

Dr. Christopher P. Neck  
[www.classof2006.alumni.vt.edu](http://www.classof2006.alumni.vt.edu)

CLASS SPONSOR

Maroon and Silver

CLASS COLORS

*In Nobis Est Futura*  
Within Ourselves, the Future Lies

CLASS MOTTO



VIRGINIA TECH CLASS OF

2006



*In Nobis Est Futura*—Within Ourselves, the Future Lies

# Celebrate the Achievement

Members of the Class of 2006:

I vividly remember my junior year at Virginia Tech, eagerly awaiting the opportunity to receive my Class Ring. As a member of the Class of 1969 Ring Design Committee, I enjoyed the experience of designing a ring that symbolized the lasting traditions of our university. My memories of that experience are very special. To this day, my Virginia Tech Ring reminds me of lasting friendships from those years and the pride we still feel in our university.

Our university has maintained a ring tradition for 93 years and a Ring Dance tradition for 71 of those years. Our Class ring program is one of the most unique in the nation. Our alumni around the world wear their Class Rings with pride and distinction.

Congratulations as you now share in this meaningful tradition. I look forward to being with you in April when you officially receive your rings and celebrate your Class of 2006 Ring Dance.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Steger  
President

Class of 2006,

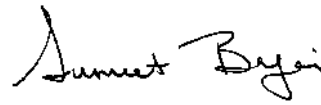
Upon entering Virginia Tech, we were told that this would be the place where we would find our life's work. While this has held true for many of us, this university has done more than just set the direction of our lives. We have been privileged to attend a great institution rooted with traditions and opportunities, allowing us to mature as individuals. Whether in the classroom, residence hall, or around Blacksburg, we have forged relationships that will last a lifetime.

Over the past few years, we have grown together as members of the Class of 2006. We have experienced much change at our university with new buildings, stadium enhancements, and a move to the Atlantic Coast Conference. Although these times have tested us in many facets of our lives, we have learned a lot about ourselves and the university we call home.

While at Virginia Tech, we have become a part of existing traditions and created our own, all of which have defined us as Hokies. Hopefully your Class ring will serve as a reminder of the great memories you have experienced here and the love you have for your alma mater.

May your future endeavors take you to new heights, but let your ring always ground you to your foundation here at Virginia Tech.

