

# Open Forum (5:00-5:30)

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0119SignIn>

Slides Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0119Slides>

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0119SignIn>

Voting Link:

Contact Us: [GPSS@vt.edu](mailto:GPSS@vt.edu) | [www.gpss.vt.edu](http://www.gpss.vt.edu)



# Senate Meeting

19th January, 2023

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# Meeting Agenda

1. Opening remarks & senator sign-in
2. Exec Board Reports
3. Commission and Committee Reports:
4. Ad hoc reports:
5. General Orders: elections & state of the senate
6. Unfinished business: none
7. New business: CFA Resolution 2022-23A & CAPFA Resolution 2022-23A for review
8. Closing remarks: student lobbying day & graduate interviewees

# 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](mailto: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 December 1st meeting.

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

# Director of Programs

- Spring 2023 TFP application to open Jan. 23 – conference travel  
April 1-June 30
  - \$20,000 total
- GRDP application for Spring 2023 closes tonight 11:59 PM
  - \$10,000 total
- Submit your abstract for the GPSS Graduate Research Symposium

# Director of Finance

## GPSS Budget:

- Budget Board (SBB): \$23,461.76
  - Spent: \$15,000
- Generated Funds: FY 22 starting balance: ~\$78,000
  - Income: \$22,000
  - Fall 2022 Expenses: ~\$18,000
  - Spring 2023 Budget: \$8,000
  - Expected deficit for 2022-23 FY: \$6,000
  - Ending Balance: ~\$72,000

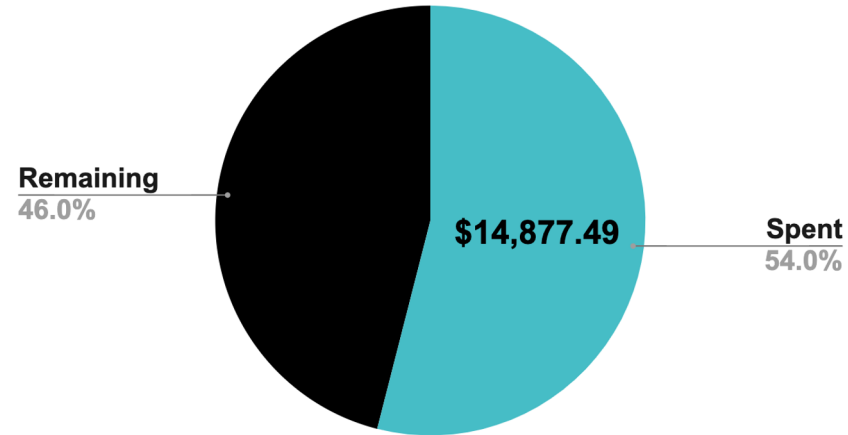
## Graduate Student Budget Board (GSBB):

- Total: \$91,000
- Allocated: ~\$31,300 (34%)
- 50% through 22-23 awarding cycle (8/22-11/1 & 1/16-3/31)
- **We need to award more money!** Please have GSOs contact [gsbb@vt.edu](mailto:gsbb@vt.edu) if they have any questions or would like to set up a time for office hours.

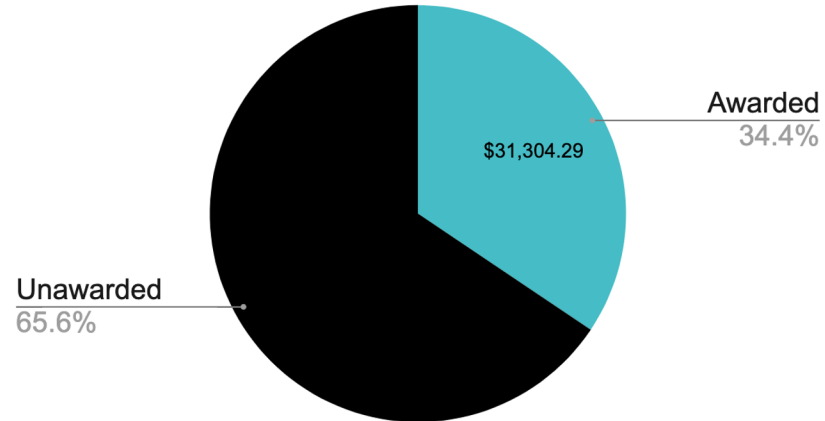
## Student Activity Fee Allocation Board (SAFAB):

- Responsible for allocating funds (**\$1 million**) to UCSOs, GSBB, and SBB.
- Graduate Student representation: GPSS President, Director of Finance, and GSBB member

## SBB Funds (\$23.4k)



## GSBB Funds (\$91k)





# Vice President

# DIRECTOR OF EVENTS!

Please fill out the survey below about events this semester:

<https://tinyurl.com/GPSSSpringEvents>

# President

Sexual Violence Climate and Culture Working Group

Director of Advocacy

# External Committees/Commissions

Open remarks

# Ad Hoc Committee:

- Living Wage TaskForce
  - Draft of the Report out Today
- Health Insurance: Draft survey has been created, will need some reviewers
- Graduate Contracts Revising and Policy Rewrite: Heard in CGPSA and progress with HR

# General Orders: Elections

Please take note of the amended timeline for the 23-24 exec board elections.

