest products, and marketing and business development for undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in several majors within CNRE and across campus; taught several natural resource and sustainability-related courses for graduate students, placing emphasis on career readiness, creative problem solving and team-based, project-centered learning; and guided both current and former students to successful careers in academia, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated excellence in teaching and education by serving as associate dean for academic programs, receiving multiple college, university, and regional awards, including the Virginia Tech Alumni Award for Excellence in International Education and the College of Natural Resources and Environment Outreach Award, and was recognized as a leader in several capacities for online and experiential learning both on and off campus; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated excellence in research by authoring more than 50 peer-reviewed and technical papers, publishing one book and several extension publications and industry articles, chairing more than 25 master's thesis and doctoral dissertation committees, serving on advisory committees for 25 graduate students, and supervising and mentoring postdoctoral research associates; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated excellence in international activities, including his selection as an Erasmus Fellow, serving as principal investigator for major projects at the Virginia Tech Center for International Education, Research and Development and the

Conservation Management Institute, and directing several international projects funded by the United Nations, Fulbright Program, and regional banks and development agencies; and

WHEREAS, he served for a decade as the coordinator of international programs for the college, expanding globalization through increased overseas educational opportunities, assisting graduate students and faculty in obtaining funding support, developing collaboration across campus with colleges, centers, and international organizations, and building capacity through new international teaching, outreach, and research initiatives; and

WHEREAS, he served in leadership positions for several organizations, including the Society of American Foresters, the Forest Products Society, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, the Tropical Forest Foundation, and the New River Land Trust, as an elected officer, executive board member, and committee chair; and

WHEREAS, he provided over three decades of distinguished contributions to the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials, the College of Natural Resources and Environment and the university through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. A. L. Hammett III for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Forest Products.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending A. L. Hammett III, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 32 years, Audrey Zink-Sharp, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a professor in the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials, formerly the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products, in the College of Natural Resources and Environment; and

WHEREAS, she has upheld Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in her teaching, research, outreach, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, she has served the university community and the Commonwealth through outstanding research, teaching, outreach, and service; and

WHEREAS, she has made significant contributions to the field of wood science through her research on the impact of wood anatomy and quality on the creation of sustainable wood and forest products; and

WHEREAS, she developed and taught, with dedication and enthusiasm, the core courses in materials structure and properties for undergraduate students, in the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials and other majors, and developed and taught the graduate core courses Advanced Wood Chemistry and Anatomy, Wood Materials Science, and Quantitative Wood Anatomy, placing strong emphasis on experiential student learning and problem solving; and

WHEREAS, she has demonstrated excellence in both teaching and research by receiving multiple college, university, and national awards and recognition; and

WHEREAS, she advised numerous students on master's theses and doctoral dissertations, provided research and career mentoring to postdoctoral research associates, and guided them to successful careers in academia, government agencies, and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, she served as associate department head, interim department head, and graduate program director for the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials; and

WHEREAS, she served as director of the Sustainable Engineered Materials Institute, a college-level, interdisciplinary research center; and

WHEREAS, she served the Society of Wood Science and Technology, the Forest Products Society, the Society of Experimental Mechanics, and the European Society of Wood Mechanics as an elected official in several capacities; and

WHEREAS, she was honored in 2022 for her commitment to the field of wood science, being named one of 16 international Women Ambassadors Creating the Future of Wood Science by the Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST); and

WHEREAS, she provided decades of distinguished contributions to the department, the college, the university, and the nation through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Audrey Zink-Sharp for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emerita of Wood Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Audrey Zink-Sharp, Ph.D. for emerita status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for seven years Frederick “Fred” W. Faltin faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Statistics in the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, with great energy and devotion, he led and developed the Capstone Project Program for the Computational Modeling and Data Analytics (CMDA) major, improving the curriculum in innumerable ways, that improved statistical practice, and substantially enhanced the professional development of students; and

WHEREAS, through the CMDA Capstone program, he mentored more than 800 students in over 300 client-driven projects, and, through his personal example and curricular materials, emphasized both technical excellence and a generous team spirit, characterized by his maxim: “Make your teammates look good”; and

WHEREAS, he built a robust cadre of industrial sponsors for Capstone projects and other engagements with the Department of Statistics and the CMDA program, facilitating job opportunities for many students; and

WHEREAS, he cultivated industrial relationships for the Department of Statistics by co-directing the department’s Corporate Partners Program; and

WHEREAS, he provided dedicated service and leadership to the Department of Statistics, the Academy of Data Science, the Computational Modeling and Data Analytics major, and the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, he brought national distinction to Virginia Tech by receiving the Gerald J. Hahn Q&P Achievement Award from the American Statistical Association’s Section on Quality and Productivity, in 2024; and

