

GSA

General Assembly Meeting #8

Zoom Edition
March 18th, 2021



@VTGSA

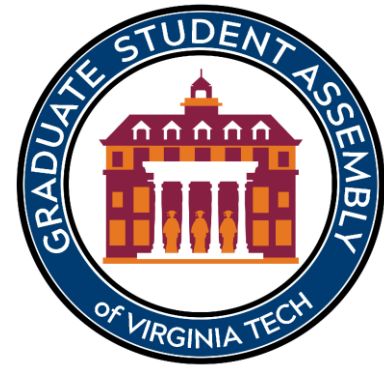


Graduate Student Assembly
of Virginia Tech



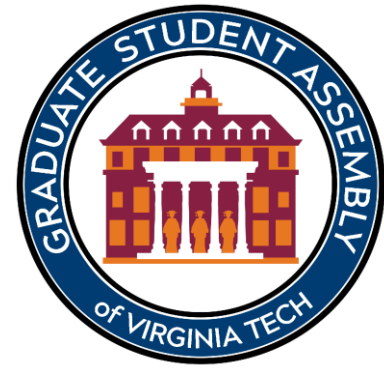
Gsa.vt.edu

This meeting is being recorded



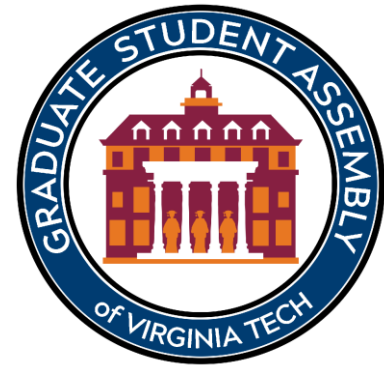
Agenda:

1. Quorum, approval of minutes & agenda
2. Agenda Items
 - a. Preliminary analysis of GSA Cost of Living Survey
 - b. Resolutions
 - i. CUSP 2020-21H and I
 - ii. CFA 2020-21G
 - iii. GSA 2020-21-2R
3. Subcommittee Updates
4. Standing Committee Updates
 - a. Graduate Student Budget Board
 - i. Updates from CSA Reps
 - ii. Update from Finance Committee
 - b. Internal Affairs/Judicial
 - i. New Constitution Updates
 - ii. GSA Elections
5. New Business
 - a. GSA Resolutions
 - i. Election Day
6. **Dean of Grad School Interviews**
7. Exec. Board Updates
 - a. VP
 - b. Finance
 - c. Programs
 - d. Events
 - e. Communications
 - f. Graduate Rep. to BoV
8. Open Forum
9. Closing/Adjournment



GSA Agenda Items

- a. Preliminary analysis of GSA Cost of Living Survey
 - b. Resolutions
 - i. CUSP 2020-21H and I
 - ii. CFA 2020-21G
 - iii. GSA 2020-21-2R



Graduate Cost of Living Survey

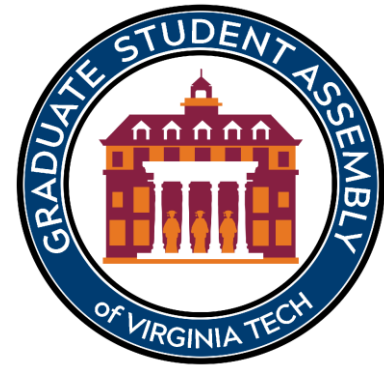
- Closed 3/12/21
- 1073 responses
- Full report by 4/18/21 (last assembly meeting)

Resolutions



- i. CUSP 2020-21H and I (Discontinue major)
- ii. CFA 2020-21G (Postdoc training limit)
- iii. GSA 2020-21-2R (Election Day Holiday)

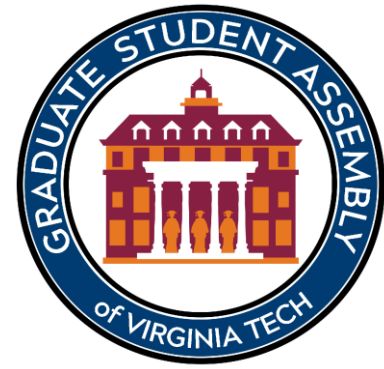
GSA 2020-21-2R (Election Day Holiday)



