

Open Forum (5:00-5:30)

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0202SignIn>

Slides Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0202Slides>

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0202SignIn>

Voting Link:

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



Senate Meeting

2nd February, 2023

Slides Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0202Slides>

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0202SignIn>

Voting Link:

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



Meeting Agenda

1. Opening remarks & senator sign-in
2. Exec Board Reports
3. Commission and Committee Reports:
4. Ad hoc reports:
5. General Orders: Initiatives + Elections
6. Unfinished business: None!
7. New business: None!
8. Closing remarks:

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!

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 January 19th meeting.

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

Director of Programs

- Spring 2023 TFP application now open until Feb. 27 – conference travel April 1-June 30
 - \$20,000 total
- Submit your abstract for the **GPSS Graduate Research Symposium**: Due Feb 8th!
 - Cash prizes available
- Recruiting additional peer reviewers for Spring GRDP applications. Email Cissy Ming (cissym@vt.edu) if interested.
 - Reviewers especially needed in the following categories: Science/Engineering **and** quantitative methods

Director of Finance

Questions on Graduate Student Budget Board (GSBB) or how to get funding for your GSO? Email John at gbbb@vt.edu with your questions or if you would like to set up a time for office hours.

Quick Reminder! New graduate student organization registration deadline for this spring is **February 6th at noon**. See the student organization website for full details:

https://campuslife.vt.edu/Student_Orgs.html.

Vice President

We have had a number of senator changes during this semester, if you will be graduating, or would like to leave the senate for other reasons, please remember to reach out and let me know! Ideally, try and find a replacement senator for your position. Once this is done, email gpss@vt.edu or chloerobertson@vt.edu to let me know about the changes!

DIRECTOR OF EVENTS!

First Spring* Social: Friday Feb 10th 6-9pm

- First Drink Free for all Senators (non-alcoholic drinks available). But all grad students welcome!
- <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSFebSocial>

First Spring Listening Session: Wednesday Feb 8th 2:30-3:30pm

- Chance to talk to Exec Board and other Senators informally about anything
- Snacks Provided!

Events Calendar: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSEventsCalendar>

President

Sexual Violence Climate and Culture Working Group Update

CGPSA Update: Resolution Process

Housing Survey has Closed

Google Workspace Committee: Recommendations on the University use of Google Services

- Meet approximately once a month, Monday morning at 11am virtually (using MS Teams)
- Ensure students are communicated to about these changes
- Prior 2 years of work: <https://it.vt.edu/projects/GoogleWorkspace/Charter.html>

External Committees/Commissions

Open remarks

Ad Hoc Committee:

- Living Wage TaskForce
 - The charge of the taskforce is to establish a process for determining the Cost of Living for graduate assistants at VT and then recommendations to establish compensation for students that covers those costs
 - Edits done towards a final draft hopefully proceeding to the desk of the Provost and Dean of the Grad School on Feb. 9th.
 - We have discussed covering fees for students, raising the minimum stipend, and various other recommendations, but the **report details are not released yet.**

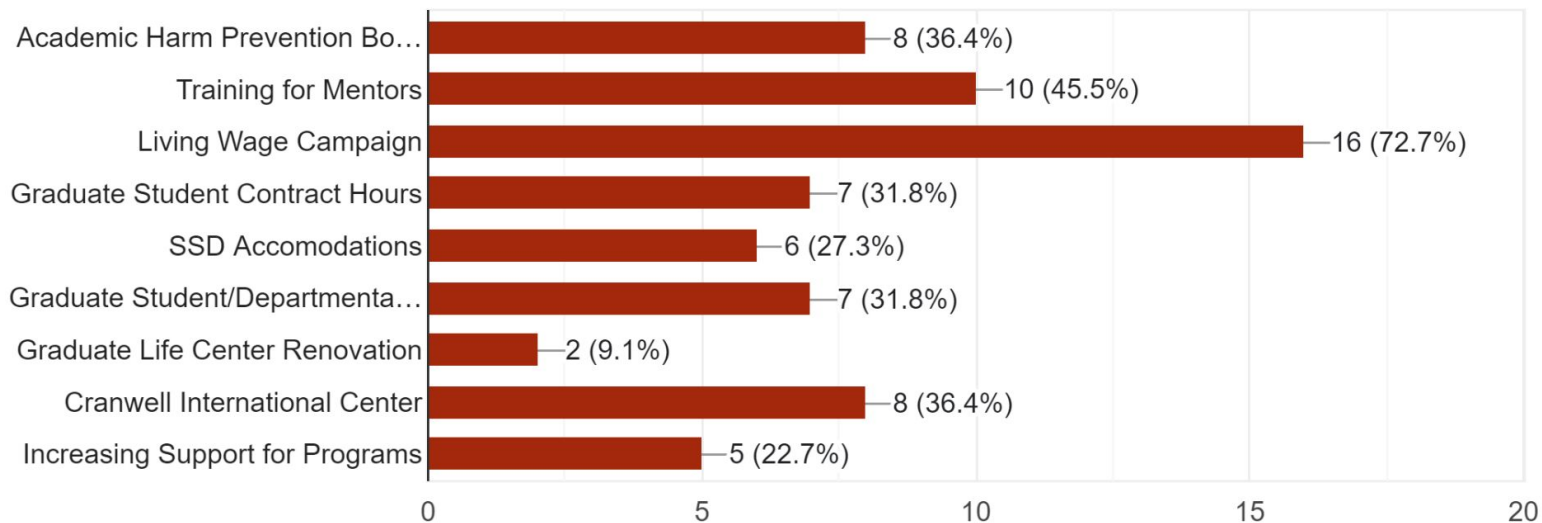
- Health Insurance: Draft survey has been created, reviewed

General Orders: Initiatives

<https://tinyurl.com/GPSSInitiatives>

Please pick the top three initiatives you would like to see actioned by the GPSS this semester.

22 responses



General Orders: Elections

Amended timeline for the 23-24 exec board elections.

02/20/23

Submission of Completed Candidate Packet Due to Elections Subcommittee Chair (email to taylorcl@vt.edu), this includes the Statement of Intent and Platform Statement

Unfinished Business:

None!

New Business:

None!

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).

Closing Remarks: RGSA BPDS

Roanoke Graduate Student Association (RGSA) sponsoring another Biomedical Professional Development Symposium (BPDS): June(ish) 2023!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19sBu6HiUMdd4QtZ1vjtbuLqaJrxaDYdF/view?usp=sharing>

Currently in the developmental phase, but seeking out leaders from other student orgs who are interested in co-facilitating.

Closing Remarks: 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

Closing Remarks: BOV Rep For Graduate Students

<https://bov.vt.edu/studentreps.html>.

Information Sessions:

- Monday, February 6 | 7:00-8:00pm | In Person - Brush Mountain A
- Tuesday, February 7 | 7:00-8:00pm | Zoom Meeting

Applications due February 19, 2023 at 11:59pm

Closing Remarks: Events

First Spring* Social: Friday Feb 10th 6-9pm, <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSFebSocial>

First Spring Listening Session: Wednesday Feb 8th 2:30-3:30pm

Events Calendar: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSEventsCalendar>

Conclusion

Motion to Adjourn!

Senate Discord:



tinyurl.com/GPSS22SenatorDiscord

Public GPSS Discord for all grad students:

tinyurl.com/GPSS22GradDiscord