Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN OF THE
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Recommendation: that Dr. Janie Heath be appointed Dean of the College of Nursing, effective August 1, 2014.

Background: Dr. Jane Kirschling resigned as Dean of the College of Nursing effective December 17, 2012. A search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position of Dean of the College.

Dr. Heath is currently the Associate Dean of Academic Programs and the Thomas Saunders III Endowed Professor at the University of Virginia School of Nursing. She earned her Associate degree in Nursing and Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma, her Master of Science degree from the University of Oklahoma, her post-masters certificate as an adult and acute care nurse practitioner from the University of South Carolina, and her Ph.D. in Nursing from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

As a nurse scientist, Dr. Heath develops and tests new interventions to improve tobacco cessation outcomes and optimize the effectiveness of evidence-based tobacco cessation interventions among healthcare providers. Her research includes implementing the first Summer Institute for Tobacco Control for Nurse Educators where over 8,000 students, faculty and healthcare professionals have received training, serving as Co-Principal Investigator (PI) on National Institutes of Health R01-funded randomized controlled trial to impact tobacco control in African American families, PI of a randomized controlled trial among pregnant smokers, and Co-PI of a descriptive study of pharmacogenetics among tobacco dependent employees.

With well over 100 manuscripts, presentations and state/national media interviews, Dr. Heath has maintained her passion for integrating research, practice and service with nursing education. She has been awarded over $12,000,000 for academic and/or research initiatives and generated over 150 publications and abstracts. She has served on numerous regional and national task forces for tobacco control including the American Academic of Nursing’s Health Behavior Expert Panel and the American Heart Association’s Smokeless Tobacco Expert Panel.

Action taken: ☑ Approved  ❑ Disapproved  ❑ Other ___________________________