



Staff Senate

<http://www.staffsenate.vt.edu/>

2018-2019

STAFF SENATE OFFICERS

President: Robert Sebek

University Libraries
6045 Newman Library
560 Drillfield Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24061
540-231-1849

rsebek@vt.edu

Vice President: Tammie Smith

Summer & Winter Sessions
EDM Marketing
300 Turner Street, NW
North End Center 3500
Blacksburg, VA 24061
540/231- 7327(O)

tjsmith@vt.edu

Secretary/Treasurer: Katrina Loan

Physics
120 Robeson Hall (0435)
850 West Campus Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24061

katrill@vt.edu

Parliamentarian: James Venable

Physics Robeson Hall (0435)
850 West Campus Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24061

jpv3@vt.edu

STANDING COMMITTEES CHAIRS

Communications

Bruce Harper (bharper@vt.edu),
University Relations/Creative Studio
(0336)

Elections and Nominations

Vacant

Policies and Issues

Judy Alford (judv.alford@vt.edu),
TLOS (0292)

McComas Leadership Seminar

Judy Taylor (taylor1@vt.edu),
Provost Office (0132)

July 19, 2018

Noon – 1:00pm, 220 New Classroom Building

AGENDA

Call to order by Robert Sebek

Attendance: Please sign the attendance sheet, including guests

Approval of Minutes: electronically

Welcome new senators: Mr. Sebek

Presentation on Shared Governance: Ellen Plummer, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Robert Sebek, President of Staff Senate

Responsibilities of Staff Senators: Mr. Sebek and Ms. Smith

Staff Senate Standing and Ad Hoc Committees: Updates and membership

- Communication: Mr. Harper
- Elections and Nominations: Mr. Sebek
- Policies and Issues: Ms. Alford
- McComas Leadership Seminar: Ms. Taylor
- Child Care: Ms. Loan
- Strategic Planning: Ms. Smith

Adjournment

Zoom Video Conferencing Information

<https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/742670384>

Staff Senate 2017-2018 summary

Staff Senate was involved with several projects across the university during the last academic year. Here is a list of accomplishments:

- President Sands released a statement on the importance of staff participation in shared governance.
- New staff associations were formed in Human Resources and Student Affairs, and those associations now send representatives to Senate.
- We started the process to remove the limit on the number of staff who could be awarded a Staff Career Achievement award that was ultimately approved by the Board of Visitors.
- Mr. Sebek served on the search committee for the new Vice President of Human Resources; the selected candidate should be announced soon.
- Ms. Smith served on the search committee for the new Chief Operating Officer, Dwayne Pinkney, who begins in August.
- Ms. Smith serves on the planning committee for the new university strategic plan.
- Mr. Sebek met with staff at the three campuses in the National Capital Region to get feedback on their ability to participate in shared governance and to hear issues unique to their region.
- The Senate passed a constitutional amendment to change the amendment process to end with University Council and the university president.
- The Senate approved a resolution to allow us to review resolutions passed by commissions before they are approved by University Council, giving this procedure to staff, undergraduate students, and graduate students as the faculty have previously had.
- The Senate formed an ad hoc committee to look into improving access to affordable child care. The committee has heard from a number of stakeholders and will release a preliminary report soon.
- The Senate formed an ad hoc committee to provide feedback on the new strategic plan to Ms. Smith, who is the only staff representative on the planning committee.
- Through our representatives on the Commission for Staff Policies and Affairs, the Senate has explored changes to the Winter Closing, inclement weather closings, supervisor training, and other issues that affect our lowest paid staff members.
- The Senate continued to sponsor meetings of staff association leadership to share practices and network.
- The Senate planned and sponsored the 2018 McComas Leadership Seminar that hosted 200 staff from across the university who heard presentations on the importance of mentoring.
- The Senate heard about programs from the Women's Center, Career and Professional Development, Sustainability Office, Recreational Sports, Hokie Wellness, VT-Carilion School of Medicine, VT Police and Emergency Management office, the Rector of the Board of Visitors, Transportation and Parking, Strategic Planning office, Human Resources, and President Sands.