- Resolution requesting Election Day be a university holiday

Registrar:

- Number of days in the fall semester – Virginia Tech using the Carnegie Credit Hour definition to determine the amount of contact hours needed per credit. Currently the fall semester is already a day shorter than the Spring so reducing it further would be problematic.
- Impact on lab science – the largest disruption to instruction caused by non-class days is related to labs. Lab experiments are typically set up weekly and any non-class day causes disruption to this schedule. Lab Science departments have, in the past, strongly voiced their opposition to adding non-class days to any term.
- Any adjustment to the calendar would require a change to current policy.
- Needs to receive approval from Academic Support Committee (reports to CUSP)



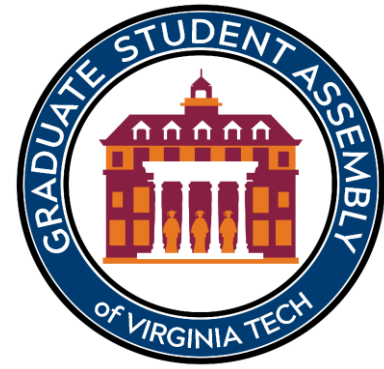
GSA Subcommittee Updates

a) Diversity

Diversity Subcommittee Update

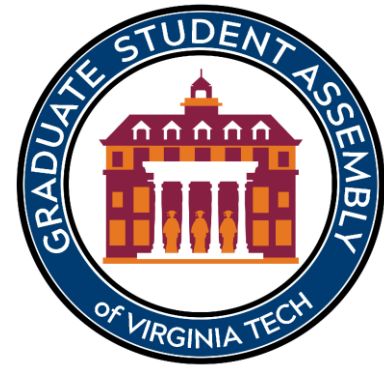


- Presented recommendations and action items to the Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies (CGPSP) on March 3rd
- As a result of CGPSP input, we revised one action item from recommending a contract between advisors and students to recommending a mandatory faculty training on the Expectations for Graduate Education
- Sabrina Sturgeon will present 3 actions items to the BOV this Sunday
- Maruf will submit the Diversity Subcommittee Report to the new dean
- Report posted on the GSA website



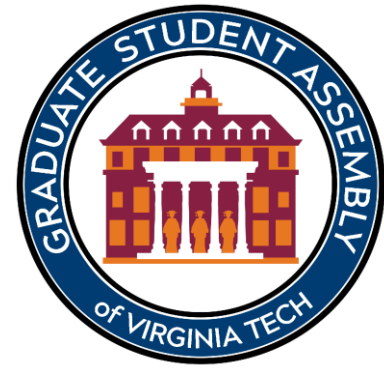
GSA Subcommittee Webpages

Reminder: Email Sharon Stidham
(sharon62@vt.edu) with progress/advocacy
efforts so everything can be published online.



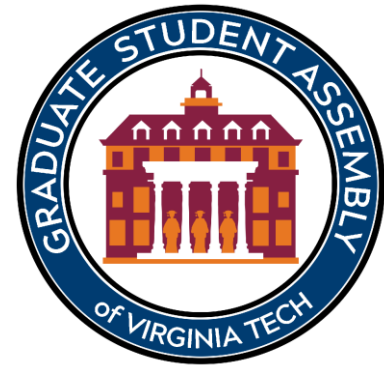
Standing Committee Updates

Judicial
Finance



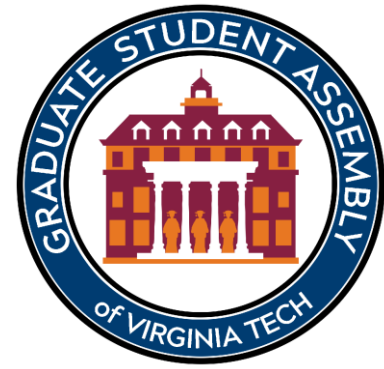
Judicial and Internal Affairs Committee

Constitution Update

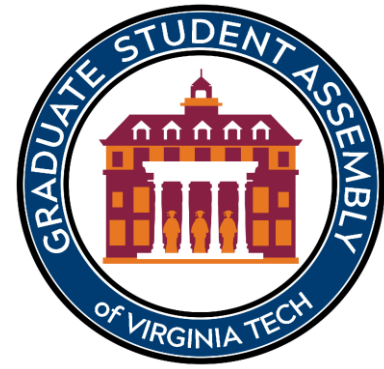


Constitution Resolution

- GSA 2020-21B
 - Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) → Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS)
 - Adopt new constitution



