

STAFF SENATE Minutes  
117A Randolph Hall  
June 27, 2013  
Noon – 1:00 pm

**Attending:** Bonnie Alberts, Judy Alford, Susan Archer, Dan Cook, Robert French, Teresa Gallegos, Kristin Gilbert, Amanda Grose, Bhadra Gunesequera, Anna Hawthorne, Valerie Henderson, Dennis Herron, Cathy Hill, Hal Irvin, Denise Jones, Maxine Lyons, Karen Nicholson, Sakiko Okumoto, Heather Patel, Angie Robinson, Wyatt Sasser, Becky Saylor, Robert Sebek, Llyn Sharp, Louellen Sharp, Amy Tanner, Sue Teel, Tom Tucker, Nick Vaught, Tami Watson, Ken Wieringo, Amanda Williams, Jon Wooge

**Excused:** Joseph Goodman, Velva Groover, Karen Hall, Donna Raines, Ashley Roberts, Leslie Thornton-O'Brien, Sally Wieringa

**Guest:** President Charles Steger, Jennifer Hundley, Travis Hundley, Amberson Cox, Tanner Upthegrove, Adam Soccolich, Steven Myers

**Remote Attendance:** Northern Virginia Center in the National Capital Region connected.

**Opening:** Adoption of Agenda approved. All minutes have been sent out electronically.

**Announcements:** Please send Leslie Thornton-O'Brien ([lthornto@vt.edu](mailto:lthornto@vt.edu)) a note if you will not be in attendance at the Staff Senate meeting so that she may mark you excused.

**Staff Senate Standing Committees – No Updates**

**All Senators are expected to sign up for one standing committee, per Staff Senate by-laws.**

**Program:**

**Dr. Charles Steger, President, Virginia Tech**

- **Update on tenure as President**
  - **Thanks to all staff for the role and importance they play in the functioning of the University**
  - **Staff governance: Virginia Tech was the first in the state and one of the first in the nation to have a staff person sit on the Board of Visitors. It has been successful here because of the way that those people have carried out that role. Staff governance has been extremely helpful and successful.**
  - **Since 2000, our square footage has tripled.**
  - **At any given time, there is \$1.1 billion in renovations going on.**
  - **Research funding has almost tripled.**
  - **All of this is due to our shared commitments.**
  - **Applauds the sense of commitment at Tech.**
  - **Average student loan is \$24,000, only 1% goes into default.**
  - **Believes there will be a large upheaval in the way higher education is financed.**

**Next Meeting:** July 18, 2013

**Speaker:** Tom Tucker

Location: 310 ICTAS

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Thornton-O'Brien  
Senate Secretary