Sincerely,



Sumeet Bagai  
Class of 2006 President

## History of the Virginia Tech Ring

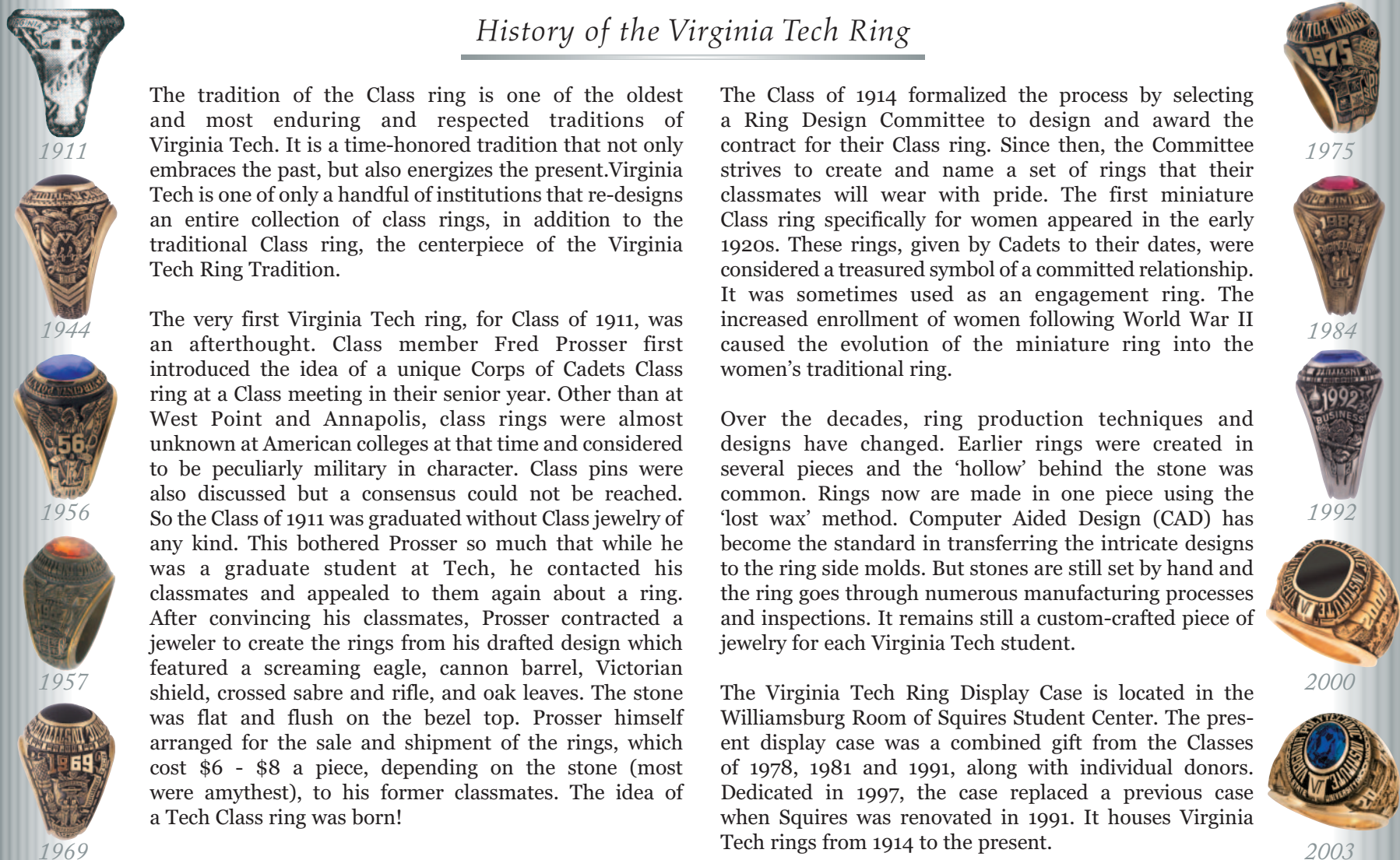
The tradition of the Class ring is one of the oldest and most enduring and respected traditions of Virginia Tech. It is a time-honored tradition that not only embraces the past, but also energizes the present. Virginia Tech is one of only a handful of institutions that re-designs an entire collection of class rings, in addition to the traditional Class ring, the centerpiece of the Virginia Tech Ring Tradition.

The very first Virginia Tech ring, for Class of 1911, was an afterthought. Class member Fred Prosser first introduced the idea of a unique Corps of Cadets Class ring at a Class meeting in their senior year. Other than at West Point and Annapolis, class rings were almost unknown at American colleges at that time and considered to be peculiarly military in character. Class pins were also discussed but a consensus could not be reached. So the Class of 1911 was graduated without Class jewelry of any kind. This bothered Prosser so much that while he was a graduate student at Tech, he contacted his classmates and appealed to them again about a ring. After convincing his classmates, Prosser contracted a jeweler to create the rings from his drafted design which featured a screaming eagle, cannon barrel, Victorian shield, crossed sabre and rifle, and oak leaves. The stone was flat and flush on the bezel top. Prosser himself arranged for the sale and shipment of the rings, which cost \$6 - \$8 a piece, depending on the stone (most were amethyst), to his former classmates. The idea of a Tech Class ring was born!

The Class of 1914 formalized the process by selecting a Ring Design Committee to design and award the contract for their Class ring. Since then, the Committee strives to create and name a set of rings that their classmates will wear with pride. The first miniature Class ring specifically for women appeared in the early 1920s. These rings, given by Cadets to their dates, were considered a treasured symbol of a committed relationship. It was sometimes used as an engagement ring. The increased enrollment of women following World War II caused the evolution of the miniature ring into the women's traditional ring.

