# VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

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11 January 2024

# MEMORANDUM THROUGH THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR THE BOARD OF VISITORS

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Changes in the Faculty

#### **Background**

The Board of Visitors is charged with the responsibility of approving changes in the faculty. The Changes in Faculty list dated 11 January 2024 (enclosed) is submitted for approval.

#### **Recommended Motion**

"The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the Changes in the Faculty list dated 11 January 2024. I recommend that the Board of Visitors approve these Changes in the Faculty and that the list be made part of the minutes."

Cedric T. Wins '85

Major General, U.S. Army (Retired)

Superintendent

#### I. <u>APPOINTMENTS</u>

The following appointments are effective on dates indicated:

BROWN, Major Caleb A., Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry, Tenure track. Education: Ph.D., Chemistry, North Carolina State University. Salary: \$79,000. Effective Date: 1 January 2024.

CHRISTENSON, Lieutenant Colonel Joel C., Associate Professor and Holder of the George J. Collins '62 Chair in Military History and Strategic Analysis in the Department of History, Tenure Track. Education: Ph.D., History, West Virginia University. Salary: \$101,500. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

### II. ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The following faculty members will be on leave of absence effective on the dates indicated:

ANDREEVA, Colonel Elena, Professor in the Department of History, will be on Family Medical Leave during spring 2024. Effective Date: 1 January 2024

FADIA, Colonel Emily L., Professor in the Department of Biology, will be on VMI Awards Faculty Development Leave during spring 2024. She will be analyzing the microbiome to expand on her existing research project. She will attempt to use the microbiome analysis in future research and teaching, and she will apply the acquired skills to her existing data set of tardigrade microbiome sequences to improve analysis to the quality fit for publication. She will develop course modules for several courses at VMI. Effective Date: 1 January 2024.

FREIN, Colonel Scott T., Professor in the Department of Psychology, will be on Jackson-Hope Faculty Development Leave during spring 2024. He will complete the online certificate *Nutrition and Healthy Living* from Cornell, which will enable him to develop expertise in a new area related to psychology that he wants to incorporate into his teaching and research. He will redesign parts of his Cognition and Positive Psychology courses to include new sections on nutrition and brain functioning in Cognition and nutrition and well-being in Positive Psychology. Effective Date: 1 January 2024.

#### III. RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The following faculty members return from leave effective on the dates indicated:

ALERDING, Colonel Anne B., Professor in the Department of Biology, returns from Jackson-Hope Faculty Development Leave during fall 2023. COL Alerding used AQUA Sub

methods to complete the final stages of data collection from her 2017 statewide soybean field experiment and submitted a significant manuscript for publication in an impactful crop science research journal. Effective Date: 1 January 2024.

COBB, Colonel Barry R., Professor in the Department of Economic and Business, returns from Jackson-Hope Faculty Development Leave during fall 2023. COL Cobb's project expanded the use of the Limited Memory Influence Diagram (LIMID) for statistical process control. He tested methods on hypothetical example problems, then practice applications from businesses were used to implement methods in realistic settings with local companies willing to partner on the project. Effective Date: 1 January 2024.

EICHHOLZ, Major Patrick J., Assistant Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, returns from Jackson-Hope Faculty Development Leave during fall 2023. MAJ Eichholtz revised a book manuscript entitled "Emotive Modernism," a book that develops a revisionary account of modernism by introducing modernist literature into the history of emotions. Effective Date: 1 January 2024.

RICHTER, Dr. Duncan J., Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, returns from Wachtmeister Faculty Development Leave during fall 2023. Dr. Richter continued his work on a book he is writing about how to live according to philosophers Ludwig Wittgenstein and Elizabeth Anscombe. During his leave, he worked on the the second part of the book, which focuses on Anscombe. His goal is to have a polished draft of the whole book by the end of summer 2024. Effective Date: 1 January 2024.

### IV. <u>INSTITUTE PROFESSORSHIPS AND CHAIRS</u>

The following appointments as holders of Institute Professorships and Chairs are effective on the dates below:

COBB, Colonel Barry R., Professor in the Department of Economics and Business, is reappointed to the John W. and Jane M. Roberts Professorship in Free Enterprise Business. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

DIMITROVA-GRAJZL, Colonel Valentina, Professor in the Department of Economics and Business, is re-appointed to the Nanette and Thomas Watjen 1976 Chair in Economics and Business. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

HOLSTON, Colonel Ryan R., Professor in the Department of International Studies and Political Studies, is re-appointed to the Jonathan Myrick Daniels '61 Chair for Academic Excellence. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

MCDONALD, Colonel Christina R., Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, is re-appointed to the Jackson-Hope Distinguished Chair in Arts and Humanities. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

### V. <u>APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE OFFICERS</u>

COOK, First Lieutenant Zachary C., Instructor in the Department of Naval Science. Effective Date: 15 April 2024.

PONDER, Lieutenant Adam, Instructor in the Department of Naval Science. Effective Date: 21 March 2024.

THORNTON, Staff Sergeant Alexis, Non-Commissioned Officer, Administrative Management, Department of Aerospace Studies. Effective Date: 21 Sep 2023.

WALKER, Lieutenant John, Instructor in the Department of Naval Science. Effective Date: 13 February 2024.

## VI. RELIEF OF SERVICE OFFICERS

FRANCESCHINA, Lieutenant Daniel P., Instructor in the Department of Naval Science. Effective Date: 24 March 2024.

GARTRELL, Lieutenant Daniel T., Instructor in the Department of Naval Science. Effective Date: 18 December 2023.