

Resolution 2015-2016.D

Resolution for the Establishment of a School of Neuroscience at Virginia Tech

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

First Reading: September 28, 2015

Second Reading: October 12, 2015

Approved by University Council:

Approved by the President:

Approved by Board of Visitors:

Effective Date: Spring 2016

WHEREAS, neuroscience is a broad and diverse field of study that does not rely on one particular academic discipline for laying the interdisciplinary and translational understanding of the workings of the human neurological system, from the cellular level to an appreciation of that which concerns the human mind and behavior; and

WHEREAS, research and education in neuroscience is a broad and multi-faceted subject that requires interaction between academic disciplines to develop and to deliver world class education and research; and

WHEREAS, faculty from the College of Science, the University, and the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute wish to combine their respective program strengths and partner across traditional boundaries; and

WHEREAS, faculty, with support from their respective departments and colleges, have proposed the establishment of a School of Neuroscience at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, the oversight and administration required to bring neuroscience to the forefront of Virginia Tech's scholarly landscapes is above the level of a typical academic department; and

WHEREAS, the proposed School will increase the quality of undergraduate programs and the number of students completing graduate degrees in Neuroscience with a research component; and

WHEREAS, the proposed School supports the mission of the College of Science at Virginia Tech with continued emphasis on giving students a comprehensive foundation in the scientific method coupled with training from a translational perspective so that tomorrow's graduates can implement their knowledge in ways that contribute to the public good; and

WHEREAS, the proposed School supports the mission of Virginia Tech to serve the Commonwealth, the nation, and world community through the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge; and

WHEREAS, the proposed School will enhance the stature of Virginia Tech as an internationally recognized university for research and scholarship; and

WHEREAS, the proposed School will provide a unified identity within Virginia Tech, to the academic community and be the only School of its kind in the nation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposal for the establishment of a School of Neuroscience at Virginia Tech, housed within the College of Science, be approved and the proposal forwarded to the President, Board of Visitors and State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) for approval.