



Senate Brief - October, 06, 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.

Resolutions updates

GPSS Resolution 2022-23A

The GPSS Resolution 2022-23A, "Resolution to Provide Sanitary Products for all Campus Bathrooms" was announced in the last senate meeting and the first reading will be on October 20th.

Please read through the resolution [here](#). If you have any questions, concerns, or comments about the resolution, feel free to reach out to your department's senator and they can relay that information to us in the next meeting.

Ad Hoc Committees

The GPSS ad hoc committees are built to address certain issues and concerns that affect the graduate population here at Virginia Tech. You don't need to be a senator to serve on an ad hoc committee! If you have a genuine interest in the issue at hand and want to work on resolving it, we would love to hear from you. **If you are interested in any of the three committees listed below, please [fill out this interest form](#) by Sunday Oct 16th at 11:59pm.** Once you have registered your interest, you will be contacted by a member of the GPSS Executive Board.

Health Insurance

This committee will conduct a survey asking graduate students about their experiences with the health insurance policy here at Virginia Tech. Then, the committee will analyze the data from that survey and give recommendations for changes in the new year.

Graduate Contract Policy 6210

The [graduate contract policy](#) is currently underway and this committee will meet together **at least weekly for the next month with the graduate school** to comment on: contract clarification and job descriptions; protections for hours worked; disability accommodations for TAs; and a separate policy for Instructors of Record and General Graduate Employment.



Travel Fund Program

This committee will look at historical data for the TFP, conduct a study on graduate student conference travel, and create a report for the grad school asking for **increased funding**. The committee will meet several times between now and February.

Events

Halloween Costume Party

Save the date for our GPSS Halloween Costume Party on **Thursday, October 27th at Moon Hollow Brewing**. There will be a prize for the best costume!

Community Outreach

209 Market Place Food Pantry

The Wesley Foundation at 209. W. Roanoke St.

If you, or any of your colleagues, are experiencing food insecurity then please check out *209 Market Place* which is a “donation-based, emergency food pantry that provides food, toiletries, and school supplies [for] free to Virginia Tech students in need”. Students can sign up for the food pantry and are allotted a number of points for the week that you can spend as you see fit. Find out more about 209 Market Place [here](#).