

Open Forum (5:00–5:30)

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSNov3Signin>

Slides Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSNov3Slides>

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSNov3Signin>

Voting Link:

Contact Us: GPSS@vt.edu | www.gpss.vt.edu



Senate Meeting

3rd November, 2022

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Meeting Agenda

1. Opening remarks & senator sign-in
2. Exec Board Reports
3. Commission and Committee Reports: Open remarks
4. Ad hoc reports: Health Insurance, 6210 Policy, Living Wage
5. Unfinished business: GPSS 22-23A
6. New business: FOE Statement, CGPSP 22-23A
7. Closing remarks: Reminders, Communication, Events!

1. 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!

1. 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.

1. Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from the October 20th meeting.

<https://gps.vt.edu/the-senate/senate-meetings-minutes/minutes.html>

Director of Advocacy

Please take the housing survey, and encourage all other graduate and professional students to do so as well!

<https://virginiatech.questionpro.com/GPHousingSurvey22>

We need this data to see movement on affordable housing for graduate students!

Director of Finance

GSBB Funding Pointers

- Funding requests closed on November 1st. Requests will reopen on the first day of the spring semester, January 16th.
- Contracted Guests: GSBB strongly recommends all inclusive contracts. Student Legal Services (studentlegalservices@vt.edu) is available for helping your organization create these contracts
- GSBB has considered gift cards and other awards as giveaways and so will not fund these requested items
- If you have any questions on GSBB policy or would like to talk to the chair during office hours, please contact gsbb@vt.edu

Director of Programs

The GPSS Travel Fund Program (TFP) Winter Cycle is open!
(<https://gps.vt.edu/programs/tfp.html>)

If you are attending a conference in the coming months, consider applying for money. All the application materials and instructions are online.

Please note: read the FAQs before you submit your application to ensure your application is correctly formatted. Incorrectly formatted applications could cause delays, or a refusal, of your application.

Director of Events:

1. Hokie Hand Me Down :

Nov 15-16, Donate and later get free items!

Sign up to volunteer [here](#)

Donate

October 17th - November 14th

Gently used clothes, books, toys, lactation aids, strollers, unexpired car seats, baby gear, diapers, etc.

Drop-off at the Graduate Life Center front desk and Women's Center at 206 Washington St. SW

We ask that any donations be completely boxed or contained in plastic bags



Get Free Items

Graduate Students

November 15th | 12pm - 5pm

Graduate Students, Staff, Everybody Else

November 16th | 8am - 12pm

Limited Capacity; first come, first in
Items will be available for selection
in the **GLC Multi-Purpose Room**

For more information womenscenter.vt.edu

Vice President: Service & Senators

- If you haven't already, please reach out to me for a commission or committee assignment
- If you know of anyone who might be interested in being a senator, please have them reach out to me :)

External Committees/Commissions

Open remarks

Ad Hoc Committee: Health Insurance

Health Insurance:

- Will be drafting survey in a meeting next week after getting response from the health insurance office

Contract Policy:

- Drafts went up for first reading in CGPSA -

Ad Hoc Committee: Graduate Stipend Taskforce

Clarifications: 5% raise last year was not the end.

Working on draft of recommendations now for next meeting:

- Raising minimum stipend
- Waiving Comprehensive Fees
- Plan to increase stipend level long term
- Summer funding, international students, grant proposal resources, philanthropy, etc.

Stay tuned for draft recommendations for ways to show your support.

Ad Hoc Committee: FOE Taskforce

A draft statement was sent out for feedback last week.

We will have a longer discussion in new business.

Old Business: GPSS Resolution 22-23A

Amendment A

- Making explicit that menstrual products should be made available in all restrooms

Amendment B

- Including a new clause that references an interactive campus map highlighting where accessible restrooms are on campus

22-23A



New Business: Freedom Of Expression Statement

The Freedom of Expression task force has a draft statement that was sent out to faculty, staff, and students at VT for feedback. The GPSS will also send an official statement on top of the feedback already gained from the feedback form.

New Business: CGPSP Resolution 22-23A

For Comment:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qu9rOujjWOA3HD1eqR5cnIL9nLtKtgJU/view?usp=share_link

7. 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 your name and email below (we will not share your info with anyone).

7. Closing Remarks: Elections

In accordance with the Constitution the GPSS will hold executive board elections at the end of this semester! This allows us to properly mentor in the new executive team during a transition period!

We are looking for an unbiased senator to facilitate the election process by managing applications and the voting process as the “Elections Czar”.

If you are interested in this role, please reach out to Ben or Chloe.

If you are interested in running for an executive position in the 23-24 academic year, feel free to reach out to the executive whose position you're interested in to learn more!

7. Closing Remarks: Events

Get ready for some fun events already planned, more to come!

1. **Graduate Town Hall:** November 17th at 1:30pm, via Zoom
Town Hall about Additional Services for Graduate Students

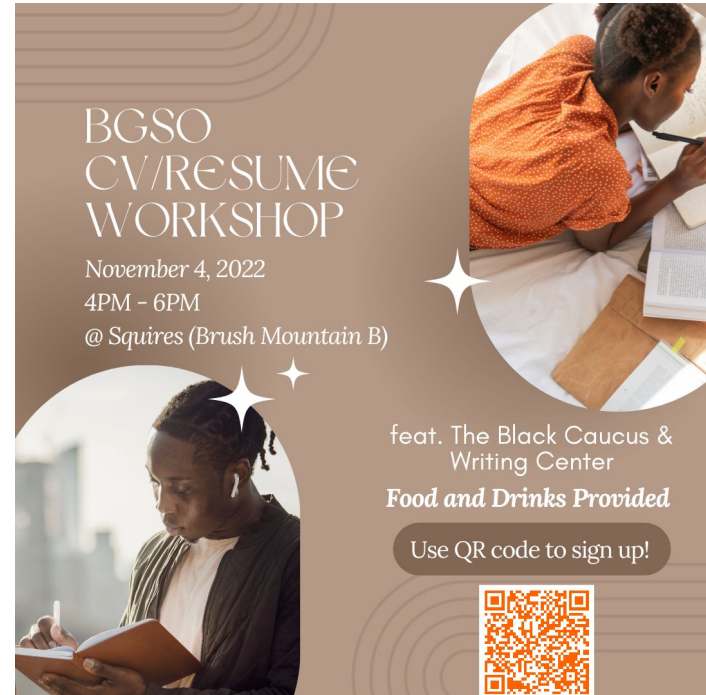
Every year, the Graduate School sends out a survey to new graduate students, asking them what services they are interested in or need. The Graduate School will hold a virtual Town Hall at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, November 17, to address survey responses and answer questions. All graduate students are welcome to attend. Register here:

https://virginiatech.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kLkAeYa_SUuAsAT8Rt7e5w

2. **Fall Social:** November 14th, Rising Silo

Follow the GPSS Calendar to get updates!

<https://tinyurl.com/GPSS22Calendar>




**BGSO
CV/RESUME
WORKSHOP**

November 4, 2022
4PM - 6PM
@ Squires (Brush Mountain B)

feat. The Black Caucus & Writing Center
Food and Drinks Provided

Use QR code to sign up!



Conclusion

Motion to Adjourn!

Senate Discord:



tinyurl.com/GPSS22SenatorDiscord

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