

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

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0216Signin>

Slides Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0216Slides>

Sign-in Link: <https://tinyurl.com/GPSS0216Signin>

Voting Link:

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



# Senate Meeting

2nd February, 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
6. Unfinished business: None!
7. New business: CGPSA Res. 22-23A First Reading, Multiple Comments
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](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 Feb. 2nd 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
- Recruiting additional peer reviewers for Spring GRDP applications. Email Cissy Ming ([cissym@vt.edu](mailto:cissym@vt.edu)) if interested.
  - Reviewers especially needed in the following categories:  
Science/Engineering **and** quantitative methods
- Volunteer to review TFP applications! Can be done from anywhere, on any schedule before 3/5/22. E-mail [cissym@vt.edu](mailto:cissym@vt.edu) with number of hours you can commit.

# Director of Finance

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



# 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](mailto:gpss@vt.edu) or [chloerobertson@vt.edu](mailto:chloerobertson@vt.edu) to let me know about the changes!

# DIRECTOR OF EVENTS!

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

# President

Sexual Violence Climate and Culture Working Group Update:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ChuL13HDvpKdjtWtTskIkIgnygo39uO8/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ChuL13HDvpKdjtWtTskIkIgnygo39uO8/view?usp=share_link)

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
  - Report is being delivered to the Provost and Dean of the Grad School now.
  - 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 shared, please share widely!
  - <https://tinyurl.com/GPSSHealthInsuranceSurvey>

# 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 <a href="mailto:taylorcl@vt.edu">taylorcl@vt.edu</a> ), this includes the Statement of Intent and Platform Statement
02/23/23	Nominee Statements of Intent and Platform Statement will be sent out to Senators and published on GPSS website.
02/26/23 - 03/04/23 (TBC)	Meet and Greet with Candidates Event
03/06/22	Deadline for Candidates to Make Arrangements for their Personal Statements if they expect to miss 02/16 GPSS Meeting
03/09/23	Candidate Presentations, Questions & Answers, and GPSS Discussion on Candidates Voting Period Begins (after GPSS Meeting)
03/16/22	Voting Period Ends at 11.59pm
03/23/22	New Executive Board announced

# Unfinished Business:

None!

# New Business: First Reading CGPSA 22-23A

CGPSA 2022-2023 A: Resolution to Expand & Secure Access to Reproductive Care at Virginia Tech

Has heard first reading in CGPSA.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1X9tRfPLHwdv\\_sfhBxajRPNnghNzBxanJ/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1X9tRfPLHwdv_sfhBxajRPNnghNzBxanJ/view?usp=share_link)



# New Business: Comment CSPA 2022-23BA

CSPA Resolution 2022-23BA: Resolution to Revise the Staff Senate Constitution

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/11S4kDmkX-Nn8MLBRIDtEtxscNg-zsVny/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/11S4kDmkX-Nn8MLBRIDtEtxscNg-zsVny/view?usp=share_link)

# New Business: Comment CAPFA 2022-23B

CAPFA Resolution 2022-23B: Resolution to Revise Chapter 7, Section 7 of the Faculty Handbook

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-kiVR2fxcchNx5phWfufLsYFDAddl14K/view?usp=sharing>

# New Business: Comment CUSA 2022-23A

CUSA Resolution 2022-23A: Resolution to Approve Revisions and Updates to the Virginia Tech Student Code of Conduct

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/10GuXnoL6MZSWCWMrxakBbvTOs6gEuuYd/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/10GuXnoL6MZSWCWMrxakBbvTOs6gEuuYd/view?usp=share_link)

# 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: BOV Rep For Graduate Students

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

Applications due February 19, 2023 at 11:59pm

# Closing Remarks: Latinx Symposium

## *The 4th Latinx* **SYMPOSIUM**

INCLUSIVITY FOR A STRONGER VIRGINIA TECH

Highlighting the important teaching, research, and outreach work of the Latinx-Hispanic Virginia Tech Community.

Cool Panels and More!

Save the Date!  
Thursday  
March 2nd



Sign Up to Attend or Join a Committee!

# Fundraiser for Turkey Earthquake Relief

- At least 36,187 people died in southern Turkey
- Turkish Philanthropy Funds' Campaign
  - Monetary Donations are sent to NGOs in Turkey
  - <https://donate.tpfund.org/team/479874>
  - Credibility Check:
    - <https://www.charitynavigator.org/ein/208392006>
    - <https://greatnonprofits.org/org/turkish-philanthropy-funds-inc>



# Conclusion

Motion to Adjourn!

Events Calendar:

<https://tinyurl.com/GPSSEventsCalendar>

**Senate Discord:**



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

Public GPSS Discord for all grad students:

[tinyurl.com/GPSS22GradDiscord](https://tinyurl.com/GPSS22GradDiscord)