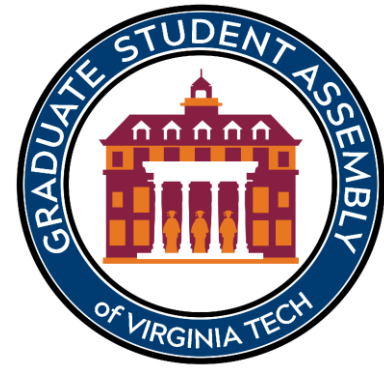
Finance



GSBB Update

- Pilot Phase-1: Application opens, Monday March 22
- Operating Budget- \$50,000
- GSBB Policy and Procedure approved by CSA
- Policy Procedure will be updated on the GSA website

GSBB Pilot Phase- Implementation



March 18th

CSA Vote on
GSBB Policy and
Procedure

March 19th

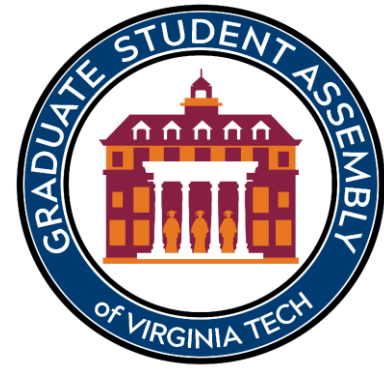
Training module
sent out to the
eligible
“Graduate”
student
organizations

March 22nd

Organizations
start requesting
GSBB funds

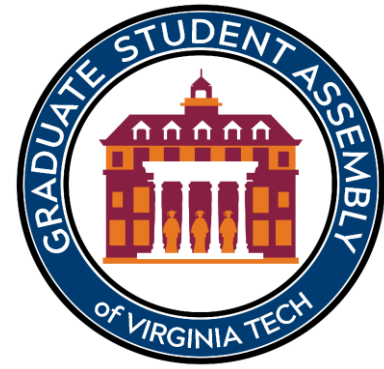
March 31st

First GSBB Board
Meeting and
hearing request



Election Plans

Committee on Judicial and Internal Affairs

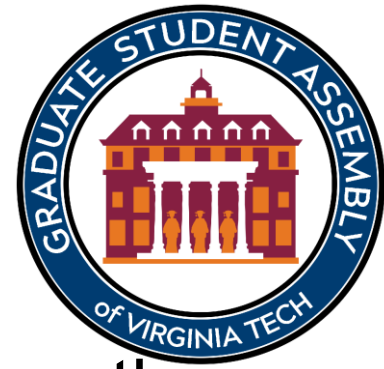


Disclaimer

The terms for the elected positions will:

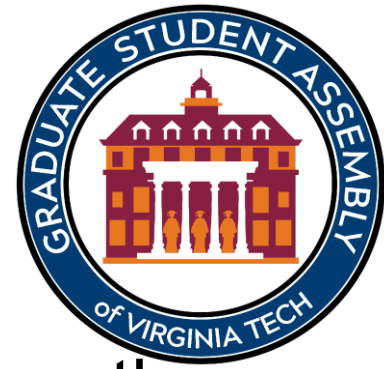
- Follow the current constitution, and
- End on the last day of the fall semester

Elections will be held again in November / December for positions in the new proposed constitution



