

**Resolution 2020-2021E**  
**Resolution to Rename the Department of Interprofessionalism to the Department of  
Healthcare Innovation and Implementation Science**

Recommended by the Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies

First Reading:

Faculty Senate:

Staff Senate:

Graduate Student Assembly:

Student Government Association:

Second Reading:

Approved by University Council:

Approved by the President:

Effective: Fall 2021

**WHEREAS**, with the founding of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine (VTCOSM) in 2008, the Department of Interprofessionalism was established as an academic department of the medical school, and

**WHEREAS**, the Department has achieved national and international distinction in the areas of interprofessional health education, scholarship, and service to the profession of physician education by providing required instruction to VTCOSM medical students concerning interprofessional team care and related subjects, and

**WHEREAS**, the field of medical education is increasingly calling for medical schools to educate students on various aspects of the health systems in which they will eventually practice, including such topics as healthcare structures and processes, health systems finance and operations, population and public health, clinical informatics, healthcare policy, health disparities/inequities and health system improvement, and

**WHEREAS**, the Department is now embarking upon a reframing and expansion of its content area to include providing education in health systems science that will build upon existing content and include the afore-mentioned new content areas as well as emphasis on “innovation” (finding new, more effective ways to deliver care and solve problems) and “implementation science” (the study of methods to ensure that research findings are effectively translated into clinical care processes), and

**WHEREAS**, the nomenclature chosen for the proposed new name is consistent with the names of similar departments at US medical schools that are engaged in health systems science education, and

**WHEREAS**, the nomenclature chosen for the proposed new name reflects this broader educational mission but does not result in an overall increase in the total number of hours in the current VTCOSM medical school curriculum or any change in the requirements to earn the medical degree.

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE IT RESOLVED**, that the name of the Department of Interprofessionalism at VTCSOM be changed to the Department of Healthcare Innovation and Implementation Science, and the proposal forwarded to the President, Board of Visitors, and State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for approval.