

Open Forum (5:00–5:30)

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSSignInDec1>

Slides Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSDec1Slides>

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSSignInDec1>

Voting Link:

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



Senate Meeting

1st December, 2022

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Meeting Agenda

1. Opening remarks & senator sign-in
2. Bookholders Statement Discussion
3. Exec Board Reports
4. Commission and Committee Reports: Open remarks
5. Ad hoc reports: Health Insurance, Living Wage
6. General Orders: Cranwell International Center Presentation
7. Unfinished business: None
8. New business: COED 22-23B
9. Closing remarks: Reminders, Elections, Communication

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 November 17th meeting.

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

Statement for Support:

Bookholders USS and GPSS Statement

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1O9Jo9ou0YJ5WNc-YGqcCnufszeNvx2-1/view?usp=sharing>

to

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 Programs

Submit your abstract to present at the 2023 Graduate Research Symposium – cash prizes available! tinyurl.com/gpssresearchsymposium

GPSS Spring 2023 Graduate Research Development Program (GRDP) is now open!

Deadline: January 19, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

(<https://gpss.vt.edu/programs/grdp.html>)

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 :)

President: Sexual Violence Climate and Culture

"The VT Sexual Violence Culture and Climate (SVCC) work group is recruiting Student Representatives to serve on various subcommittees. More information about the work group and its specific subcommittees can be found [here](#). The expected time commitment is approximately 1-hour per week over the course of the year. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional students across all VT campuses are encouraged to apply, along with nontraditional students and students with diverse identities and backgrounds. To apply, please fill out our interest survey here: <https://virginiatech.questionpro.com/SVCCStudentRep>. The survey will remain open through the first week of the Spring 2023 semester."

External Committees/Commissions

Open remarks

Ad Hoc Committee:

Health Insurance:

- Draft survey to hopefully go out before end of the semester

Ad Hoc Committee: Graduate Stipend Taskforce

Working on continued drafts of recommendations:

- Defining COL method: \$32,431
- Raising minimum stipend, Waiving Comprehensive Fees
- Plan to increase stipend level above minimum to be competitive
- Summer funding, international students, grant proposal resources, philanthropy, etc.

General Orders:

Cranwell Presentation

Unfinished Business:

None:)

New Business: COED Resolution 22-23B

For Comment: **Resolution to Approve the Land Acknowledgement and Labor Recognition Statements**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OlfBoEk9XfhpohjkewoPjsgvMW7v9wrp/view?usp=sharin>



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

Elections Plan:

1. **Nov. 17th:** announcement of Elections Czar: *Taylor Lightner*
2. **Dec 1st:** Release of blurbs on positions and start calling for people interested in running. Talk to Current Exec and fill out the application.
3. **Jan 17th:** Application closes at beginning of Spring Semester
4. **Jan 19th:** First Spring GPSS Meeting: introduction of candidate
5. **Jan 23rd-26th (ish)** Meet the candidates night
6. **Feb 2nd:** Elections day

7. Closing Remarks: Winter Break

No more official events for this semester.

If you have any events you would like to see in the Spring: Let us know!

If you have any issues or concerns or comments or anything to discuss over break, please reach out to me.

Follow the GPSS Calendar to get updates! <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS22Calendar>

Conclusion

Motion to Adjourn!

Senate Discord:



tinyurl.com/GPSS22SenatorDiscord

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