WHEREAS, the Ph.D. in Environmental Design and Planning (EDP) has been a degree in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies since 1975; and

WHEREAS, the EDP program has added several tracks to accommodate the needs of a growing and changing College, including major restructuring in 2003 when the College formed two schools, the School of Architecture + Design and the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA); and

WHEREAS, the college-wide EDP program no longer works effectively to capture the full range of opportunities for doctoral research and education in the newly configured College; and

WHEREAS, therefore, the EDP degree should be converted to two spin-off Ph.D. degrees under the two new schools in the College; and

WHEREAS, the EDP streams in Planning and in Public and International Affairs are well established programs with a combined enrollment of more than 40 students; and

WHEREAS, the emerging fields represented by these streams are best characterized by the spin-off title “Planning, Governance & Globalization;” and

WHEREAS, many positions in academia and the public and nonprofit sectors require or strongly favor the interdisciplinary perspectives, analytical and research skills present in the proposed spin-off degree in Planning, Governance, & Globalization; and

WHEREAS, there are no Ph.D. programs in Planning, Governance & Globalization in academic institutions in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the proposed spin-off Ph.D. in Planning, Governance & Globalization supports the strategic goals of Virginia Tech to increase doctoral education and research and to enhance the international offerings of the University; and

WHEREAS, the spin-off program would require no new resources to maintain at the current level;

THEREFORE be it resolved, that the proposal for a spin-off Ph.D. degree in Planning, Governance & Globalization be approved and the proposal forwarded to SCHEV for approval.