

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE

**1810 Litton Reaves**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

**Thursday, August 17, 2000**

**Senators present:** Jennifer Arbuckle, Jeannie Baker, Becky Barlow, Mary Ann Cole, Melissa Coleman, Linda Correll, Reba Crawford, Sue Ellen Crocker, Carolyne Dudding, Delbert Jones, Jimmy Martin, Suzanne Piovano, Ben Poe, Pam Raines, Hilda Reynolds, Tal Roberts, Wyatt Sasser, Kathryn Young

**Alternates present:** Patrick Donohoe (representing Sheila Blankenship), Cindy Harrison (representing Pam Raines from BASA), and Virginia Knapp

**Excused:** Jessie Eaves, Lynne Ellis, Christy Porterfield, Debbie Wilson, and Jon Wooge

President Delbert Jones called the Virginia Tech Staff Senate to order. He welcomed the newly elected Staff Senators. Tal Roberts from Nature Resources and Melissa Coleman from College of Human Resources and Education, and Virginia Knapp from College of Human Resources and Education were introduced as new members. The senate membership list is complete, and roll was called from the newest version. President Jones as promised passed out to the Staff Senators present, a copy of guidelines and information on how the Senate is organized and how to use parliamentary procedures at the meetings.

Last month's minutes (July 20, 2000) were approved electronically.

Guest speaker: Steve Mouras from Parking Services presented information about the Transportation & Parking Concept Paper; A Holistic Approach for Virginia Tech and Transportation & Parking Initiatives, Fall 2000 papers. This paper attempts to structure the discussion about transportation and parking at the university and not deal with it as a little tiny component. The transportation and parking concepts need to be viewed as a holistic system as an intergraded infrastructure that sits over the whole university. The university has 33,000 people in our "town" and 1,200 parking spaces with people are continually driving through, parking here, and walking around. The Department of Transportation and Parking services are looking for ways that will yield future benefits maximizing the parking spaces, but not by building more lots. The future goal is to provide decreasing less parking for students and maintain appropriate parking for faculty and staff. There is a need to adjust the definition of "adequate" parking for students, faculty, and staff. Over the past several years there has been a sufficient increase in the number of student parking permits sold. The main point is that in the future with additional buildings being constructed, taking away additional space, the university needs to re-define their view on what "adequate" parking is to be. There will be and have been initiatives put into place to maximize the existing spaces on campus by reducing the number violators. Giving tickets to violators is not a procedure that is basically intended to punish but eventually change behaviors. The new concepts and rules for parking services can be found on the parking services web page at [www.ps.vt.edu](http://www.ps.vt.edu). Steve also reviewed the new gate system that is going to be put into place at the Architectural Building. There were several questions posed to Steve about gate systems and transponders. Several individual senators posed questions about park and ride situations being put into place in Christiansburg in the RT 114 area. There were several suggestions concerning The Two Town Trolley and Blacksburg Transit, and then the suggestion was made to bring all three managing operational mangers together and meeting with the entire university. Donaldson Brown / Squires lot has been officially divided if you park on the right hand side of this lot you will receive a ticket if you do not have a DBHCC pass. The Grove Lane problem will be looked at by Capital Design and will be approached by next summer. Football parking will be a problem, there have been more seat placed at Lane Stadium.

**Announcements:**

All Staff Senators and Senate Alternates please pass on all information that you receive. This is very important information that could be useful to all University employees.

The October 19, 2000 Staff Senate meeting will be held at 5:30pm. There will be a social for guests Joan Dent, Executive Director of Virginia Governmental Employees Association (VGEA), and Glen Pond,

Legislative Representative from VGEA. The social and address will count as a full Staff Senate meeting for all senators. All senators, alternates, and staff association officers will be invited by email. Also invited will be VDOT, Radford University, New River Community College, Virginia Tech employees and others.

For your information, the dues for VGEA are \$24/year. You may choose to have \$1/pay period taken out of your regular salary check.

**Standing Committees' Reports:**

Communications Committee: Communications Committee will need to submit a budget. There will be another meeting with Larry Hinker on August 22, 2000. Please remember that the Spectrum is to be used as a vehicle to get all information out to the University community.

We need a volunteer to serve on a committee for an Electric Service Facility. Tal Roberts volunteered to serve on this committee.

NOTE: Next Staff Senate meeting will be September 21, 2000 at 12-noon at Room 126 at the War Memorial Gym.

Motion was made to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

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