

Resolution 2017-18.U

Resolution to Approve New Major, Nanomedicine, in Bachelor of Science in Nanoscience

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

First Reading: April 9, 2018

Reviewed/ Waived by Faculty Senate:

Second Reading: April 23, 2018

Approved by University Council:

Approved by President:

First effective date to declare Major: Fall 2018

First effective date to graduate: Winter 2020

WHEREAS, nanoscience and nanomedicine are rapidly emerging fields that encompass areas within biological sciences, chemistry, geosciences, and physics (disciplines that lie at the core of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education); and

WHEREAS, nanomedicine is an increasingly important aspect of health sciences as demonstrated by multiple major international conferences each year and nanomedicine centers and institutes at many research universities; and

WHEREAS, nanomaterials and nanoscale devices can provide improved therapeutics and diagnostics for human and animal diseases, with several already being employed and many others under clinical trials; and

WHEREAS, the Bachelor of Science in Nanoscience has established Virginia Tech as a leader in education for one of the most critical technology areas of the future; and

WHEREAS, the Bachelor of Science in Nanoscience attracts similar numbers of students interested in the health sciences and in the physical sciences, and the majority of those students interested in the health sciences have indicated a desire for a Major in Nanomedicine; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the Major in Nanomedicine will establish two strong educational paths for students in the Bachelor of Science in Nanoscience interested in physical sciences (Nanoscience major) and health sciences (Nanomedicine major) that will prepare them well for employment in the private sector, employment in state and federal government agencies, and for post-baccalaureate training appropriate to their area of interest; and

WHEREAS, the Major in Nanomedicine will be the first of its kind in the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Major in Nanomedicine be approved for addition to the Bachelor of Science in Nanoscience effective Fall 2018 and the proposal be forwarded to University Council and the President for approval.