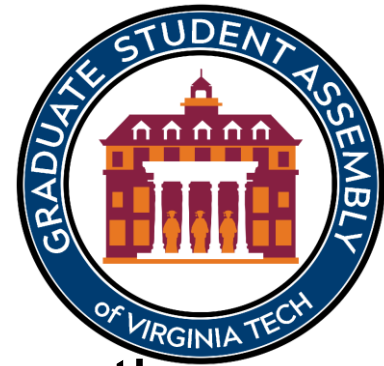
Steps:

- ~~Step 0: Assembly vote to confirm my (Aidan's) nomination as the coordinator of the election~~
- Step 1: Collect self-nominations for positions
 - ****Self-nomination deadline date: March 26****
 - Assembly receives list of candidates by **March 27**



Steps:

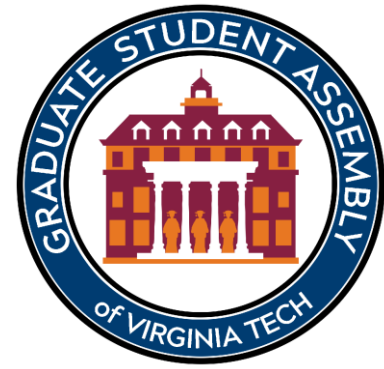
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- Step 2: Meet candidates and election day
 - "Meet the candidates" meeting, Date: **TBD**



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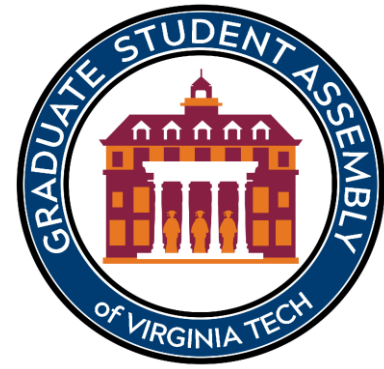
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 - Assembly receives list of candidates by **March 27**
- Step 2: Meet candidates and election day
 - “Meet the candidates” meeting, Date: **TBD**
 - Election day date: **April 22**
 - Candidates get time to speak
 - †Discussion occurs
 - †Voting occurs

†(will occur with candidates removed from main meeting room)



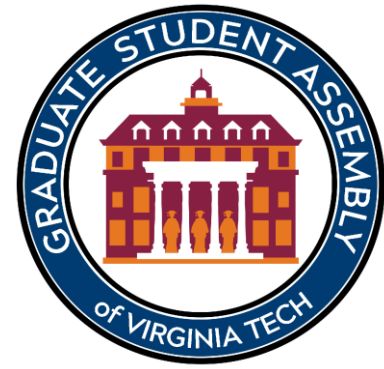
GSA Executive Board Updates

President



Student Activity Fees

- Student Budget Board has \$300,000 in excess funds this year. Dining Services is \$10 million in debt.
 - Proposal: reallocate excess funds to dining services. Thoughts?



Grad Dean Search

- 1 student from each college + Roanoke + DC Campuses
- Planning Session w/Maruf: March 22 - 6:30-7pm
- Interview Training session with Faculty Affairs: Thurs. March 25-1-2:30pm

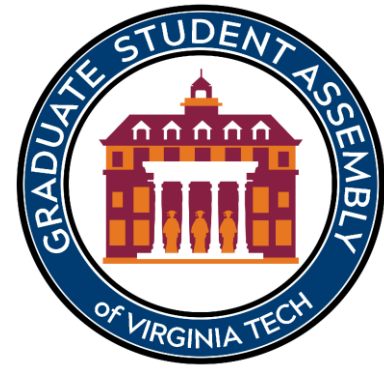
- Interview times with Graduate Students
 - Monday, March 29 - 1:15 – 2:45 pm
 - Thursday, April 1 - 1:15 – 2:45 pm
 - Wednesday, April 7 - 1:15 – 2:45 pm
 - Monday, April 12 - 1:15 – 2:45 pm

Grad Dean Search:



1. Agriculture & Life Sciences
2. Architecture & Urban Studies
3. Business
4. Engineering
5. Inter-College/Graduate School
6. Liberal Arts & Human Sciences
7. Natural Resources & Environment
8. Science
9. Medical
10. Diversity

Open Forum



Closing/Adjournment

