



Senate Brief - March, 16, 2022 Meeting

This document should be distributed to all graduate students within your department or through your departmental listserv so that everyone may engage with the activities of the Senate.

Defend VT Students and Employees' Privacy and Security

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.

The matter was brought up in the Board of Visitors meeting on 03/20 and was met with approval from the board.

[Please read the petition and sign it here.](#)

Parking Survey

Virginia Tech Transportation Services requests that members of the Virginia Tech community in Blacksburg provide their feedback on parking experiences on campus. This can help us gauge the dire parking needs for students here at Virginia Tech; the more feedback they receive, the better they can respond to our concerns and needs!

[Click here to fill out the survey](#)

GPSS Social Event

Join us for a social event at **Moon Hollow Brewery on Friday, March 24th from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM!**

[Click here for information about GPSS events](#)



Community Outreach

VT
VIRGINIA TECH.

WHAT DOES THE DOCTORAL MENTORING RELATIONSHIP MEAN TO YOU?

Join us for a study on mentoring relationship values!

Participation
Participants will be asked to complete a ~ 10 minute screening survey and a 60–90 minute interview together with their mentor/mentee

Requirements

- Mentor (faculty member) & Mentee (doctoral student) Pair
- Must be affiliated with College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

Eligible participants will be compensated with a \$25 Amazon Gift Card

If interested, contact Dr. Jody Russon at jrusson@vt.edu
IRB # 23-175



Spring Campus Safety Walk

On behalf of the Virginia Tech Police Department and the Illumination Workgroup, we would like to invite you to join us on the Spring Campus Safety Walk. This walk will allow for onsite review of specific areas of campus by a diverse cross section of the university community.

Representatives from the Division of Enterprise Administrative and Business Service (VT Police Department, Emergency Management, and Environmental Health & Safety) as well as representatives from Campus Planning Infrastructure and Facilities will be on hand to receive feedback on lighting, accessibility, pedestrian travel, or any safety related topics.

The date for the Spring Walk is Tuesday April 4th with a rain date of Tuesday April 11th. We ask that you or your representative please meet us in front of the Public Safety Building, 330 Sterrett Drive, at 7:45 pm that evening. Map excerpts of the areas for the walk, identified by the Illumination Workgroup, are attached. If you are interested in joining us please RSVP to Officer Daniel Guilliams at dguillia@vt.edu no later than March 29th. If you need assistance with transportation please note that in your RSVP.

[Click here for a map of the walk.](#)

Graduate Education Week

This week-long celebration offers opportunities to all members of the university community to be involved with graduate education!

Highlights

- GPSS Research Symposium
Wednesday, March 29
- Graduate Student Alumni Panel (Zoom)
Friday, March 31
- Big Cookout (DJ Sponsored by GPSS)
Friday, March 31
- Graduate Student Art and Photo Display
GLC Hallways



[Click here for more information.](#)



Student Organization Leadership Awards (SOL Awards)

The SOL Awards will be hosted by Student Engagement and Campus Life on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023.

They are currently accepting nominations for group and individual awards till March 20th at 11:59 pm via GobblerConnect. Advisors, peers, and individuals can nominate themselves, other students, your own student organization or other student organizations. You can find the link to the nomination form [here](#)

Award categories include:

Outstanding Student Organization Program Award.

- Excellence in Member Engagement and Development
- Outstanding Organization of the Year
- Outstanding Student Organization Program or Event
- Commitment to Diversity & Inclusion
- Outstanding Graduate Student Leader of the Year.

...and many more!

[Click here for further details.](#)