

Southern Region

Saied Mostaghimi

Director, Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University



Saied Mostaghimi continuously strives to develop and promote the need for interdisciplinary research collaboration among institutions and is known as a strong advocate for agriculture and natural resources. Mostaghimi is engaged actively with the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (SAAESD), serving as chair in 2013, representative to ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee, and the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SSARE) Executive Committee. He has also contributed as administrative advisor to two multistate committees and one advisory committee.

At Virginia Tech, Mostaghimi provides leadership to the college's comprehensive basic and applied research programs, and to the eleven agricultural research and extension centers. His responsibilities include program development and overall direction, planning, allocation of resources, oversight of college research facilities, support of faculty in their pursuit of extramural funds, and is accountable to stakeholders. He also administers the graduate studies program, fosters the development of interdisciplinary research programs, and provides support for recruitment of graduate students.

Prior to this position, Mostaghimi served as the H. E. and Elizabeth F. Alphin professor and department head of Biological Systems Engineering. His research programs concentrated on the design of water quality monitoring systems, the integration of modeling and monitoring for assessing the impacts of human activities on water quality, and the development and/or validation of computer simulation models.

Mostaghimi's honors include the Virginia Tech Alumni Awards for Graduate Advising and the award for Excellence in Outreach, the Hancor Soil and Water Engineering Award from the American

Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, and Merit Awards from the Soil and Water Conservation Society. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers.

He earned a BS from Pahlavi University in Iran, and MS and PhD degrees from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.