

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE PH.D. IN NUCLEAR ENGINEERING

WHEREAS, the Ph.D. program in nuclear engineering will prepare students to advance the practice of nuclear engineering; and,

WHEREAS, the Ph.D. program in nuclear engineering will expand and apply the body of knowledge in nuclear engineering to the benefit of students, academia, research, technical and industrial communities, and, ultimately, to the benefit of our society; and,

WHEREAS, there is a significant need for nuclear engineers who can contribute to the design and optimization of nondestructive detection systems, monitoring systems for nuclear security and safeguards, and nuclear medicine and radiation therapy and diagnosis; and,

WHEREAS, there is increased interest in nuclear power due to the nation's growing energy needs and the desire to minimize impact on climate change; and,

WHEREAS, many companies located in the Commonwealth of Virginia are involved in the design, manufacture, service, and use of nuclear reactors; and

WHEREAS, the commonwealth's proximity to federal government operations and its funding, policy, and nuclear energy regulatory agencies is advantageous; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Ph.D. in nuclear engineering will be the first such degree available in the Commonwealth of Virginia;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ph.D. in nuclear engineering be approved, effective spring 2013, with the proposal forwarded to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) for approval, and to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) for notification.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution to establish the Ph.D. in nuclear engineering, effective spring 2013, be approved.

November 7, 2011