

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
STAFF SENATE
1810 Litton Reaves
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 16, 1998

Senators Present: Spencer Allen, Sheila Blankenship, Reba Crawford, Jack Davis, Barbara Day, Jill Elswick, Judy Fielder, Janet Francis, Tom Hergert, Delbert Jones, Terry Lawrence, Nancy Phillips, Ben Poe, Tina Shanklin, Jennifer Simba, Joy Thorn, Virginia Viers, Jon Wooge

Alternates: Rebecca Barlow, Barbara Hise voting for Matt Gart, Deb Williams voting for Cindy Harrison, Pam Raines voting for Charles Rose

Excused: Matt Gart, Cindy Harrison, Mary Pennington, Peggy Rasnick, Charles Rose, Janet Town

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM

Minutes of the March 19, 1998 were approved. Note: Minutes were approved except the minutes on Dr. Torgersen's presentation. Those minutes were changed and approved by his office.

Guest Speaker – Cathy Jacobs – Office of Family Support Services – Note: Cathy was asked to give Staff Senate a presentation on the Office of Family Support Services. After her presentation, I asked her to give me a write up of what she would like Va. Tech. to know about her office and the services she offers. Below is what she submitted for the minutes:

We all know that there are not enough hours in the day to do what needs to be done. Maintaining the delicate balance between the work and family components of our lives can present a special challenge. The **VT Office of Family Support (OFS)** provides help to all employees and students through offerings such as:

- ⇒ listings of Child Care Options including child care centers and preschools, family day care providers, and temporary providers who will come to your home,
- ⇒ information on Choosing Child Care to assist in selecting the best care situation for your child or children,
- ⇒ our library of Books and Brochures on topics related to parenting and other family issues,
- ⇒ a collection of 21 Videos for Parents on topics ranging from newborns, to special needs to single parenting,
- ⇒ a data base of Community Supports and Resources available to families throughout the New River Valley. This includes local groups and organizations, as well as a broad selection of books and videos held by local agencies,
- ⇒ Family Focus, a series of brown bag workshops on family issues available to all employees and students,
- ⇒ A listing of all public and private Schools in the New River Valley
- ⇒ information about Support Groups which cover topics such as parenting, weight loss, dependency, cancer, grief and others,
- ⇒ a description of Counseling Services in the New River Valley including information about types of services offered and cost,
- ⇒ Connections to agencies which can offer support to families who have members with Disabilities,
- ⇒ Elder Care Options including listings of providers who can care for elderly family members, as well as names of local retirement and nursing homes, hospice care and home health agencies,
- ⇒ Resource for Seniors including information about local events and services, connections with national resources, and access to books, videos, and brochures available through the OFS,

- ⇒ Training and Support for Child Care Providers offered through our extensive library of books, videos and brochures, workshops and homestudy programs,
- ⇒ Information for women such as offerings from the VT Women's Center, and educational events
- ⇒ Fun Things to do in the New River Valley which includes information about local museums, libraries, community goings-on and much more,
- ⇒ WWW Links of Interest can be found on our Webpage and connects to sites related to family issues such as child care, parenting, time management, child development and more,
- ⇒ Neat Things at Virginia Tech includes information about performances, exhibits, and interesting features of the university such as the horticulture gardens and Smithfield Plantation.

Visit the OFS Home Page at

<http://vtprojects.elps.vt.edu/ofs/ofs.html>

or

contact Theresa at 231-3213

treed@vt.edu

We are at 404 Clay Street, Blacksburg, VA 24061 (Mail Code 0537)

Committee Reports –

McComas Committee – Judy Fielder reported the McComas Leadership Seminar was held 4-16-98. It was a very successful event. She will give a detailed report to Staff Senate at the May meeting.

Council, Committees, Commissions Reports –

Commission on Faculty Affairs – Tom Hergert reported the commission approved an overload policy that states a payment for a faculty member will be a little more than an adjunct.

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies – Barbara Day reported the calendar for 2000 and 2001 was approved. A possible fall break (4 days - Friday & Monday) may be revisited in the future.

New Business –

Nominations and Elections – Virginia Viers, Chairman took nominations from the floor for Senate Officers and Council, Commission and Committee seats. The nominees that were present were introduced. The election will take place in the May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy Thorn, Secretary