

Staff Senate Minutes  
May 18, 2006  
1810 Litton Reaves

The meeting was called to order. Welcome was given. Agenda was approved.

Present: Kevin Ayoub, Susan Archer, Lee Bishop, Jean Brickey, Catherine Caldwell, Shelby Cole, Linda Correll, Carolyne Dudding, Jennifer Hundley, Travis Hundley, C. Denise Jones, Delbert Jones, Lori Lee, Maxine Lyons, Jimmy Martin, Deborah Morgan, David Pluska, Linda Price, Wyatt Sasser, Becky Saylor, Bradley Scott, Tess Sentelle, Louellen Sharp, Chris Thomas, Hubert Walker

Excused: Judy Alford, Robin Atkins, Sue Ellen Crocker, Tracy McCoy, Lynn Robinson, Lori Anne Sheppard, Joyce Smith, Ken Wieringo, Jon Wooge

Guest: Kurt Krause

Maxine Lyons was nominated and approved to be Staff Senate Secretary for 2006-2007 beginning 1 July 2006.

McComas Seminar was attended by 84 people. A follow-up meeting will be held at the end of June.

Two Associations are being established and are writing their Bylaws and Constitutions. The Provost Office is the next area to visit and try to establish an Association.

Staff Senate is outgrowing the meeting room in Litton Reaves. Suggestions for other space that might hold a big group were given.

Kurt Krause indicated that the Restructuring Plan is on the Governor's Desk. There are some principles of the plan that both parties have to agree on. The classification system the State currently has could be changed with the new plan.

Capital Master Plan: The new sanitation line being installed should be completed by July 4, 2006. The Master Plan is still being developed for the next 10 years and 20 years. How does VT use the acres they currently have to benefit the University the most? This plan support the Strategic Plan that says we need to build Research Buildings to get more Research money in order to build more Research Buildings so we could use some of the State's money to build parking garages. A building costs \$8 million where a garage costs \$12-15 million. All future buildings will be built with Hokie Stone – no more high-rise towers like Slusser Tower. The Plan wants to preserve as much green space as possible, involve people in decision making, and improve the campus infrastructure system. There will be more roundabouts (traffic circles) installed on campus. There was one problem experienced during the Commencement activities when a one-way sign was put around the circle. There have not been any pedestrian/car accidents on Washington Street this year. Improving the lights, road signs, and decreasing the congestion have improve the visibility of the pedestrians.

There are three districts on campus – the Core Campus; the Research, Vet Med, Life Science, Biology, and Agricultural District; and the Golf Course District.

The Core Campus will remain around the Drillfield and for Undergraduate Studies. The Vet Med, Life Science, Biology, and Agricultural District will be the focus of the next 10 years and the Golf Course District will be developed in the next 20 years. Corporate Research Center (CRC) is just about complete now. There are 90 acres that can be developed at the Dairy. There are 17 buildings at CRC. The airport extension will require everything up to the new Dairy Barn be removed. VT does have options where a lot of Universities don't. Blacksburg Transit will remain making the Ramble Road route for now. Recreational fields and facilities will have to be protected in the plan. Parking facilities will have to be created. During the next 10 years, parking will definitely be changing – garages will be built and fees will increase. There are over 23,000 registered cars for 13,000 parking spaces. A new power plant will have to be built in the next 20 years.

The façade of Litton Reaves will be fixed, a 40,000 sq. ft surge building is going to be built in lower Stanger lot, and the Performing Arts Building will be upgraded. Putting parking under the new buildings is not an option due to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV) guidelines. Ninety-six percent of those who ride the BT are students. The Building Marshall will be inspecting the Stadium at the end of May. There are approximately 3000 free parking permits given out each year to 30-year employees, retirees, BOV, etc. The occupants of the new building at the University Mall entrance will pay for VT parking. Pack Building employees do not pay to park. The projection is in 20 years the whole University Mall area will be used by the University. There are plans to widen the intersection of West Campus Drive and Prices Fork Road.

Reminder to sign up for the courses President Steger has opened up to staff members.

NEXT MEETING: June 15, 2006 with Betsy Flanagan as the speaker.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyne S. Dudding