01/31/23	Submission of Completed Candidate Packet Due to Elections Subcommittee Chair (email to <a href="mailto:taylorcl@vt.edu">taylorcl@vt.edu</a> ), this includes the Statement of Intent and Platform Statement
02/02/23	Nominee Statements of Intent and Platform Statement will be sent out to Senators and published on GPSS website.
02/06/23 - 02/09/23 (TBC)	Meet and Greet with Candidates Event
02/13/22	Deadline for Candidates to Make Arrangements for their Personal Statements if they expect to miss 02/16 GPSS Meeting
02/16/23	Candidate Presentations, Questions & Answers, and GPSS Discussion on Candidates Voting Period Begins (after GPSS Meeting)
02/24/22	Voting Period Ends at 11.59pm
03/02/22	New Executive Board announced

# General Orders: State of the Senate

## Review of Last Semester

- Task Forces: Living Wage, FOE Statement, Housing, Healthcare, Graduate Contracts
- Resolutions
  - GPSS Resolution 2022-23A: Resolution to Provide Sanitary Products for all Campus Bathrooms
  - CGPSA 2022-2023 A: Resolution to Expand Access to Reproductive Care at Virginia Tech
- Presentations: Health Insurance, TimelyCare, VT Master Plan, Cranwell
- Statements: FOE Statement, BookHolders Statement
- Programs and Events, Commissions and Committees
  - TFP, GRDP, Socials, Halloween Party, Little Hokie Hand Me Down, etc.

# General Orders: State of the Senate

## Initiatives For this Semester

- Living Wage is finishing, or rather moving to the next step
- Housing Survey is Closing - proceeding to analysis
- Ongoing Committees: Healthcare and Graduate Contracts

What do you want to do this semester?: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSInitiatives>

Listening Sessions



# Unfinished Business:

none

# New Business: CFA Resolution 2022-23A

Resolution to Revise Language in Faculty Handbook Regarding Emeritus or Emerita Designation

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a4tLa\\_5ca\\_WDOctfciSCDRXW8xpTpXSj/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1a4tLa_5ca_WDOctfciSCDRXW8xpTpXSj/view?usp=sharing)

# New Business: CAPFA Resolution 2022-23A

Resolution to Revise the Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate Constitution

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1URbShM7rX1j-9Dn2xgVtY4w8B8Qf8m1Y/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 ([benbeiter@vt.edu](mailto:benbeiter@vt.edu)) and [benbeiter@vt.edu](mailto:benbeiter@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).

# Closing Remarks: Student Lobbying Day

A Student Day of Action (organised by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy) will be held on February 3rd in Richmond and students are able to sign up to attend!

Students who are interested can take a training on 02.02.23 about how to talk to legislators and 02.03 will focus on meetings with Virginia legislators as well as educational sessions and workshops.

If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Terri Erwin ([terri@virginiainterfaithcenter.org](mailto:terri@virginiainterfaithcenter.org)) for information on how to buy the bus ticket from Roanoke to Richmond. Tickets are \$25 for the bus and lodging at a youth hostel Thursday night (with 3 meals included)

<https://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org/get-involved/2023-student-day-of-action/>

# Closing Remarks: Student Interviewees

The Sexual Violence Culture and Climate Working Group and the Sexual Violence Prevention Campaign Subcommittee, are trying to find students to do social media videos/interviews concerning a variety of topics associated with the campaign (healthy relationships, consent, stalking, sexual violence, et). They would like to find students that are passionate about sexual violence prevention and would be a good “spokesperson” for the various topics. Undergraduate students are typically more willing to be involved and the working group and subcommittee would really like to get more graduate students involved and more diversity in the list.

If you are interested, or know another graduate student that would be, please reach out directly to Lauren Surface ([lkeister@vt.edu](mailto:lkeister@vt.edu)).

There have been a few videos already posted on Instagram through the Student Affairs account @studentsatvt as well as a Tik Tok video. Feel free to like and re-share these posts so they can gain traction!

# Brown Bag Mentoring Lunches

The Dean of the Grad School has put together a roving brown-bag lunch series intended to create and cultivate a community of practice with discussions around Mentoring: challenges, opportunities, experiences. All are welcome, zoom option will be available!

- Tuesday, January 24th 12:20-1:20 @Fralin Life Sciences Building Room 105
- Thursday, February 9th 12:20-1:20 @ CID
- Monday, March 27th 12:10-1:10 @G101 Riverside Circle Roanoke
- Thursday, March 30th 12:20-1:20 @Liberal Arts Building Conference Room 005
- Thursday, April 6th 12:20-1:20 @ NVC
- Thursday, April 27th 12:20-1:20 @Newman Library MPR

# Conclusion

Motion to Adjourn!

**Senate Discord:**



[tinyurl.com/GPSS22SenatorDiscord](https://tinyurl.com/GPSS22SenatorDiscord)

Public GPSS Discord for all grad students:  
[tinyurl.com/GPSS22GradDiscord](https://tinyurl.com/GPSS22GradDiscord)