

**RESOLUTION ON DISCONTINUING M.S. AND PH.D. PROGRAMS
IN APPAREL, HOUSING, AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

WHEREAS, M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management (AHRM) were flagged by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) in 2008 as being below the minimum quantitative standards for enrollment or degrees awarded, in accordance with SCHEV guidelines for program viability; and

WHEREAS, subsequent close examination of enrollment trends, resource availability, and centrality to the university's mission and strategic plan led to the conclusion that the institutional investment required for additional graduate teaching assistantships and faculty positions to support higher enrollment was not a compelling university priority; nor did the programs serve unique and compelling employment or economic development needs in the commonwealth justifying retention with less than minimal enrollment; and

WHEREAS, all current tenure-track or tenured faculty members in AHRM have been assured that their positions will be protected because there is a substantial undergraduate enrollment and a need to teach and advise graduate students; and

WHEREAS, the faculty have proposed a plan for phasing out the programs, including stopping all new graduate admission as of fall semester 2008, formal notification to all enrolled students, a commitment to teach required courses through spring 2011 as needed for degree completion of existing students, and continued advisement of graduate students through completion of their degrees; and

WHEREAS, the last term for award of the M.S. in AHRM will be summer 2011 and the last term for award of the Ph.D. in AHRM will be summer 2014;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management be discontinued in accordance with the approved implementation schedule.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above discontinuance of the M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management be approved.

June 7, 2010