

Staff Senate Constituency Report  
Virginia Tech Board of Visitors  
November 10, 2014  
Presented by Dan Cook, Staff Senate President

Rector Petrino, members of the Board of Visitors, President Sands, administrators and distinguished guests: I would like to thank you for this opportunity to speak with you about what has been happening in the recent months in regard to Virginia Tech's staff.

The staff are now fully immersed in the new academic year and moving onward. We have had a number of folks come and give presentations at the monthly Staff Senate meetings. To name a few: in September, we were honored to have President Sands come and give a little of his vision for the Hokie Nation and answer questions. It was not nearly as riveting as those posed by Brian Lamb just last month, but many people attended and got a lot out of his talk. In October we had Dale Robinson, the Compliance and Conflict Resolution Manager come speak with us about what his office can provide. Later this month we will hear from the Director of Emergency Management, Mr. Mike Mulhare and soon, from Ms. Angela King the Director of Employee Benefits will talk to the Staff Senate about retirement planning. All of this is in the hope that the more informed our senators become about the services and people here on campus, the more will filter down to their constituency base.

I would be remiss if I didn't make some mention of the historical events of this past month, the Presidential Installation of Dr. Timothy Sands. It took a number of dedicated people many hours to plan and execute. For many, it may have looked like just another high profile ceremony, and not too much thought went beyond that. Being involved myself; I can certainly say there was a **LOT** of thought that went into it. Thought went into every detail, and it was on display for all to see. Many turned out to take part in the procession, at last count, there were about 300 to 350 folks, both faculty and staff that participated. The staff members that I spoke with, were very complimentary of being asked to be an active member of the history being made that day.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak to the Board on behalf of the staff of Virginia Tech and welcome any questions or comments that you may have.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Cook  
President, Staff Senate