

# VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA 24450-0304

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Phone 540-464-7311

Fax 540-464-7660

Virginia Relay/TDD dial 711

12 April 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 12 April 2024 (enclosed) is submitted for approval.

### Recommended Motion

“The Academic Affairs Committee has considered the Changes in the Faculty list dated 12 April 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

12 April 2024

## **I. APPOINTMENTS**

The following appointments are effective on dates indicated:

DEIBEL, Major Zachary W., Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Tenure track. Education: Ph.D., History, Binghamton University. Salary: \$69,000. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

DOCZY, Major Ryan D., Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Tenure track. Education: Ph.D., Civil Engineering, Florida State University. Salary: \$107,000. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

DOYLE, Laura T., Instructor in the Department of Applied Mathematics, Non-tenure track. Education: M.Ed., Mathematics, James Madison University. Salary: \$77,000. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

FATHALLA, Efat S.A., Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Tenure track. Education: Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering, Old Dominion University. Salary: \$112,500. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

FRANCA, Barbara Xavier, Assistant Professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, Tenure track. Education: Ph.D., Spanish and Portuguese, Tulane University. Salary: \$70,000. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

JOHNSON, Major Brandon M., Assistant Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, Tenure track. Education: Ph.D., English, Pennsylvania State University. Salary: \$68,000. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

SEITLLARI, Dr. Aksel, Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Tenure track. Education: Ph.D., Civil Engineering, Michigan State University. Salary: \$107,000. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

SHINGLEDECKER, Major Christopher N., Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry, Tenure track. Education: Ph.D., Physical Chemistry, University of Virginia. Salary: \$82,000. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

## **II. PROMOTIONS**

The following promotions are effective on the dates indicated:

AGAM-SEGAL, Dr. Reshef, Associate Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, has been approved for promotion to Professor. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

AZAB, Dr. Mohamed, Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences, has been approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

BROWN, Lieutenant Colonel Julie P., Associate Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, has been approved for promotion to Professor and Colonel. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

EICHHOLZ, Major Patrick J., Assistant Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, has been approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor and Lieutenant Colonel. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

FEINAUER, Lieutenant Colonel David M., Associate Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been approved for tenure and promotion to Professor and Colonel. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

JUNG, Dr. Jai K., Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

KNEPPER, Lieutenant Colonel Steven E., Associate Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, has been approved for promotion to Professor and Colonel. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

SHROEPFER, Major Jason W., Assistant Professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, has been approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor and Lieutenant Colonel. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

STUART, Major Jillian L., Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology, has been approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor and Lieutenant Colonel. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

WHIPPLE, Lieutenant Colonel Sara S., Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology, has been approved for promotion to Professor and Colonel. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

### **III. CHANGE OF STATUS**

The following changes in status are effective on the dates indicated:

BURKE, Major Alison K., is appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology, Tenure Track, after previously serving the Department as a Lecturer, Non-tenure track.

Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

JOHNSON, Colonel Jack B., is appointed as Department Head of Human Performance and Wellness. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

MILLER, Major Megan J., is appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Applied Mathematics, Tenure track, after previously serving the Department as a Lecturer, Non-tenure track. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

PAUL, Major Alex Y., is appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Tenure Track, after previously serving in the Department as a Visiting Assistant Professor, Non-tenure track. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

SMYTHE, Colonel Ashleigh B., is appointed as Department Head of Biology. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

#### **IV. ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

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

COX, Lieutenant Colonel Geoffrey W., Associate Professor in the Department of Applied Mathematics, will be on VMI Awards Faculty Development Leave during fall 2024. The project, “Interactive Textbook Development – Paving the Way for Modern Textbooks,” involves creating an innovative, interactive textbook on differential equations that leverages modern digital capabilities for a more engaging learning experience. The project should yield several outcomes including the textbook, a path for new scholarly engagement, and a template for modern textbook design. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

GIRE, Colonel James T., Professor in the Department of Psychology, will be on Jackson-Hope Faculty Development Leave during fall 2024. The project, “Investigating the Relationship between Alcohol Availability and Crime in Nigerian Neighborhoods: A Multi-Method Approach,” will undertake an extensive examination of the increasing rate of violence and crime in Nigeria and if the control of alcohol availability is worth considering. This should lead to a manuscript resulting in an important publication on the question. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

HARRISON, Colonel Daniel P., Professor in the Department of Chemistry, will be on Ayres Faculty Development Leave during fall 2024. The project, “New Approaches to Converting Carbon Dioxide into High-Value Chemicals,” aims to meet requirements that would enable breakthroughs necessary to reverse anthropogenic climate change effects and inspire other renewable energy chemists to adopt an underexplored methodology. The result of the project should be the ability to preliminarily test the hypothesis that we can produce valuable carbon dioxide conversion products at room temperature. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

