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Statement by Jerry P. Draayer SURA President & CEO

The SURA community was saddened to learn this week of the death of former Virginia Tech President Charles Steger. In addition to his exemplary service to that distinguished institution, Dr. Steger was a devoted leader beyond his own campus. Beginning in 2008, he served for six years as the Chair of the SURA Council of Presidents and Chair of the SURA Executive Committee. Additionally, he was a SURA appointee to the Board of Directors for Jefferson Science Associates – the management and operating contractor for the Department of Energy's Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Newport News. While on the JSA board, he served as chair from June 2010 to June 2014.

Through his tenure leading both organizations, he oversaw growth and accomplishment – helping guide SURA and JSA with his wisdom, wit, and willingness to lead. In his capacity as a SURA leader, Dr. Steger demonstrated the highest level of integrity and dedication to the mission of advancing collaborative research and scientific discovery. His legacy of leadership will not be forgotten.

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The Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) is a consortium of over 60 leading research institutions in the southern United States and the District of Columbia established in 1980 as a non-stock, nonprofit corporation. SURA serves as an entity through which colleges, universities, and other organizations may cooperate with one another, and with government and industry in acquiring, developing, and using laboratories and other research facilities and in furthering knowledge and the application of that knowledge in the physical, biological, and other natural sciences and engineering. For more information, visit www.sura.org.