WHEREAS, he advanced statistical process control (SPC) through influential work on algorithmic SPC, control chart design, and methods for monitoring autocorrelated data, with lasting contributions published in leading journals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Professor Frederick “Fred” W. Faltin for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor of Practice Emeritus of Statistics.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Professor Frederick “Fred” W. Faltin for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 55 years, E. Scott Geller, Ph.D. has faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Psychology in the College of Science, as an Alumni Distinguished Professor and Director of the Center for Applied Behavior Systems; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated extraordinary dedication to teaching and mentoring, having received all three university-wide teaching awards at Virginia Tech: the Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching, the William E. Wine Award, and the Sporn Award for Excellence in Teaching Introductory Subjects, and inspired generations of students through courses such as Introductory Psychology, Positive Psychology, and The Psychology of Self-Motivation; and

WHEREAS, he has served as a research mentor to countless undergraduate students, providing training in research and leadership, and has chaired 58 master's thesis committees and 41 doctoral committees; and

WHEREAS, he has authored 55 evidence-based books, 105 book chapters, 310 research-based magazine articles, and more than 300 peer-reviewed research articles, significantly advancing the fields of applied behavioral science, environmental psychology, and safety science; and

WHEREAS, he has represented the scientific rigor of Virginia Tech through numerous public lectures, webinars, and podcasts, including 1,349 conference presentations delivered in person and nearly 500 presentations co-authored with undergraduate and graduate students; and

WHEREAS, he was the principal investigator on 73 externally funded research grants and contracts totaling almost \$6M, addressing critical issues of public safety, including studies of binge drinking among college students and vehicle safety belt use; and

WHEREAS, he is internationally recognized for pioneering the concept of *Actively Caring for People* (AC4P), and founded the AC4P Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit organization that promotes AC4P behavior worldwide; and

WHEREAS, he received lifetime achievement awards from the International Organizational Behavior Management Network (IOBMN) and the American Psychological Foundation (APF), and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from The College of Wooster in recognition of his lifelong contributions; and

WHEREAS, he served as editor of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, shaping the direction of psychological research and practice; and

WHEREAS, he enhanced the visibility and reputation of Virginia Tech through his TEDx talk on self- motivation, which has been viewed by millions worldwide; and

WHEREAS, he is a fellow of the American Psychological Association (APA), the

Association for Psychological Science (APS), the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI), and the World Academy of Productivity and Quality Sciences (WAPQS), reflecting his esteemed standing in the global academic community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. E. Scott Geller for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Psychology.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending E. Scott Geller, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for over 39 years, Hans H. Haller, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Economics in the College of Science; and

WHEREAS, he has upheld Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in his teaching, research, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, he made significant contributions to microeconomic theory and game theory through his research in bargaining, networks and evolutionary game theory; and

WHEREAS, he authored or co-authored more than 100 refereed journal articles, book chapters, and reviews and served on several journal editorial boards; and

WHEREAS, through his research in microeconomic theory and game theory, he brought international visibility to Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, he ably served his department as director of graduate studies from 1993-1994 and as department head from 2007-2011; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, he taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses ranging across the entire microeconomic theory curriculum, placing strong emphasis on academic standards and student learning; and

WHEREAS, he advised numerous students on master's theses and doctoral dissertations, guiding them towards successful careers in both academic and industry settings; and

WHEREAS, he provided many years of distinguished service and leadership to the department, the college, and the university through dedicated service on numerous committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Hans H. Haller for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Economics.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Hans H. Haller, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for 38 years, Joseph S. Merola, Ph.D. faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry in the College of Science and held numerous leadership positions including associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, acting dean of the Graduate School, senior administrative fellow for university restructuring, and chair of the Department of Chemistry; and

WHEREAS, he excelled in research, teaching, and service as an assistant professor of chemistry at Virginia Tech, received tenure in 1991 and was promoted to professor in 1995; and

WHEREAS, his research focused on the study of organometallic complexes of the transition elements, both for catalysis and for their biological activity; and

WHEREAS, he is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and a fellow of the American Chemical Society (ACS); and

WHEREAS, he published more than 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals and delivered more than 80 invited and contributed presentations on his research; and

WHEREAS, as a teacher and mentor, he directed the research of 25 Ph.D. dissertations, master's theses, and undergraduate honors theses, and directed the research of more than 75 undergraduate students; and

WHEREAS, he taught lecture and laboratory courses in chemistry at all levels, from general chemistry to graduate courses, and received three College of Arts and Sciences Certificates of Teaching Excellence, the University Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence in 1997, the University Wine Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2013, and was inducted twice into the Virginia Tech Academy of Teaching Excellence in 1997 and 2013; and

WHEREAS, he served in multiple leadership roles, including serving as associate dean for research and outreach in the College of Arts and Sciences from 1998 to 2001, acting dean of the Graduate School from 2001 to 2002, senior administrative fellow for university restructuring from 2002 to 2003, and chair of the Department of Chemistry (2004-2010); and