PASSMORE, Major Timothy J., Assistant Professor in the Department of International Studies and Political Science, will be on Jackson-Hope Faculty Development Leave during fall 2024. The project, “The Price of Peace: The Politics of Resourcing UN Peacekeeping (a book project with Dr. Megan Shannon),” will expand upon existing articles and papers already written into a full-length book to address the politics and implications of state funding the United Nations peacekeeping operations. The goal is to secure a contract with a top-tier publisher and complete a large proportion of the manuscript by the end of 2024. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

SCHROEPFER, Major Jason W., Assistant Professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, will be on Ayres Faculty Development Leave during fall 2024. The project, “Linguistic Systems in Arabic Dialects through Two Articles,” will include travel to Abu Dhabi and Leiden to gather data of rural Saudi Arabian Arabic to help redefine linguistic categories, incorporate feedback from *Association de Dialectologie Arabe (AIDA)* for "Revisiting the Colors and Defects Category in Arabic Morphology" and submit to *Folio Orientalia* or *Arabica*. He plans to incorporate feedback from AIDA and work on revisions for an invited paper "Negotiating Identity in Upper Egypt: Aswan Arabic on its own Terms" and submit the final version, if accepted, to *Journal of Arabic Sociolinguistics*. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

## V. RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

FADIA, Colonel Emily L., Professor in the Department of Biology, returns from VMI Awards Faculty Development Leave during spring 2024. The project, “Microbiome Analysis for Teaching and Research,” allowed her to apply the acquired skills to her existing data set for tardigrade microbiome sequences to improve analysis to the quality fit for publication. She also developed course modules for several courses at VMI. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

FREIN, Colonel Scott T., Professor in the Department of Psychology, returns from Jackson-Hope Faculty Development Leave during spring 2024. The project, “Nutritional Psychology,” included completion of the online certificate *Nutrition and Healthy Living* from Cornell. The expertise gained was incorporated into his teaching and research, with his redesign of parts of his Cognition and Positive Psychology courses. Effective Date: 1 August 2024.

## VI. RETIREMENTS

The following retirements are effective on the dates indicated:

ANDREEVA, Colonel Elena, retires as Professor in the Department of History, after 24 years of service. Effective Date: 31 July 2024.

COALE, Colonel James A., retires as Professor in the Department of Human Performance and Wellness, after 45 years of service. Effective Date: 31 July 2024.

HARDIN, Colonel Jon-Michael, retires as Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, after years 26 of service. Effective Date: 31 July 2024.

ROWE, Colonel Richard A., retires as Professor in the Department of Biology, after 33 years of service. Effective Date: 31 July 2024.

#### **VII. APPOINTMENT OF EMERITUS**

The following retiring members of the faculty will be appointed to Emeritus status on the dates indicated:

COALE, Colonel James A., Professor in the Department of Human Performance and Wellness, after 45 years of service. Effective Date: 31 July 2024.

HARDIN, Colonel Jon-Michael, Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, after 26 years of service. Effective Date: 31 July 2024.

ROWE, Colonel Richard A., Professor in the Department of Biology, after 33 years of service. Effective Date: 31 July 2024.

#### **VIII. APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE OFFICERS**

BAIN, Staff Sergeant Robert, Instructor in the Department of Military Science. Effective Date: 10 January 2024.

BAKER, Captain Brendon J., Instructor in the Department of Aerospace Studies. Effective Date: 30 June 2024.

FINN, Colonel Ryan M., Detachment Commander and Professor in the Department of Naval Science. Effective Date: 1 July 2024.

FRANKLIN, First Lieutenant Samantha P., Instructor in the Department of Aerospace Studies. Effective Date: 30 June 2024.

HANSEN, Colonel Jody D., Detachment Commander and Professor in the Department of Military Science. Effective Date: 10 July 2024.

MARTIN, Sergeant First Class David A., Instructor in the Department of Military Science. Effective Date: 10 November 2023.

WOODS, Staff Sergeant Cortlin, Supply Sergeant in the Department of Military Science. Effective Date: 10 October 2023.

#### **IX. RELIEF OF SERVICE OFFICERS**

BRANNON, Colonel Joseph S., Detachment Commander and Professor in the Department of Military Science. Effective Date: 10 July 2024.

BROWN, Master Sergeant Alexander JR., Instructor in the Department of Military Science. Effective Date: 1 March 2024.

HOMIAK, Colonel Travis L., Detachment Commander and Professor in the Department of Naval Science. Effective Date: 1 July 2024.