

**Resolution 2021-22E**  
**Resolution to Approve New Major, FinTech and Big Data Analytics, in Bachelor of  
Science in Business in Finance**

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

First Reading: October 11, 2021

Faculty Senate:

Staff Senate:

Graduate and Professional Student Senate:

Undergraduate Student Senate:

Second Reading:

Approved by University Council:

Approved by the President:

First Effective Date to Declare Major: Summer 2022

First Effective Date to Graduate: Winter 2023

**WHEREAS**, the field of finance continues to evolve with new technologies that leverage Virginia Tech's capabilities in business analytics and big data processing; and

**WHEREAS**, the FinTech and Big Data Analytics option of the Major in Finance educates future Finance professionals to use computational methods and technology to process large amounts of data for next-generation financial analysis to enhance the acuity of assessments, decision-making, and policy in all domains of the field of finance; and strengthen the responsiveness and strategy to improve the finance function at all levels, such as 1) managing investment portfolios, 2) earnings and other corporate projections, and 3) inform local and global economic policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the current FinTech and Big Data Analytics option of the Major in Finance has proved popular with students and is growing rapidly; and

**WHEREAS**, majors, as opposed to concentrations, are highlighted in all admissions materials and can thereby create greater opportunities to attract a diverse group of both in-state and out-of-state students to meet enrollment targets for the department and college; and

**WHEREAS**, a major recorded on transcripts provides institutional validation of students' education, and helps position graduates for success; and companies recruit more heavily from programs whose students have a major in the field; and

**WHEREAS**, the Major in FinTech and Big Data Analytics will provide a unique academic and interdisciplinary field that will educate finance students with a hands-on as well as a strongly empirical and theoretical career on emerging topics of finance technology and big data analytics; and

**WHEREAS**, the new curriculum will allow students to fundamentally understand the principles of intersection between finance and technology, and apply big data analytics to complex finance systems across a wide range of domains including, but not limited, to corporate finance and financial markets, commodities, real estate, microeconomic policies, macroeconomic policies; and

**WHEREAS**, students in the Major in FinTech and Big Data Analytics will gain a comprehensive and interdisciplinary education of complex technical analysis, finance systems, big data processing, finance analytics, and technology.

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the Major in FinTech and Big Data Analytics be approved for the addition to the Bachelor of Science in Business in Finance effective Summer 2022 and the proposal forwarded through University governance and to the President for approval.