

DAVID TRAUGER AND RICHARD NEVES WERE APPOINTED AS EMERITUS PROFESSORS

by the Board of Visitors at their November 2008 meeting



RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

September 11, 2008

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard J. Neves has faithfully served Virginia Tech with distinction for 30 years in the College of Natural Resources, beginning in 1978; and

WHEREAS, as Leader of the award-winning Virginia Cooperative Fisheries and Wildlife Research Unit, he supervised two faculty-level scientists, as well as numerous graduate students and technicians, while administering research work orders that involved most faculty in the department at one time or another; and

WHEREAS, facing unusual challenges in conducting research upon a largely unknown and critically imperiled freshwater mussel fauna, he integrated knowledge from the fields of malacology, freshwater ecology, phycology, physiology, fisheries science, and aquaculture, and achieved noteworthy contributions to our understanding of freshwater mussel biology; and

WHEREAS, he and his group engaged in field surveys, life history investigations, recovery planning, and development and demonstration of recovery techniques, contributing to the practical management of freshwater mussels; and

WHEREAS, his contributions were communicated in over 100 refereed scientific journal articles, one co-edited book, five book chapters, and five keynote addresses; and

WHEREAS, he mentored 50 graduate students who now hold responsible positions in public agencies and academia, as well as innumerable technicians and trainees, many of whom went on to graduate studies or careers in public agencies; and

WHEREAS, he taught university courses in Endangered Species Management and Marine Fisheries; and

WHEREAS, he actively engaged in conservation education, producing posters, videos, and a children's book; and

WHEREAS, he served on the editorial boards of the American Malacological Society, American Fisheries Society, and Society for Conservation Biology, as President of the Virginia Natural History Society and the Freshwater Mussel Conservation Society, and as Trustee of the Virginia Museum of Natural History; and

WHEREAS, he has been recognized with several awards, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Research Director's Conservation Award and a Director's Commendation; and

WHEREAS, even in retirement, he intends to remain engaged with his department and his profession, contributing to the advancement of aquatic conservation;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. Richard J. Neves for his service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Fisheries Science.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Dr. Richard J. Neves for emeritus status be approved.



RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS

July 24, 2008

WHEREAS, Dr. David L. Trauger has faithfully served Virginia Tech with distinction for seven years as Director of the Natural Resources Program in the National Capital Region, recruiting faculty members and building current student enrollment to over 100 students; and

WHEREAS, he has himself mentored over 50 candidates for the Master's of Natural Resources degree; and

WHEREAS, as a dedicated teacher, he developed and delivered courses in Conservation Ecology, Sustainability Science, Global Issues in Natural Resources, Graduate Seminar in Natural Resources, Modern Wildlife Management, Land Use Planning, and Ecosystem Management; and

WHEREAS, over and above these duties, he has served since February 2007 as Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate School for the National Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, he contributed significantly to wildlife management through studies of waterfowl and of the balance between economic growth and biodiversity conservation; and

WHEREAS, prior to his joining the faculty, he provided 13 years of dedicated service to the College as a member of its Advisory Board;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Visitors recognizes Dr. David L. Trauger for his service to the university with the title of Professor Emeritus of Natural Resources Management.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution recommending Dr. David L. for emeritus status be approved.