

STAFF SENATE Minutes  
2420 North End Center  
October 17, 2013  
Noon – 1:00 pm

**Attending:** Bonnie Alberts, Susan Archer, Dan Cook, Kristin Gilbert, Amanda Grose, Bhadra Gunsekera, Karen Hall, Anna Hawthorne, Valerie Henderson, Dennis Herron, Cathy Hill, Robena Hughes, Maxine Lyons, Donna Raines, Becky Saylor, Wyatt Sasser, Robert Sebek, Louellen Sharp, Amy Tanner, Leslie Thornton-O'Brien, Sally Wieringa, Ken Wieringo

**Excused:** Judy Alford, Lori Greiner, Velva Groover, Denise Jones, Alex Parrish, Ashley Roberts, Llyn Sharp, Sue Teel, Amanda Williams, Jon Wooge

**Guest:** Steve Myers

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

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

**Announcements:**

**Staff Senate Standing Committees - Updates**

Policies and Issues – Anna Hawthorne *This committee met, no updates*

McComas Leadership Seminar Planning Committee – Dennis Herron & Amanda Williams *meeting after today's meeting*

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

**University Council, Commission, Committee Reports –**

- Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies – Dan Cook speaking on behalf of Beth Alley - Staff Senate rep for graduate studies and policies – Dean DePauw wants to increase graduate students by 1000 over the next year; this will impact staff, but how? Looking for ideas of ways we can recruit more graduate students whether it be through different classes, certificates, etc. Send questions or issues to Dan Cook. This group is meeting from 2:30 – 4:30 at the Graduate Life Center in Room F.

**General Information:**

- Final Governor debate here on campus; VGEA will kick off an "I'm a state employee and I vote" campaign October 24, 2013 in Haymarket Theater, Squires Student Center, 7pm **MUST HAVE A TICKET**
- Next meeting reminder
- Climate survey – **please fill out the survey**

**Program – Major General Randal Fullhart, Commandant of the Corps of Cadets**

- Lot of great things going on with the Corps
- Lot of great things getting ready to happen
- Lots of enduring things
- Just passed the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Corps of Cadets
- Showed video on Corps of Cadets (Please see <http://www.vtcc.vt.edu> for more information)
- Today it is 1071 (largest since 1978)
- Corps has reps from 39 states and 10 other countries
- Current statistics:
  - 34% enrolled in Army ROTC
  - >25% in both Navy and Air Force ROTC
- Army Regimental model
- Rice Center for Leader Development falls under the College of Business
- Vision is to develop Global, Ethical leaders
- Average corps GPA is 3.11
- There is no quota from VT to military and our cadets have to compete with every other ROTC program in the country
- Commissioning rate is 75% for VT
- Advisory board formed for the Rice Center for Leader Development
- New facilities
- No changes to Major Williams and Shanks
- Corps by definition is a 4 year program (there are a few 5 year cadets who are finishing their degree)
- Jazz on the upper quad will be back in the spring

- **Special program open at 3:30pm on October 31<sup>st</sup> – 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Skipper, then 21 gun salute at War Memorial Hall**

**Next meeting:**

November 21, 2013

Speaker: Scott Weimer, Director, Continuing and Professional Education

Location: TBD

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Thornton-O'Brien  
Senate Secretary

Report from the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs (COIA)

COIA Chair Christine Fiori 2012-13

Staff Senate representative Llyn Sharp (2012-15)

### **AY 2012-2013 COIA REPORT**

COIA has broad responsibilities for numerous efforts and centers across Virginia and the world. The charge to the COIA can be found on the [www.outreach.vt.edu](http://www.outreach.vt.edu) webpage under quicklinks.

On April 25, 2013, Dr. Guru Ghosh became the Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs. Dr. Ghosh previously served as the Associate Vice President for International Affairs.

Main topics of discussion during AY 2012-13 in the COIA were:

- revision of the University Alumni Outreach Award criteria and timing to increase participation.
- how to structure and encourage international experiences and collaborations for faculty and students.
- how to measure, and therefore define and encourage, “engagement” or “outreach” for (non-Extension) faculty.

“As a public land-grant university, Virginia Tech manifests a revolutionary development in American higher education. The university was founded by the public trust to build and disseminate useful knowledge for its ultimate application to improve the lives of citizens throughout the Commonwealth and beyond...Today, the discussion of relevance and historic public responsiveness has evolved into one on engagement. The lexicon has changed, but our committed responsiveness to the public good has not..” [from “Engaged Scholarship at Virginia Tech” white paper.]