Over the decades, ring production techniques and designs have changed. Earlier rings were created in several pieces and the 'hollow' behind the stone was common. Rings now are made in one piece using the 'lost wax' method. Computer Aided Design (CAD) has become the standard in transferring the intricate designs to the ring side molds. But stones are still set by hand and the ring goes through numerous manufacturing processes and inspections. It remains still a custom-crafted piece of jewelry for each Virginia Tech student.

The Virginia Tech Ring Display Case is located in the Williamsburg Room of Squires Student Center. The present display case was a combined gift from the Classes of 1978, 1981 and 1991, along with individual donors. Dedicated in 1997, the case replaced a previous case when Squires was renovated in 1991. It houses Virginia Tech rings from 1914 to the present.



# Share the Legacy

## Ring Chair Thoughts

It has been both an honor and a privilege to work on behalf of the Class of 2006 to create our ring collection. I am confident the Class of 2006 will cherish their Class ring for decades to come. The ring collection has been a tradition seeking to capture the experience of Virginia Tech in something that can be worn every day. I believe that our committee, our advisors, and Balfour have created a ring collection that does just that.

I would personally like to thank the Class of 2006 Ring Design Committee members: Amy Hay, Alan Campbell, Sumeet Bagai, Jeremy Daniel, Amanda Mullins, Corey Gallagher and Chelsea Butterfield for their time, dedication, and spirit which they brought to every meeting. Shari Malone and Laura Wedin for their guidance throughout this process we owe special thanks. Also Rand DuPriest, Sheila Lamb, and Sam Jordan and the countless others at Balfour for letting our ideas become realities and for holding Virginia Tech's ring tradition in high regard. Finally I would like to thank Dr. and Mrs. Paul E. Torgersen for the time they have so generously given to our committee and more importantly to Virginia Tech. Dr. Torgersen's vision and direction during his tenure as President have directly influenced and shaped the outstanding reputation and prestige of our university.

Your ring is a symbol of your time here at Virginia Tech. Wear it with pride and remember your fond memories, your friends, and your alma mater.

Sincerely,



Steve Ryan  
Ring Design Chairman, Class of 2006



Committee Member	<b>Corey Gallagher</b>
Female Member-at-large	<b>Chelsea Butterfield</b>
Class President	<b>Sumeet Bagai</b>
Committee Member	<b>Amanda Mullins</b>
Ring Design Chair	<b>Steven Ryan</b>
Ring Dance Chair	<b>Amy Hay</b>
Male Member-at-large	<b>Jeremy Daniel</b>
Cadet Member-at-large	<b>Alan Campbell</b>

## Ring Design Committee

## Heritage of the Ring Design Tradition

The first Class Ring at Virginia Tech belonged to the Class of 1911 but it was the Class of 1914 that selected the first Ring Design Committee, a special group of students charged with the task of designing a Class Ring that would be unique and meaningful to their Class. Ninety-two years later, the Ring Design Committee of the Class still has the unique responsibility of designing a ring collection that represents Virginia Tech and serves as a reflection of the memories and traditions that each class will take with them when they leave Tech.

The Committee today is comprised of eight members and has been advised by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association since 1993. Chosen by the Class Officers in the fall of their Sophomore year, the Committee includes a Design Chair, Dance Chair, two at-large committee members, the Class President, and three at-large Class Officers (Male, Female, and Cadet) – each member representing the diverse interests and aspects of campus life at Virginia Tech. Each year the Committee strives to create and name a set of rings that their classmates will wear with pride.

The Ring Design Committee oversees one of the largest class ring accounts in the nation and takes on the challenge of designing a distinctive and unique ring collection that best represents their Class. Although the traditional Class rings differ in design between Class years, certain traditional elements included each year make the Virginia Tech Ring one of the most prominent and distinguished in the nation. The screaming eagle, American flag, sabre, university seal and interlocking chain around the bezel all contribute to its recognition. The design of the traditional ring combines elements of importance from both the University and the Class. The university

side is more formal and time-honored and usually includes symbols of Tech's military heritage, campus buildings such as Burruss Hall and the Pylons, the screaming eagle, and the university seal among others. On the other hand, the Class side is more creative and includes elements of significance for that particular Class. Since 1991 the design process has included the recognition of a distinguished alumnus, alumna or university president. This year, the Class of 2006 has chosen to honor Dr. Paul E. Torgersen, president of Virginia Tech from 1993-1999. Other university presidents who have been previously recognized are Julian A. Burruss (1991), James D. McComas (1996), William Lavery (1997), and T. Marshall Hahn (2003). The design, collection, and the namesake are revealed to the Class during the fall of their junior year at Ring Premiere.

