

Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies
Resolution for Establishment of the Virginia Tech-Wake Forest University
School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences (SBES)
Resolution 2001-2002A

Approved by the Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies:	January 16, 2002
First Reading, University Council:	February 4, 2002
Approved by University Council:	
Approved by President:	
Approved by the Board of Visitors:	
Effective Date:	Upon approval by the Board of Visitors

WHEREAS, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Tech has authorized and encouraged the university's leadership to pursue collaborative partnerships with universities with a medical school in order to develop research and educational programs consistent with the funding agendas of the National Institutes of Health, thereby assisting the university's efforts to become a top 30 research university; and,

WHEREAS, a collaboration between Wake Forest University and Virginia Tech related to biomedical engineering and sciences offers each university an exceptional opportunity to excel in this field that would not otherwise be possible if pursued individually; and,

WHEREAS, Wake Forest University, a private institution, is classified as one of the 50 most competitive institutions in the country; its School of Medicine is ranked 37th among 123 U.S. medical schools in NIH funding and has top-50 rankings in 10 of 16 specialties and offers excellence in a wide range of research areas which include aging, imaging, genomics, cancer, neuroscience, pulmonary diseases and diabetes; and,

WHEREAS, Virginia Tech offers complementary excellence in engineering with an active group of more than 20 faculty members in its Center for Biomedical Engineering and strong research programs in other related areas throughout the university including polymer chemistry, biochemistry and molecular biology, the Center for Gerontology, and the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine offers an opportunity for unique contributions to biomedical engineering research and education given its capability of testing and monitoring advanced and critical biomedical technologies; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences facilitates the collaboration between the two institutions by establishing an administrative and governance structure recognizing the vital contributions and interests of each partner institution; and,

WHEREAS, the initial focus of the SBES will be joint biomedical engineering graduate degree programs, leading ultimately to joint research and educational programs that will advance fundamental discoveries in medicine and biology, lead to improvements in health care technologies, facilitate the formation of new collaborations between engineering, veterinary science, and human medicine, and serve as a resource for biomedical engineering throughout the region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the proposal to establish the School of Biomedical Engineering and Sciences be approved and forwarded to the Board of Visitors.