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**WILLIAM & MARY
RESOLUTION ON RENAMING TRINKLE AND MAURY HALLS**

WHEREAS, campus buildings and the campus environment should help to educate and reflect our expanding knowledge of the past, affirm William & Mary’s broad and complex history, and promote honest and clear self-reflection; and

WHEREAS, decisions to rename a building or space identified with an historical individual should meet a high standard based on research and deliberation and take into account the current mission and values of the university; and

WHEREAS, Trinkle Hall was named after Elbert Lee Trinkle who served as the Governor of Virginia from 1922-26 and who in that capacity authorized funds to facilitate renovations to the campus dining hall following a 1925 fire; and

WHEREAS, Governor Trinkle signed some of the most pernicious Jim Crow laws in Virginia history which grew out of and fostered the eugenics movement: the 1924 Racial Integrity Act, which prohibited interracial marriage and defined a “white person” as someone “who has no trace whatsoever of any blood other than Caucasian;” and the Virginia Sterilization Act of 1924, which authorized compulsory sterilization of patients at state institutions deemed to be “mental defectives.”

WHEREAS, in 2001 the Virginia General Assembly passed a Joint Resolution expressing profound regret for Virginia’s experience with eugenics through the 1924 Acts approved by Governor Trinkle and the incalculable human damage they caused; and

WHEREAS, Maury Hall on the VIMS campus was established in 1950 and named after Matthew Fontaine Maury, a native of Spotsylvania County, colloquially known as the “Father of Modern Oceanography” for his work with what is now the U.S. Naval Observatory; and

WHEREAS, in 1861 Maury resigned his commission as an officer in the U.S. Navy to return to Virginia and assume a leadership post in the Confederate Navy. In 1865, he became the “imperial commissioner of immigration” for the Emperor Maximilian attempting to establish a colony of former Confederates in Mexico; and

WHEREAS, neither Trinkle nor Maury had a special connection to William & Mary; and

WHEREAS, the VIMS Diversity and Inclusion Committee has recommended renaming Maury Hall and the Lemon Project has identified Trinkle Hall as a candidate for renaming;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors hereby renames Trinkle Hall to be Unity Hall and Maury Hall to be York River Hall.