The Ring Design Committee for the Class of 2006 has strived to embody the heritage of Tech traditions in the design of the ring and also include elements meaningful to '06. With pride, they present the 2006 Paul E. Torgersen Collection to their Class.





# Mark the Occasion with Ceremony

## The Tradition of the Virginia Tech Ring Dance

Over the past 70 years, Virginia Tech students and faculty have gathered to celebrate the beloved and lasting tradition of Ring Dance. Established by the Class of 1935, the Ring Dance weekend takes place in the spring of a student's Junior year.



The two-day celebration opens with a festive banquet honoring the ring collection's namesake, featuring elegant dining and entertainment. The ceremonial Ring Presentation takes place on the second evening and begins with a couple's first steps into Squires Ballroom as they receive ribbons in their Class colors, used to tie each other's rings on their wrists for their ring presentation. Traditionally, the women wear the darker ribbon while the men wear the lighter ribbon.

A time-honored ritual performed by the Corps of Cadets marks the ring presentation. Marching into the ballroom, Junior Cadets form the Ring Figure of their graduating class year, followed by the formation of the Sabre Arch. Under this arch, Freshman Cadets escort each Cadet's date. The President of the University ceremoniously announces the formal presentation of the rings.

While *Moonlight and V.P.I.*, a song written specifically for the Ring Dance in 1942 by Fred Waring with lyrics by Charles Gaynor, is performed in the background, the rings are presented to Class members. For most Junior Cadets, this is their first view of their Class ring, since they have been picked up and hidden by their Freshman escorts until the Dance. At the conclusion

of the song, hundreds of balloons are released onto the couples below. A tradition that began as a Corps prank many years ago is the release of a small live pig into the ballroom for a brief period after the ring presentation. The great finale of the evening takes place at midnight with a spectacular show of fireworks over the Drillfield. Finally, *Silver Taps* is played and a report from the Skipper Cannon concludes the event.

The Class of 2006 cordially invites you to join us on April 1 and 2, 2005 as we take part in the magical and time-honored Virginia Tech Ring Dance.



# Honor the Tradition

## Manufacturing and Craftsmanship

DESIGN

TOOLMAKING

WAX PATTERNS

CASTMAKING

CHASING

STONE SETTING

ANTIQUING

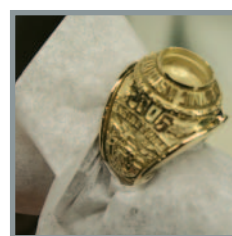
POLISHING

ENGRAVING

FINAL INSPECTION

*Your ring will be produced using the ancient lost wax process. Years of experience are needed for an artisan to gain the touch, insight, and intuition needed to master the techniques required of this process. Great care is taken at every stage of*

*production to ensure an exceptionally clear and finely detailed casting. Each and every ring passes through the skilled hands of at least 30 craftsmen and is subjected to 7 detailed inspections to ensure it meets all our quality standards.*



### The Dr. Paul E. Torgersen Ring Collection



Paul E. Torgersen

Tech students will recognize the name 'Torgersen' as the name of the large and impressive campus building that spans over Alumni Mall joining with Newman Library. It's a name that has been around the Virginia Tech campus for a long time. After 33 years of service, "a third of a century" as he says, as professor, college dean and finally as the University's 14th president, Paul E. Torgersen retired officially on December 31, 1999, on the crest of Y2K frenzy and in the glory of Tech's football team playing at the National Championship in New Orleans.

