

General Assembly Meeting
Graduate and Professional Student Senate
02.03.23

Prior General Assembly Meeting

02.16.23

Meeting minutes approved

In attendance

President | Ben Beiter: present

Vice President | Chloe Robertson: present

Senators: 45

Quorum reached: yes

Motions

Motion to approve the minutes

Motion made by senator

Vote: 30 y, 0 n, 0 abstain

Motion to Waive the Right to Comment on CUSP Resolution 2022-23B

Motion made by senator

Vote: 30 y, 0 n, 1 abstain

Motion to Waive the Right to Comment on Discussion on CGPSP Resolution 2022-23C

Motion made by senator

Vote: 29 y, 0 n, 1 abstain

Motion to Adjourn

Motion made by senator

Vote: 24 y, 0 n, 0 abstain

General Notes

- Executive Board Updates
 - Director of Programs
 - If you are graduating, make sure to apply for the cap and gown loan program by March 20th. There's no hood or tassel included and the borrowed clothes should be dry cleaned before being returned
 - Link to the cap and gown loan program:
<https://gpss.vt.edu/programs/cap-and-gown.html>
 - Volunteers needed for TFP reviews over Spring Break. Volunteers can work for as little as an hour and this helps get money to graduate students. Those who are interested should email Cissy Ming (cissy

- Volunteers are needed for the Graduate Research Symposium
 - Side note: even if senators don't volunteer, they should still attend the symposium
 - Director of Finance
 - Email gsbb@vt.edu with finance questions
 - Vice President
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 - President
 - Katie Polidoro and Martha Glass from the SVCC will be coming in two weeks to the GPSS general assembly to discuss the feedback given by our senators
 - The Bov held a public comment time regarding a raising of tuition and fees (which are between 0% - 4.9% for tuition fees and 0% - 8.8% for comprehensive fees) and people were invited to comment on the proposed changes
 - Graduate students are concerned that the BoV meeting information is often last minute which could impede attendance from people who want to show support for not increasing tuition or fees
 - The Google Workspace Committee still needs a representative who, ideally, would still be in the GPSS next year
- External Committees and Commissions
N/A
- Ad Hoc Committees
 - Living Wage Taskforce (formally called the Graduate Stipend Taskforce)
 - he CoL number will be updated every year and the recommendation is that wages should hit \$2400 p/m and, in the next couple of years, should hit \$2700 p/m
 - The report recommends that the comprehensive fees are covered by the beginning of the next year but there is a multi-year plan for that if the university decides not to implement this change by 23-24
 - Fees are not 'waived' in this new report because the university can't give money to auxiliaries so that money comes from fees. Instead of fees being 'waived', therefore, the report states that fees should be 'covered' by the fee increase
 - There is no guarantee that graduates will get summer funding
 - While the report is released, there is no commitment from the university yet
 - Next steps for the report is to be shared with the BoV for them to make a decision on it
 - It is important that there is a big turnout at the March 20th BoV meeting so they understand the report has a lot of support

- This pertains to determination of sanctions for an offender and the severity of these sanctions
- This resolution is meant to streamline the process of students who disagree with the severity of the sanctions raised against them
- Discussion on CGPSP Resolution 2022-23C

Closing Remarks

- AI Petition
 - VT has indicated that they want to use AI to comb through devices linked to the VT network. This can be personal devices and/or VT devices. Senators are welcome to sign the petition to stall this technology until VT gives everyone more details
 - Senators are very concerned that they, and other students, have not ben informed about this AI implementation
- FOIA Training
 - There is a training regarding how to submit Freedom of Information Acts to the university on March 9th, 2023 from 5:30pm - 6:30pm at Southpaw Café (202 S Main St)
- Keep an eye out for the Candidate Meet and Greet announcement
- Glade Road Growing
 - Moonlight nature walk next week on 03.07 ()

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chloe Robertson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chloe Robertson