Open Forum (5:00-5:30)

Sign-in Link: https://tinyurl.com/GPSS030223SignIn

Slides Link: https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0302Slides
Sign-in Link: https://tinyurl.com/GPSS030223SignIn
Voting Link:
Contact Us: GPSS@vt.edu | www.gpss.vt.edu

Senate Meeting

2nd March, 2023

Slides Link: https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0302Slides
Sign-in Link: https://tinyurl.com/GPSS030223SignIn
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Meeting Agenda

1. Opening remarks & senator sign-in

2. General Orders: Elections, Student Affairs

3. Exec Board Reports

4. Commission and Committee Reports:

5. Ad hoc reports:

6. Unfinished business: None!

7. New business: Comments on CUSP 22-23B, CGPSP 22-23C

8. Closing remarks:

Opening Remarks

Sign-in if you have not!

If you have not registered as an Senator yet (haven't received the info emails this week) please email VP Chloe Robertson (chloerobertson@vt.edu) to be added to the roles!

Notes on Zoom

Voting: Only senators and designated proxies may vote. Vote using yes (green checkmark), no (red X), and abstain (coffee cup away) emotes.

Speaking: Everyone will be muted and you will have to use the raise hand feature to unmute yourself. Priority will be given to senators over general graduate students.

Please RESET your emote after voting or raising your hand. We cannot distinguish between leftover emotes and current emotes so it is on you to remember to remove your answer after the vote concludes. If you do not lower your hand we may not call on you.

The most important rule is that you MUST show off your pets and tell them they're very good courtesy of the GPSS.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from the Feb. 16th meeting.

https://gpss.vt.edu/the-senate/senate-meetings-minutes/minutes.html

General Orders: Elections

Positions	Name
President	Rachel Maizel
Director of Advocacy	Elizabeth Bucklen Ronnie Mondal
Director of Events	Emily Tirrell
Vice President	Yohan Sequeira
Director of Finance	Quiyana M. Murphy
Director of Programs	Aran Garnett-Deakin
Director of Communication	{Vacant}

General Orders: Elections

23-24 exec board elections.

02/20/23	Submission of Completed Candidate Packet Due to Elections Subcommittee Chair (email to taylorcl@vt.edu), this includes the Statement of Intent and Platform Statement
02/23/23	Nominee Statements of Intent and Platform Statement will be sent out to Senators and published on GPSS website.
(TBD)	Virtual Meet and Greet with Candidates Event (likely 3/13 6pm-8pm)
03/13/22	Deadline for Candidates to Make Arrangements for their Personal Statements if they expect to miss 02/16 GPSS Meeting
03/16/23	Candidate Presentations, Questions & Answers, and GPSS Discussion on Candidates Voting Period Begins (after GPSS Meeting)
03/16/22	Voting Period Ends at 11.59pm
03/17/22	New Executive Board announced

General Orders: Presentation

Presentation: Dr. James Bridgeforth, Assistant VP for Student Affairs and ExperienceVT

Director of Programs

- Volunteers needed to review TFP applications over Spring Break!
- "Dr. Rich" Cap and Gown Loan Program applications now open – Apply by March 20
  - No hood or tassel
- Volunteers needed for Graduate Research Symposium (3/29/23)
  - Please ask your advisors to judge
  - Grad students – moderators, registration, etc.

Director of Finance

Questions on Graduate Student Budget Board (GSBB) or how to get funding for your GSO?Email John at gsbb@vt.edu with your questions or if you would like to set up a time for office hours.

Vice President

We have had a number of senator changes during this semester, if you will be graduating, or would like to leave the senate for other reasons, please remember to reach out and let me know! Ideally, try and find a replacement senator for your position. Once this is done, email gpss@vt.edu or chloerobertson@vt.edu to let me know about the changes!

DIRECTOR OF EVENTS!

Events Calendar: https://tinyurl.com/GPSSEventsCalendar

President

SVCC Working Group: Katie Polidoro and Martha Glass will be coming to the Senate on 3/16

Public Comment time earlier today on raising of tuition and fees. Can still submit written comments up until 3/13: https://bov.vt.edu/

Google Workspace Committee: Recommendations on the University use of Google Services
- Meet approximately once a month, Monday morning at 11am virtually (using MS Teams)
- Ensure students are communicated to about these changes
- Prior 2 years of work: https://it.vt.edu/projects/GoogleWorkspace/Charter.html

External Committees/Commissions

Open remarks

Ad Hoc Committee:

- Living Wage TaskForce
  - The Report is Released!
    https://www.provost.vt.edu/content/dam/provost_vt_edu/Graduate%20Assistantship%20Support%20Task%20Force%20Report.pdf
  - March 19-20, 2023 BOV Meeting to discuss the budget.

