

Executive Vice President and Provost

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Dear faculty,

The Virginia Tech Faculty Handbook represents a foundational resource for faculty members across our institution as it outlines critical policies, procedures, and expectations that guide your important work. More than a reference document, the Faculty Handbook provides the primary framework for how the university operates and reflects our institutional values and ethos, advanced through a shared commitment to teaching, research, and service in the spirit of our motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve).

Undergirding the policies and processes in this Faculty Handbook is our tripartite land grant mission and commitment to partnership with faculty in helping to shape academic policies, strategic planning, and institutional priorities through a collaborative system of shared governance. This system ensures joint accountability and effort while creating more opportunities for open discussion and collaboration. It also supports faculty and scholarship in many areas including groundbreaking research, artistic expression and creation, authorship, transdisciplinary and interinstitutional partnerships, and contributions to your respective fields.

Providing clarity and transparency for both the institution and its faculty, the Faculty Handbook is an indispensable tool for ensuring that you and your colleagues can effectively contribute to the academic enterprise and university mission in alignment with the policies, guidelines, and resources that help to guide our collective work. Our <u>Faculty Affairs</u> team is available to you should you need more information or support.

Thank you for your scholarship and service, advocacy for our students, and commitment to our mission and institutional priorities. I wish you the utmost success in your academic and research endeavors.

Dr. Cyril R. Clarke

Executive Vice President and Provost