WHEREAS, in his roles as acting dean of the Graduate School and senior administrator fellow for university restructuring, he had a lasting impact by reorganizing the Graduate School as an independent entity within the university and leading the restructuring of the university into a new set of colleges; and

WHEREAS, he fully embraced the university motto *Ut Prosim* by serving on multiple commissions and committees at the department, college, and university levels, as well as holding various leadership roles in the chemistry community; and

WHEREAS, as a firm believer in the importance of shared governance, he served in leadership positions in Faculty Senate, including two terms as president from 2013-2014

and 2023-2024, during which he strengthened shared governance and ensured that Faculty Senate played a more central role in the business of the university; and

WHEREAS, during his role as president of the Faculty Senate, he served as the faculty representative to the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors, using his influence with the board to advocate for improvements in faculty compensation, the faculty role in governance, and other key issues; and

WHEREAS, since 2002, in a unique form of service, he has read names at the graduate commencement ceremony, and since 2020 he has also read names at various college commencement ceremonies, including recording all names for the 2020 virtual commencement due to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, his contributions to the university at all levels have made a lasting and significant impact on the culture and reputation of Virginia Tech;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Joseph S. Merola for his extraordinary service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Chemistry.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Joseph S. Merola, Ph.D. for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITA STATUS

WHEREAS, for 30 years, Virginia Buechner-Maxwell, DVM, MS, DACVIM faithfully served Virginia Tech as a faculty member in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine (VMCVM); and

WHEREAS, she has upheld Virginia Tech's Principles of Community in her teaching, research, and service responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, she has made significant contributions to the health and welfare of animals through her work in the Large Animal Internal Medicine clinical service at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine's Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and in her role as director of the Center for Animal Human Relationships (CENTAUR) since 2016; and

WHEREAS, with dedication, she taught veterinary students, placing strong emphasis on academic standards and student learning, directing numerous master's and doctoral students and guiding them to develop successful careers; and

WHEREAS she received the VMCVM Certificate of Teaching Excellence in 2022 in recognition for her contributions to the delivery of equine education in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and graduate student curriculum; and

WHEREAS, she authored or co-authored more than 60 refereed journal articles, book chapters, and reviews; and

WHEREAS, she ably served her profession, serving on the Review Board for the Humans and Horses Research Foundation since 2017, as president and chair of the Board of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine from 2012-2015, and on the Board of Regents for American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine from 2010-2015; and

WHEREAS, she provided many years of distinguished contributions to the department, college, and university through dedicated service on numerous committees, including serving several terms on the University Promotion and Tenure Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Virginia Buechner-Maxwell, DVM, MS, DACVIM for her distinguished service to the university with the title of Professor Emerita of Large Animal Internal Medicine.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Virginia Buechner-Maxwell, DVM, MS, DACVIM for emerita status be approved.

November 18, 2025

RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

WHEREAS, for ten years, Charles D. Phlegar faithfully served Virginia Tech as the university's first vice president for advancement and later as senior vice president for advancement, leading the Advancement Division to national and global recognition for excellence in fundraising, alumni engagement, marketing, and communications; and

WHEREAS, under his transformative leadership, the university more than doubled the undergraduate alumni giving rate, reached historic highs in annual new gifts and commitments, and achieved a five-year average of more than \$232M in new gifts, an all-time high for the institution; and

WHEREAS, he spearheaded landmark initiatives such as the Boundless Impact campaign, with a goal of raising \$1.872B and engaging 120,000 alumni; coordinated the university's 150th anniversary; and played a central role in top university priorities, including the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus, Virginia Tech Advantage, and Virginia Tech Global Distinction; and

WHEREAS, he successfully relaunched the university's brand; established LINK: Center for Advancing Partnerships, strengthened the roles of university volunteer boards; and helped secure Virginia Tech's place among the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) 50, a designation for the world's top-performing advancement operations; and

WHEREAS, he brought to his alma mater a wealth of experience and impact from previous leadership roles at East Carolina University, the University of South Carolina, Johns Hopkins University, and Cornell University, where he helped launch a \$6B campaign and served on the Cornell Tech Steering Committee, which secured a new campus on New York City's Roosevelt Island; and

WHEREAS, he has been a leading voice in the advancement profession through his service to the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), contributing to the development of global metrics for fundraising and alumni engagement and founding the CASE 50 group to promote industry best practices; and

WHEREAS, a proud Hokie and Blacksburg native, he has exemplified the Virginia Tech spirit of service, using his deep knowledge of and passion for the university to forge meaningful connections between donors and institutional priorities and to elevate the institution's philanthropic culture and national reputation; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated a tireless work ethic and remarkable humility, earning the admiration of colleagues, donors, volunteers, and national peers, and has left a lasting legacy of innovation, partnership, and strategic excellence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors recognizes Charles D. Phlegar for his distinguished service to the university with the title of Senior Vice President Emeritus for Advancement.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Charles D. Phlegar for emeritus status be approved.

November 18, 2025