

# PR 4

Office of the President  
September 11, 2012

Members, Board of Trustees:

## APPOINTMENT OF DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Recommendation: that Dr. John Y. Walz be appointed as Dean of the College of Engineering, effective September 1, 2012.

Background: When Thomas Lester announced he was returning to the faculty, a search committee was appointed to identify and recommend qualified persons for the position of Dean of the College of Engineering. The search committee considered approximately ninety candidates and four finalists were interviewed on campus.

Dr. Walz is currently Professor and Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Tulane University before spending six years as a process support engineer for Shell Oil Company and earning his master's degree. In 1988, he left Shell to pursue a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Carnegie Mellon University. After receiving his Ph.D. he returned to Tulane as an assistant professor. In 1997, he joined the faculty at Yale University, becoming department chair in 2002.

Dr. Walz has received honors and awards from the universities where he has taught as well as the Research Initiation Award in 1993 and a Faculty Early Career Development Award in 1997 from the National Science Foundation. He is the Past-Chair of the American Chemical Society Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry. Dr. Walz has been the primary investigator or co-investigator on 26 grant awards, including over \$3.3 million in awards since 2002. He has directed fourteen graduate theses and published over sixty articles and papers.

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_