Those who know him, know his car with the personalized plates "TENNIS" – his favorite sport that earned him his scholarship to his undergraduate institution, Lehigh University. He came to Tech in 1967 as the Industrial Systems Department head. By 1970 he was Dean of Engineering. During his 20-year tenure as Dean, Tech's College of Engineering rose to become one of the top 20 in the nation. In 1988, he served as Interim President for 8 months. In 1990, Torgersen became president of Virginia Tech's Corporate Research Center. He has served as chairman of the engineering Deans' Council, was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, and has authored or co-authored five books.

Taking the president's role from 1993-1999, his dynamic tenure was marked by major changes, college restructuring, construction

projects, and the breathtaking sweep of the internet and computer use. As he did while Dean of Engineering, Torgersen continued to champion the use of new technology that would bring Tech students to the cutting edge of business and industry. He supported the development and construction of the Math Emporium, completed in 1997. He strongly supported the decision in 1998 that required all students (beginning with the Class of 2002) to have their own personal computer.

In that same year, the Advanced Communications Information Technology Center (ACITC) building had a 'virtual' groundbreaking: a new Hokie stone building with a bridge linking to Newman Library. Torgersen's leadership was key in supporting the funding and construction of this state-of-the-art facility that was dedicated in 2000 and appropriately bears his name: Torgersen Hall. Considered the right leader for the right time, Paul Torgersen prepared Virginia Tech for the 21st century.

Of all of his accomplishments, Torgersen has always seen himself as a teacher first – "I consider myself a professor who is also a president." During his term as president, he continued to teach at least one class per semester. Torgersen never attended Virginia Tech but the University has been his life's work in the spirit of the University motto "That I May Serve." He was granted honorary alumni status upon his retirement. Residing in Blacksburg, Dr. Torgersen continues to teach and stay involved with Virginia Tech. He still enjoys a good game of tennis, keeping up with grandchildren, and traveling with his wife, Dot.

The Class of 2006 is proud to name their ring collection in honor of Tech's 14th president, Dr. Paul E. Torgersen.



# VT Class of 2006 Dr. Paul E. Torgersen Ring Collection

## Men's Collection



**PRESIDENTIAL**



**SERVICE**



**LOYALTY**



**HONOR**



**LEADERSHIP**



**BROTHERHOOD**

## Women's Collection



**WOMEN'S  
PRESIDENTIAL**



**SHARI MALONE  
COMMEMORATIVE RING**



**COMPASSION**



**SPIRIT**



**SINCERITY**



**TRIBUTE**



**ADMIRATION**



**ACHIEVEMENT**



**HOPE**



**INTEGRITY**



**PRIDE**



**ELEGANCE**



**INDEPENDENCE**



**RESPECT**



**PRESTIGE**



**SUCCESS**

# Wear a Symbol that Signifies your Affiliation with the VT Community

## VT Class of 2006 Ring - Class Side

- **2006 Interlocking Chain**

A traditional feature of Tech rings since 1940, representing the strong bond of the class.

- **The Cascades**

A favorite hiking spot which highlights the surroundings of Blacksburg.

- **Duck Pond**

A favorite place to relax during the fall and spring.

- **Main Street**

A student life essential and the small town feel VT is known for.

- **BT Busline**

Our school openings/closings depend on it, as do many students.

- **Hokie Passport**

For better or worse, an essential part of our Tech experience.

- **Awareness Ribbon**

Whether for AIDS, 9/11, women's issues or others.

- **HokieBird**

A beloved campus figure.

- **Fighting Gobbler**

An early logo representing the university's rich history as "Fighting Gobblers".

- **Runner**

'IM-ing'...What would VT be without this guy?

- **Class Motto**

*In Nobis Est Futura* • Within Ourselves, the Future Lies.