- Health Insurance: Survey will be closing soon, please share widely!
  - https://tinyurl.com/GPSSHealthInsuranceSurvey

Unfinished Business:

None!

Note: Resolution CGPSA 22-23A will be heard for second reading next meeting

New Business: Comment CUSP 2022-23B

CUSP Resolution 2022-23B: Resolution to Allow Administrative Resolution of First-Time Honor Code Cases

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wWfV7lxBUyrDaOsDRzrX1MTc3Qz-AasW/view?usp=sharing

New Business: Comment CGPSP 2022-23C

CGPSP Resolution 2022-23C: Resolution to Create Department of Neurosurgery at VTC School of Medicine

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Q-zZdnzxI4_Dro7O5yIniJGdiT9Igq12/view?usp=sharing

Closing Remarks: Communication

All Senators are expected to communicate with your constituents.

- Send out Senate Brief to everyone
- Anonymous Feedback Form:

Comments to ME Senators

This form is a way to submit comments, questions, raise issues, and any other communication to the two graduate student Senators who represent the Mechanical Engineering department in the Graduate and Professional Student Senate: Ben Beiter (-------------@vt.edu) and -------------------- (-------------@vt.edu).

The GPSS is the governing body at Virginia Tech made up entirely of grad students. We discuss and create resolutions that go through the shared governance process at VT, as well as host events for all graduate students at VT. Each department gets to send two senators to the GPSS, and we, as the senators for ME are here to hear anything you'd like to bring up to us, and we can bring it up to the Senate at large.

All comments made in this form are anonymous (the form does not save your email). If you feel comfortable sharing your name and email or would like a response from us, please enter you name and email below (we will not share your info with anyone).
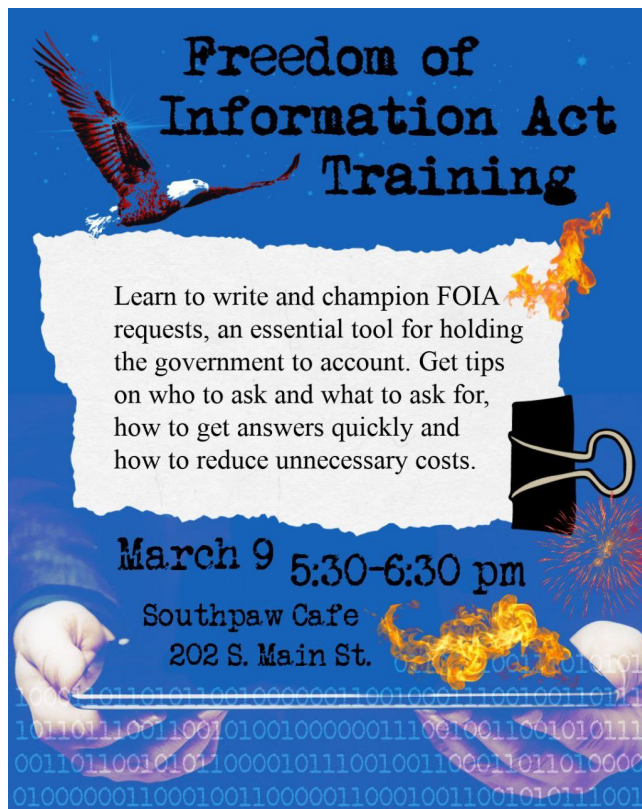
Closing Remarks: Petition

Virginia Tech's executive administration recently indicated that it plans to use an artificial intelligence system that would comb through every device (computer, phone, etc.) connected to the Virginia Tech network. There has been an indication that this is not limited to equipment owned by the university and would include ANY device relying on the institution's network.

It has been claimed that this would be implemented to detect "cyber-security" threats. However, very little information has been given regarding this misguided policy that harms the privacy and security of VT affiliates. There is now a petition to call on the community to come together, stand up to this policy, and ask the administration important questions regarding this system.

You can read and sign petition here:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1l-SQ0QlUjpqCUK54VMKDNFxFn3AbIUaUDx3zzsNDzV4/edit?usp=sharing

Closing Remarks: FOIA Training

Closing Remarks: Events

Reminder about the Candidate Meet and Greet the week after Spring Break!

Glade Road Growing:

https://mailchi.mp/fb98dce1b749/2023-farm-shares-events

Conclusion

Motion to Adjourn!

Happy Spring Break!

Events Calendar:

https://tinyurl.com/GPSSEventsCalendar

Senate Discord:

tinyurl.com/GPSS22SenatorDiscord

Public GPSS Discord for all grad students:
tinyurl.com/GPSS22GradDiscord