

**Resolution 2016-17.B**

**Resolution for the Renaming of the Department of Science and Technology in Society to the Department of Science, Technology, and Society**

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

First Reading: September 12, 2016

Second Reading:

Approved by University Council:

Approved by the President:

Effective Date: Fall 2017

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Science and Technology in Society was established in 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department is home to the graduate program in Science and Technology Studies, the oldest Ph.D.-granting program in that field in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department plans to develop a new undergraduate major, to be named Science, Technology, and Society; and

**WHEREAS**, the name Science, Technology, and Society provides a more inclusive description of the interdisciplinary work that makes up the field of STS, which examines the relationship of science and technology to features of society, such as culture, politics, and policy; and

**WHEREAS**, STS undergraduate degree programs at our peer institutions are named Science, Technology, and Society, and this is the nationally-recognized name for undergraduate programs in the field, listed by the College Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the department's current name, Science and Technology in Society is not used by any other department, graduate or undergraduate degree program, professional society, or journal; and

**WHEREAS**, renaming the department to the Department of Science, Technology, and Society, will provide a clear link to the undergraduate program and will be recognizable as the departmental home of the undergraduate degree;

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that the name of the Department of Science and Technology in Society be changed to the Department of Science, Technology, and Society, and the change be forwarded to the President for approval and to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV) for notification.