TRADITIONAL BEZEL

2006 INTERLOCKING CHAIN

FIGHTING GOBBLER

HOKIEBIRD

THE CASCADES

MAIN STREET

DUCK POND

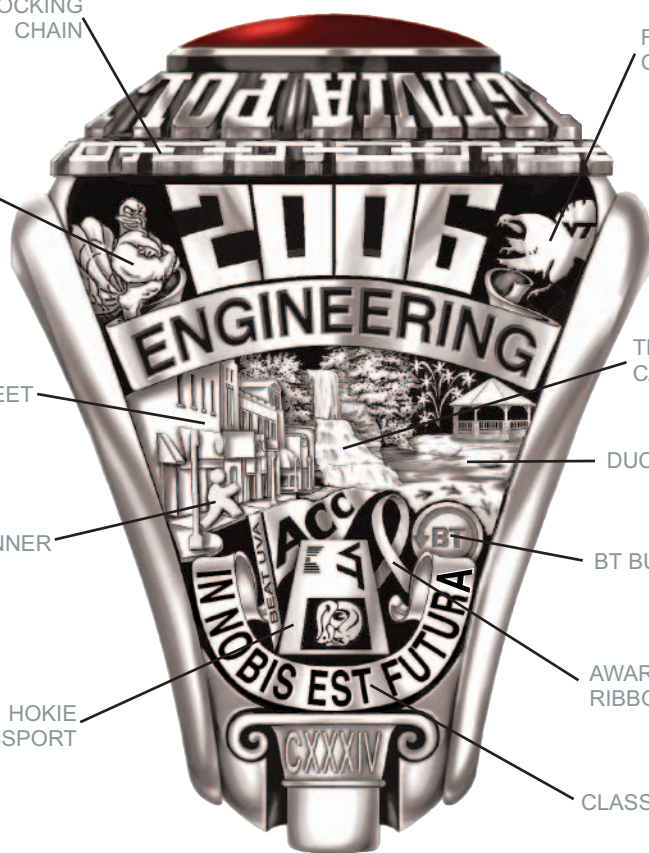
RUNNER

BT BUSLINE

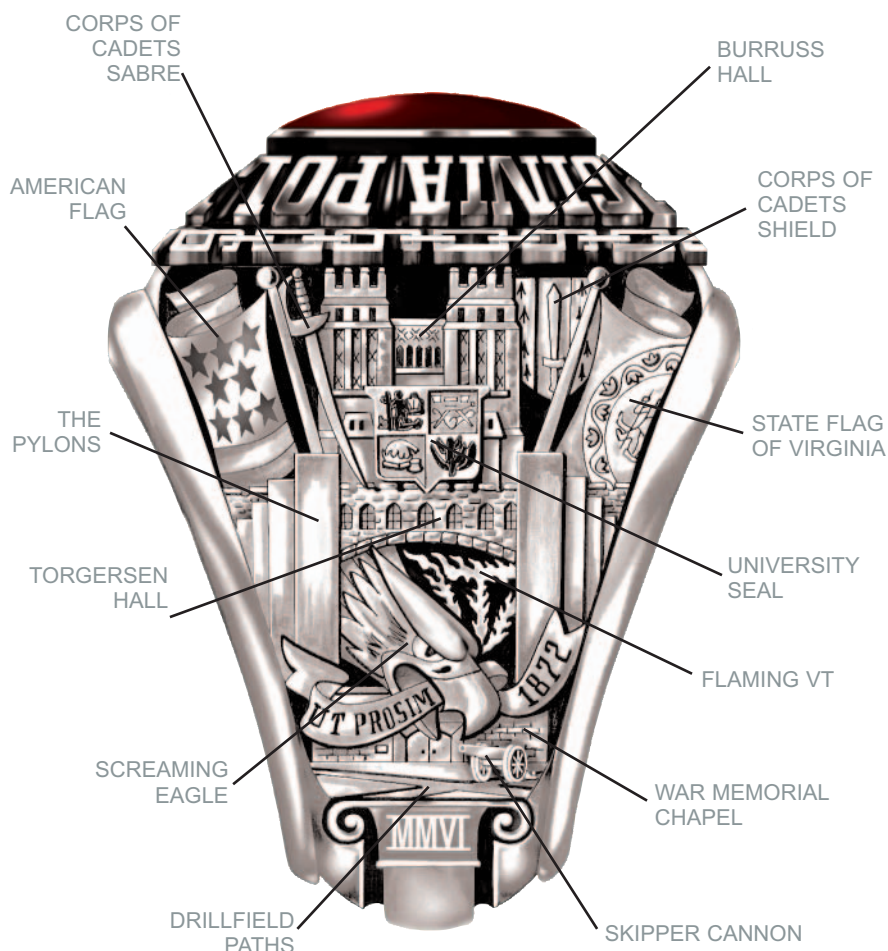
HOKIE PASSPORT

AWARENESS RIBBON

CLASS MOTTO



## VT Class of 2006 Ring - University Side



- **Corps of Cadets Sabre**

An honored Corps tradition.

- **American Flag**

Always flying high on a campus famous for its patriotism.

- **The Pylons**

Eight Pylons representing the founding values of Virginia Tech: Brotherhood, Ut Prosim, Leadership, Loyalty, Sacrifice, Service, Honor and Duty.

- **Torgersen Hall**

The building named after Dr. Paul Torgersen, VT's 14th President, and our ring collection namesake.

- **Screaming Eagle**

Always present on VT Class rings and symbolic of the virtues of strength and freedom.

- **Drillfield Paths**

A memorable walk for all at VT.

- **Burruss Hall**

Built in 1936, named after the 8th President, Julian A. Burruss, the Hokie Stone centerpiece to our beautiful campus.

- **Corps of Cadets Shield**

A great source of pride to the VTCC and designed by Colonel Harry D. Temple '34.

- **State Flag of Virginia**

Virginia Tech is the Commonwealth's land-grant university.

- **University Seal**

Shield from the University Seal, created in 1896.

- **Flaming VT**

The Homecoming pep rally tradition and a symbol of Hotel Company of the VTCC.

- **War Memorial Chapel**

A beautiful chapel located on the Drillfield honoring those who have lost their lives in service to their country since WWI.

- **Skipper Cannon**

The famous boom heard by thousands at VT football games and other important campus events. The name 'Skipper' honors the late president John F. Kennedy.



