

**Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate**  
**February 16, 2022**  
**Via Zoom**

*Roll*

Roll for the meeting was taken and recorded via the Senate's Google Form

*Call to Order*

The regular meeting of the Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022.

President Holli Gardner Drewry called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM

*Amended Agenda*

The President requested the consent of the Senate to amend the agenda by adding an update on CGPSP 2021-22D under old business, which was granted.

*Minutes*

The Secretary-Treasurer moved the approval of the corrected minutes from the January 2022 meeting. LuJean seconded the motion which then passed.

*Old Business*

**Update on CGPSP 2021-22D: Resolution to Institute a Living Wage for Graduate Students**

The President provided an update on on CGPSP 2021-22D, the Resolution to Institute a Living Wage for Graduate Students. She mentioned that the resolution had been heavily amended from that first considered by the Senate in November 2021, and that it now mentions:

- Looking at cost of living and what students have to pay in Blacksburg and the Northern Virginia area
- Asking that the University commit to a living wage for graduate students, and that a task force be created to accomplish the work
- Currently says that the task force must have 51% graduate students. This particular point is of concern to the University Council, and will probably be removed at the Council's next meeting.

The Vice-President stated that changes are still being made, and no one has yet seen what will go up for a vote at the Council meeting. She mentioned that:

- GPSS is meeting this afternoon, and may have final version for reaction by February 17
- May need senators to approve quickly
- As it stands now, she would vote not to approve the resolution in the University Council - but that it is a very different resolution than what the Senate saw in November

- There is an option to request a deferral of the item at UC meeting

April Myers is looking for any individual comments. Email [vpagg@vt.edu](mailto:vpagg@vt.edu) by February 18

After discussion, Jon Green moved, seconded by Rob Emmett, to support the concept of the creation of the task force mentioned in the resolution, but not to approve the resolution itself, and also express concern from the Senate regarding the process regarding the resolution. The motion passed with 17 voting yes, and 4 voting no.

The President assured the Senate that, as soon as the final text of the resolution is received, she will distribute it to the Senators.

*New Business*

### **GPSS Representative**

Roghayeh Ansari was introduced as the new representative from the Graduate & Professional Student Senate.

### **Parking & Transportation Presentation**

Jeri Baker - Director of Parking & Transportation Services gave a presentation on the role and initiatives of Parking & Transportation. The presentation is available at:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1e7UaahqNe4h1CqITJX5\\_Ix1fLQA51rzy/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1e7UaahqNe4h1CqITJX5_Ix1fLQA51rzy/view?usp=sharing)

Following the presentation, it was noted that:

- Parking & Transportation is 100% self supporting
- North End Center garage may be next for tiered parking
- NW corner of 460 and Prices Fork Rd. may be area for remote parking
- Parking will be moving toward 24/7 parking enforcement over the next couple of years

### **CUSP 2021-22F Resolution: Resolution to Modify the Pathways to General Education Concept 5**

### **CGPSP Resolution 2021-22F: Resolution to Require Department Justification to Use the GRE in Graduate Admission Application Review**

The President noted that both resolutions are out for review. The Form to comment is online, and Senators should submit comments by Friday.

### **Nominations for Officers**

Kery Swaby noted that the online form is now available. The link is in the agenda and on the website. The form is to be used to nominate oneself or someone else to be an officer, and also to nominate an AP faculty member to be elected to the Senate. The Elections & Nominations Committee will send out an announcement to the CAPFA listserv for individuals to nominate themselves or others. The form will remain open until March 1, and elections will run from March 15 - 31.

### **CAPFA Updates**

The Vice-President (Chair of CAPFA) noted that:

- 2nd reading had been concluded of the 7 resolutions to add AP faculty members to councils and commissions, and that these all had been passed by University Council
- The commission is looking at a general overview of the AP faculty grievance process. It will be working through revisions, which will probably not be in effect until 2023-2024 *Faculty Handbook*. Through their process, the commission is focusing on transparency, fairness, and equity.

### **Communications Committee**

- Talked about supporting upcoming elections
- Sending election message to all AP faculty, and establishing norms
- Process for working on website updates

### **Policies & Issues Committee**

- Guidelines for responding to resolutions
- Plan for reaching out to other senates to see how their P&I committees work
- Potential topic for senate presentation: Understanding merit raise process

### **Elections & Nominations Committee**

- Working group meets on March 2 and start to putting together recommendations

### **Morale & Stress**

The President noted that she had been contacted by the President of the Teaching & Research Faculty Senate to learn about morale and stress levels among the AP faculty members with regard to working during the ongoing Pandemic. It was mentioned that faculty are generally experiencing some frustrations, and that people seem tired and overwhelmed.

### **IT Transformation Presentation**

The Senate will receive a presentation on the IT Transformation process at its March meeting.

*Announcements*

- Virginia Tech Giving Day is next week, and donations can be made to a variety of University funds.
- Culture & Context in the Performing Arts and many other opportunities are available for faculty at <https://profdev.tlos.vt.edu>
- Four significant resolutions are coming up for review. The President will send out the form to receive comments
- A new President's AP Faculty award is being developed similar to the staff award. It is hoped that it will be approved to be awarded in April.

*Adjournment*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Chad N. Proudfoot  
Secretary-Treasurer