

**Meeting START 17:33**

**Minutes APPROVED >> 40 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain**

**CAPFA Resolutions B - H**

**Comment WAIVED >> 39 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain**

**CUSP Resolutions B - E**

**Comment WAIVED >> 38 yes, 2 abstain**

**CFA Resolution A**

**QUESTION:** How does this happen?

**Sen. RESPONSE:** Sometimes it's finishing up a grant somewhere else, sometimes its a contractual obligation, sometimes it's a part of other research opportunities.

**Sen. QUESTION:** Is the new language on temporary remote work taking into account the new realities we are living in (pandemic)?

**VP Fox RESPONSE:** Yes. That was one of the major reasons behind making these changes. Covid revealed a need for different types of work options.

**Sen. QUESTION:** Why does the change of duty station and specialty station not granted for more than a semester or more than a year?

**VP Fox RESPONSE:** Case by case basis in which some cases are determined internally to the department and other cases fall under broader university restrictions and regulations.

**Comment WAIVED >> 45 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain**

**COIA 2021 - 22A**

**President Leff:** Noted that sending a rep was actually refused by COIA to answer questions from the Senate.

**Sen. COMMENT:** Register that the Senate is not pleased that a rep was not approved or provided to answer questions on this Resolution.

**Comment WAIVED >> 42 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain**

**GPSS Resolution 2021-22 O: Communication with GTA / GRA / GA & Clarification of Roles**

**Sen. AMEND:** Please clarify the language that this agreement between the advisor, department, and worker needs to be made before the semester or within the first two weeks as well as clarification on medical leave / emergency leave policies.

**Amendment CARRIED** >> 40 yes, 1 abstain

**GPSS Resolution 2021-22 P:** Clarify working relationship between grads & faculty

**Sen. QUESTION:** This problem seems to have been an ongoing one for quite some time. Has anyone else attempted to address?

**Advisor Gibson RESPONSE:** Yes, many internal debates. But this is an important discussion that needs to be recurring. The flexibility works well for students with positive relations with their advisor, but it can be very harmful for those that do not have that relationship.

**Sen. QUESTION:** Does anyone know whether supervising faculty are given training on how to supervise ethically and responsibly?

**Advisor Gibson RESPONSE:** Supervisor training is not mandatory for any employee.

**Sen. RESPONSE:** Seems like departmental lore and individual whims mostly guide best practices. [2 Support]

**Sen. AMEND:** Add language specifying that grad students must be stakeholders on this taskforce and that the lessons learned and problems that emerged from the pandemic need to guide these changes. This should be considered for both O and P.

**Amendment CARRIED** >> 45 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain

**GPSS Resolution 2021-22 Q:** Ongoing task force for increasing tenure track positions

**Sen. QUESTION:** Why is this resolution relevant to us?

**Sen. RESPONSE:** We are the future faculty members and having stable faculty members helps to provide more stable and long-lasting mentorship opportunities.

**Sen. QUESTION:** Do we have separate reports on different departments at VT on how many TT vs non-TT they have? I couldn't see it in the resolution.

**Advisor Gibson RESPONSE:**

[https://udc.vt.edu/irdata/data/employees/headcount\\_fte/fs/index](https://udc.vt.edu/irdata/data/employees/headcount_fte/fs/index)

**Sen. QUESTION:** Do we have opinion of the faculty senate (or whatever they are called) on this resolution?

**President Leff RESPONSE:** We will receive their feedback after the Resolution leaves our Senate.

**VP Fox RESPONSE:** Also worth noting that CFA has turned down the majority of our Resolutions for falling outside the scope of the CFA charge, so I'm not sure if they will feel this one lands inside or outside or if they will wish to provide commentary. This is not a guarantee, but we will solicit feedback.

**Sen. QUESTION:** Will there be a policy to grandfather existing adjuncts in if they choose to do so? Or something along those lines?

**VP Leff RESPONSE:** If, stakeholder groups are properly represented within that task force, then those kinds of recommendations will probably be better. I believe the wording of the resolution of such that the task force will recognize a adjunct faculty as the stakeholder so hopefully that'll get there'll be able to advocate themselves.

**GPSS Resolution 2021-22 R: University Affairs Transparency**

>> No additional comments; see slides for early submissions.

**GPSS Resolution 2021 -22 S: Require justification for GRE**

>> Many Senators express that the GRE is discriminatory and otherwise filters highly favorable candidates on the basis of socioeconomic status or nationality. <<

**Sen. AMEND:** Add specific language that denotes the problems with GRE access -- financial, institutional, linguistic -- and acts as a barrier toward VT claiming to be a global institution.

**Amendment CARRIED** >> 37 yes, 1 abstain

**QUESTION:** would it be possible to add specific language discouraging the practice of making the GRE "optional" which could just be a way to sidestep the justification? [9 in support]

**Sen. AMEND:** Change language to 'abolish' the GRE

**Amendment CARRIED** >> 41 yes, 1 no, 4 abstain

**18:59 MOTION to ADJOURN** >> 44 yes, 1 abstain