# Celebrate the Achievement

## Custom Options

### Simulated Gemstones

### Special Stone Options

Men's Styles	10K	14K	18K	Siladium
Presidential 40 dwt	\$488	\$636	\$904	\$158
Presidential 34 dwt	\$426	\$572	\$775	\$158
Presidential 28 dwt	\$402	\$508	\$640	\$158
Presidential 22 dwt	\$355	\$435	\$534	\$158
Brotherhood	\$245	\$318	\$391	\$158
Leadership	\$260	\$341	\$428	\$158
Service	\$260	\$341	\$428	\$158
Honor	\$242	\$314	\$389	\$158
Loyalty	\$242	\$314	\$389	\$158

### Payment Options for the Class of 2006

**PAY IN FULL:** Receive a \$10 discount when you pay in full at time of order.

**TIME PAYMENT:** Your balance will be divided into 2, 4, or 6 equal payments on your MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or American Express and charged at 30-day intervals until the balance is paid in full. C.O.D.: Leave a \$75 deposit when you place your order and pay the balance due when the ring arrives.

Women's Styles	10K	14K	18K	Siladium
Women's Presidential 12 dwt	\$275	\$359	\$459	\$158
Women's Presidential 5 dwt	\$230	\$271	\$336	\$158
Integrity Miniature	\$218	\$255	\$310	\$158
Spirit	\$214	\$246	\$297	—
Admiration	\$216	\$242	\$297	—
Sincerity	\$214	\$246	\$297	—
Hope	\$230	\$271	\$336	—
Pride	\$260	\$302	\$354	\$188
Prestige	\$227	\$259	\$321	\$158
Respect(CZs)	\$257	\$294	\$349	\$197
Respect(Diamonds)	\$369	\$406	\$461	\$309
Shari Malone Commemorative ring (CZs)	\$306	\$311	\$365	—
Shari Malone Commemorative ring (Diamonds)	\$483	\$488	\$542	—
Elegance (CZs)	\$309	\$342	\$395	—
Elegance (Diamonds)	\$540	\$574	\$626	—
Tribute(CZs)	\$244	\$278	\$327	—
Tribute(Diamonds)	\$309	\$342	\$392	—
Compassion(CZs)	\$306	\$311	\$365	—
Compassion(Diamonds)	\$483	\$488	\$542	—
Independence	\$234	\$240	\$294	—
Success	\$227	\$259	\$321	\$158
Achievement	\$227	\$259	\$321	\$158

