

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 174

Commending Robert R. Lindgren.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 29, 2016
Agreed to by the Senate, February 11, 2016

WHEREAS, Robert R. Lindgren, a proud native of Muskegon, Michigan, came to Ashland to lead Randolph-Macon College as its 15th president on February 1, 2006, and the college community celebrates his 10th year of providing extraordinary leadership in 2016; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren arrived at Randolph-Macon College having served in leadership positions at The Johns Hopkins Institutions, where as vice president for development and alumni relations, he led two of the largest fundraising campaigns—raising billions of dollars—in American higher education history, and at the University of Florida and the University of Florida School of Law, where he also led major capital campaigns raising hundreds of millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren interacted with students, faculty, alumni, and friends of Randolph-Macon College in an enthusiastic and genuine fashion that led to an instant reinvigoration of the spirit of those groups and the entire college community; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren, upon arriving in Ashland, immediately engaged the Virginia government, business, civic, and academic communities; he was recruited for service on Governor Robert F. McDonnell's Higher Education Commission, represented Virginia's independent colleges and universities on the Commonwealth's Higher Education Advisory Committee, and served on the boards of the World Affairs Council, the Richmond Forum, and the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren provides distinguished service on the board of the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia and on the executive committee of the Annapolis Group, a prestigious organization comprising more than 130 national liberal arts colleges across the United States; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren led efforts to establish a new Randolph-Macon College 2009 - 2017 strategic plan, "Now is the Time: Expanding Our Tradition of Excellence," focusing on the college's academics, facilities, and campus life, and underscoring the college's mission of developing the minds and character of its students; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren and his team's execution of the strategic plan has led to 35 percent new-student enrollment growth, resulting in the largest incoming classes in the college's 185-year history; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren and his team have increased alumni giving, achieving an extraordinary 40 percent alumni participation in 2015, ranking Randolph-Macon College among the most select colleges and universities in the United States to achieve such a charitable giving level; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren launched an unprecedented \$100 million capital campaign, which met its goal 19 months early and at its conclusion reached nearly \$123 million; the campaign led to the renovation of Fox Hall, Haley Hall, Smithy Hall, and the Copley Science Center, and the construction of Brock Commons, Andrews Hall, Birdsong Hall, the Banks Tennis Center, the John B. Werner addition at McGraw-Page Library, and Hugh Stephens Field at Estes Park and the reconstruction of Day Field; and

WHEREAS, President Lindgren has led efforts to cap off this historic capital campaign by planning construction of a new science building to benefit Randolph-Macon College's growing emphasis on science and health; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of President Lindgren's extraordinary contributions to American higher education and his transformational presidency at Randolph-Macon College, the University of Florida, his alma mater, awarded him an honorary Doctor of Education degree in 2012; and

WHEREAS, all that President Lindgren has accomplished in his 10 years as president of Randolph-Macon College has been done with the support of his wife, Cheryl; sons, Jim and Greg; and daughter, Andrea; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Robert R. Lindgren on the occasion of his 10th anniversary as president of Randolph-Macon College; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert R. Lindgren, the extraordinary president of Randolph-Macon College, one of Virginia's most historic liberal arts institutions, as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his contributions to the field of education and best wishes for continued success.

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