

**Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
Resolution 2013-14F**

**Resolution for Renaming the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education to the
Department of Agricultural, Leadership, and Community Education**

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Approved by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies & Policies: | February 24, 2014 |
| First Reading by University Council: | April 7, 2014 |
| Second Reading by University Council: | April 21, 2014 |
| Approved by the President: | April 21, 2014 |
| Effective: | Fall 2014 |

Whereas, the Department of Agricultural Education was established at Virginia Tech in 1918 and is an international leader in teaching, discovery, and engagement; and

Whereas, the faculty expertise has diversified during the life of the department to include agricultural education, community education, and leadership education; and

Whereas, peer programs across the country have changed their names to encompass their broader mission with terminology including, Leadership (Texas A&M, Ohio State, University of Georgia, University of Tennessee, and University of Kentucky), and Community (Michigan State University and University of Kentucky); and

Whereas, the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture departmental review recommended a name change for the department, the Department industry advisory committee unanimously endorsed the new name and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department Heads unanimously endorse the name change; and

Whereas the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies program in the School of Education, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences recognizes the expanded dimensions of the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education, appreciates the distinction between the two programs, and endorses the proposed name change; and

Whereas, state, national, and international organizations in the field of "Agricultural Education" broadly defined have come to understand the complexity of agricultural systems in communities to include early childhood through adult education and training not only in agriculture but in leadership related to community education and development of agricultural social systems (Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Agribusiness Council, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, National Council for Agricultural Education, USAID, World Bank); and

Whereas, advancing agricultural, leadership, and community education in complex social systems in Virginia and beyond is of global importance, supporting Virginia Tech's strategic plan; and

Whereas, the inclusion of leadership and community education, in addition to agricultural education, will better communicate the scope of work conducted in the department, increase the recognition of its work, and lead to more interaction with prospective students, the public, funding agencies, and the general public to demonstrate Virginia Tech's leadership in advancing the department's expertise in complex agricultural social systems;

Therefore be it resolved, that the name of the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education be changed to the Department of Agricultural, Leadership, and Community Education and the change be forwarded to the President for approval and to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV) for notification.