## Stone Pricing

Diamonds	Cubic Zirconia
1 PT. \$ 35	1 PT. \$ 10
2 PTS. \$ 45	2 PTS. \$ 15
3 PTS. \$ 70	3 PTS. \$ 18
5 PTS. \$100	5 PTS. \$ 25
10 PTS. \$110	10 PTS. \$ 25
20 PTS. \$175	20 PTS. \$ 28
25 PTS. \$375	25 PTS. \$ 35

	13X11	12X10	8X6
Smokey Citrine Topaz	\$150	\$110	\$ 30
Medium Aquamarine	\$460	\$380	\$ 80
Swiss Blue Topaz	\$200	\$155	\$ 40
London Blue Topaz	\$200	\$155	\$ 40
Lapis Lazuli	\$ 55	\$ 55	\$ 40
Rhodolite Garnet	\$495	\$325	\$130
Mozambique Garnet	\$195	\$155	\$ 90
Medium Amethyst	\$230	\$170	\$ 70
Carneian	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 20
Hematite	\$ 35	\$ 30	\$ 25
Adventurine Quartz	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 15
Green Agate	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 15
Blue Star Sapphire	\$100	\$ 90	\$ 50
Honey Tiger Eye	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 30
Brown Tiger Eye	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 30
Wyoming Jade	\$ 40	\$ 30	\$ 30
Hyacinth Sapphire (Tech Orange)	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20

## Full Lifetime Warranty

**LENGTHS AND CONDITIONS OF GUARANTEE REGARDING DEFECTS IN MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP:** The rings are warranted to be free of defect in workmanship and materials.

**LENGTH AND SCOPE OF GUARANTEE REGARDING STONES AND STONE DECORATION:** Any damaged simulated stone will be replaced at no charge regardless of the cause of damage.

**CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR RING RESIZING AND RING ADJUSTMENTS:** The ring will be resized at any time at no charge.

**CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED RINGS:** Any damaged encrusted stone will be replaced at no charge regardless of cause of damage.

**CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR ORDERING ADDITIONAL RINGS:** Additional rings may be ordered at any time. After December 31, 2006, the rings may be ordered at the prevailing price at time of order. Prevailing price will be determined according to cost of gold and stones at the time of ordering.

**CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR CHANGES IN ACADEMIC COLLEGE DESTINATION:** A classmate who changes colleges at Virginia Tech after a ring is purchased may return the ring to be remade with proper designation at no charge.

**REFUND POLICY FOR RINGS RETURNED FOR STUDENTS WHO FAIL TO GRADUATE WITH THE CLASS DESIGNATED ON THE RING:** A classmate who fails to graduate with their Class may return the ring for a full refund less Class dues.

**RESPONSIBILITY AND PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING DISPUTES REGARDING THE VALIDITY OF WARRANTY CLAUSES:** Disputes as to the validity of the warranty clauses will be resolved by the Ring Design Committee. With Balfour's philosophy that the customer is always right, such arbitration by the Committee should never be necessary.

**CONDITIONS AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES FOR RESTORING RING FINISH:** Should a classmate not be totally satisfied with his or her original choice of finish, refinishing would be completed at no charge.

**CONDITIONS ON HOW REPAIRS ARE MADE, WHOM TO CONTACT, AND HOW SHIPPING RATES ARE HANDLED:** Prior to graduation, service dates will be established to handle any adjustments. All shipping, handling and insurance costs will be the responsibility of Balfour during these sessions.

### Contact information:

www.classof2006.alumni.vt.edu  
www.VATechAlumni.com/classrings/