RESOLUTION FOR TENURE APPOINTMENTS IN THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE FOR FACULTY IN THE SCHOOL OF NEUROSCIENCE

WHEREAS, to advance Virginia Tech's strategic plan and academic aspirations the College of Science has proposed the School of Neuroscience, and;

WHEREAS, the processes for establishing the proposed School of Neuroscience are underway and will culminate in final approval by university and state bodies, and;

WHEREAS, the College of Science has launched robust recruitment efforts with plans to hire tenured and tenure-track faculty for the school during the 2015 – 2016 academic year in order to serve the growing number of majors, and;

WHEREAS, successful recruitment of preminent faculty members is critical to the establishment and subsequent success of the school, and;

WHEREAS, in anticipation of and until the establishment of the school, the College of Science will serve as the tenure home for faculty members, and;

WHEREAS, the College of Science has appointed a specially designated personnel committee consisting of individuals drawn from cognizant programs within the college chaired by professor Harald Sontheimer, founding director of the proposed School of Neuroscience, and;

WHEREAS, the personnel committee will include representation from the departments of biological sciences, psychology, economics, statistics, and the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute (VTCRI), and a tenured faculty member in neuroscience once hired, and;

WHEREAS, evaluation of tenure-track and tenured appointments will be conducted by this committee until the School of Neuroscience is formally established, which will then serve as the tenure home for faculty recruited to the school;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that until the final approval of the School of Neuroscience, the College of Science will serve as the tenure home for faculty members and will use the specially appointed personnel committee to review tenured appointments for faculty members recruited for the proposed School of Neuroscience. All other provisions of the Faculty Handbook related to tenured and tenure-track positions will remain in force for the School of Neuroscience faculty.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Visitors pass the resolution for tenure appointments in the college of science for faculty in the School of Neuroscience.

November 9, 2015