

To: Members of the Board of Trustees

From: Christopher A. Ruhl, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer

Date: September 24, 2025

Re: Approval and Ratification of Agreements with Virgin Galactic Agreement
(Contract Involving Obligation in Excess of \$2 Million)

Background

In partnership with Virgin Galactic, the College of Engineering has developed plans for a suborbital spaceflight with an all-Boilermaker crew. The flight is expected to occur in 2027 and will include a Purdue professor, a Purdue graduate student, and three Purdue alumni, and incorporate payload space and time for research experiments to be conducted after launch.

Flight costs associated with the Purdue professor, graduate student, and research experiments will be paid by the university. Costs associated with the three alumni will be paid to Virgin Galactic by those individuals.

Purdue's Office of Legal Counsel is working with Virgin Galactic representatives to finalize terms of a Mission Services Agreement for the flight, together with a series of ancillary documents related to the project.

Request

Purdue's portion of the expected total cost (after individual participant contributions) will be less than the \$2 million threshold at which Board approval is required under the Bylaws, and this portion will be funded through a combination of a NASA grant and private gifts. Nonetheless, the Mission Services Agreement will be an enterprise agreement between the University and Virgin Galactic that covers all participants and will reflect a total flight cost of \$2.9M. Although there are provisions for refundability if certain conditions are met, this full obligation is binding on the University in the event of non-payment by individual participants, thus technically triggering the \$2 million approval requirement under the Bylaws. Additionally, a reservation agreement has been signed that includes a partial deposit to secure the coming flight while the flight crew is being finalized.

Your ratification of the aforementioned reservation agreement and your approval to enter into the Mission Services Agreement (as well as any other ancillary agreements to which Purdue will be a party) is respectfully requested.