

Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies
CGPSP Resolution 2022-2023C
Resolution to Create Department of Neurosurgery at VTC School of Medicine

University Council Cabinet Review:	February 27, 2023
First Reading by the CGPSP:	March 1, 2023
First Reading by the Faculty Senate:	March 10, 2023
Second Reading by the CGPSP:	March 15, 2023
Second Reading by Faculty Senate:	March 24, 2023
AP Faculty Senate Comment:	
Staff Senate Comment:	
Graduate and Professional Student Senate Comment:	
Undergraduate Student Senate Comment:	
First Reading by University Council:	
Second Reading by University Council:	
Approved by the President:	
Approved by the Board of Visitors	
Effective: Fall 2023	

WHEREAS, with the founding of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine (VTC SOM) in 2008, the Department of Surgery has had a specialty area (i.e., section) in Neurosurgery since its establishment, and

WHEREAS, the section of Neurosurgery has experienced growth in terms of demand for the education of medical students (four-year MD degree), resident physicians (seven-year subspecialty training) and other health professions students, as well as expanded clinical care services throughout the central and southwestern Virginia regions, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a free-standing academic department of Neurosurgery will elevate the visibility and stature of the Neurosurgery discipline in our region and Commonwealth, thereby expanding and enhancing opportunities for medical students to receive clinical training in Neurosurgery and to pursue residency training in Neurosurgery, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a free-standing academic department of Neurosurgery will facilitate a needed expansion and growth of the existing residency training program, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a free-standing academic department of Neurosurgery will increase the competitiveness of its faculty for external funding, since proposals under consideration for National Institutes of Health and other research grants in the Neurosurgery discipline are viewed more competitively when submitted from faculty members in a free-standing Neurosurgery department versus faculty members embedded in a department of Surgery, and

WHEREAS, the specialty of Neurosurgery is most often structured in medical schools as a free-standing academic department, reflecting the important teaching, research and service contributions of clinical and research faculty, and

WHEREAS, within the 21 SCHEV peer institutions of Virginia Tech with medical schools, 18 of those schools have free-standing academic departments of Neurosurgery, indicating that it is important to elevate the Neurosurgery discipline to equal standing with other departments in the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine as our SCHEV peer institutions have done.

WHEREAS, the establishment of a free-standing academic department of Neurosurgery will align with the mission of Virginia Tech, in that the department will support the university's mission to be a community of knowledge and discovery by providing a centralized academic unit for the Neurosurgery discipline, and would "...improv[e] the quality of life and the human condition within the Commonwealth of Virginia and throughout the world."

THEREFORE, LET IT BE IT RESOLVED, that the existing section of Neurosurgery be elevated to the status of a full and free-standing academic department at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, and the proposal forwarded to the President, Board of Visitors, and State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for approval.