

# Staff Senate

<http://www.staffsenate.vt.edu/>

March 21, 2019  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  
1100 Torgersen Hall

## MINUTES

**Attendees:** *Judy Alford, Lisa Bishop, Lori Buchanan, LaTawnya Burleson, Angel Carter, Pat Donovan, Lee Ann Ellis, Bruce Harper, Robena Hughes, Amy Ingram, Zerita Montgomery, Brandy Morse, Steve Nagle, Robert Sebek, Devon Smith, Tamarah Smith, Judy Taylor, Kathy Wilkes, Beverly Williams*

**Zoom Attendee(s):** *Wayne Crotto, Chad Dalton, Kim Dulaney, Carolyn Hopkins, Dani McNeil, Sheree Montgomery, MaDonna Overstreet, Hanna Parks, Erin Poff, Jonathan Poff, Kim Ridpath, Amber Robinson, Raksha Sharma, Laura Steinberg,*

**Speaker(s):** *Robert Sebek, Devon Smith, & Dwyn Taylor*

**Excused:** *Deborah Breon, Velva Groover, Katrina Loan, Peite Martin, Sarah Owen, Heather Parrish, Teresa Smith, James Venable III, Amanda Villar, Sarah Woodward*

### Call to order at 12:06 p.m. by President, Robert Sebek

The agenda was electronically submitted to senators on Friday, March 15, 2019. With one addition, the agenda was approved at the meeting.

**Attendance sheet for check-in was available near room entrance.**

### Approval of Minutes

Approval of February 2019 minutes was done electronically.

### Update from the Staff Senate President

Mr. Sebek

- BOV upcoming meeting (3/29/19 – 3/30/19): will see new presentation on child care, parking and compensation
- Details for the coming pay raise for pay bands 1 & 2 was sent out by Robert Sebek on Wednesday, March 27
- Policy changes coming out for Commission on Research – sent out by Robert Sebek on Thursday, March 21

### Standing Committee Updates:

**Communication:** *Bruce Harper* – Promoting Staff Appreciation Day – will hold a meeting soon

**Elections & Nominations:** *Judy Taylor* – Nominations due by 5 pm on 3/28/19

**Policies & Issues:** *Judy Alford* – No updates

**McComas Leadership Seminar:** *Amy Ingram* – event will take place on March 27, 2019 at the Inn, put it on your calendar; great speakers

### Staff/Faculty Dependent & Spouse Scholarship fund: Devon Smith, Asst. Director for Annual Giving

- See presentation sent out by Robert Sebek
- 526 staff members participated in this year's Giving Day
- Cannot give tuition waivers as benefit to dependents or spouses – so they started an endowment fund to do this

- As of 2018 this scholarship has awarded \$146,000
- To be eligible: must be full time student, have a parent or spouse working at VT, fill out a FAFSA form, mark on application that parent or spouse works at VT
- HR then verifies and the person will get a scholarship
- Everyone who applies will get something; amounts are based on the number of students and how much money is available that year
- Selection is made by a committee
- Can give by payroll deduction, recurring gift, one time gift, or planned giving (benefit from an estate or life insurance)
- Fill out the form, put in a sealed envelope and send it to Gift Accounting

**Upcoming Campus Construction Projects:** Dwyn Taylor, Assistant Vice President for Capital Construction & Renovations

- see presentation sent out by Robert Sebek
- Capital Projects must be approved by the BOV, increase square footage by at least 5,000 sq. ft, or exceed \$3 million in total project costs
- About 4 year process to get projects approved and completed
- More projects in this next year than ever before; here is what is happening in the next 6 months – 1 year
  - 1) Chiller Plant Phase II – near cage lot; starting in Spring 2019; increase capacity and connect the 2 plants; impacts most of campus; open for bids 2 weeks ago and in the process of awarding the bid; should start in June 2019 and take 30 months to complete
  - 2) Creativity & Innovation District LLC – 3 dorms at the old University Club locations; have 600 beds; 3 buildings will be connected; now under construction; 2 years to complete; should open in Fall 2021
  - 3) Holden Hall – renovation & replacement; front part of the building will be renovated while the back will be demolished; going under construction in June 2019; open in the Fall 2021
  - 4) Student Wellness – War Memorial Hall renovation and Schiffert Health Center renovation; start December 2019 is anticipated; 2 year time frame for completion; Schiffert may stay partly open if possible which may slow completion time
  - 5) Package Boiler #2 – turn old coal boiler into steam or natural gas boiler; taking bids starting in April; increase capacity by January 2020
  - 6) Student Athlete Performance Center – above the football practice field behind Cassell; design for bid going out in April; dining expansion for student athletes; starting construction in Summer 2019; will take 15 months to complete
  - 7) Undergrad Science Lab – under design now but not funded fully yet; north of the New Classroom Building on Perry Street; finish design in December 2019; hoping state will fund next year; start construction in 2021 if funded
  - 8) Hitt Hall & New Dining Center – connected to Bishop-Favrao Hall; 600 seat dining hall; construction to start in the Fall 2019; finished in the Fall 2021; donor/dining funded
  - 9) Merryman Center Weight Room – renovation for student athletes
  - 10) Multi Modal Transfer Facility (MMTF) – managed by the Town of Blacksburg; create 2 bus stations with shelters on loops for West Campus Drive and Stanger St; currently under design but over budget so correcting design to get back under budget; starting in Spring 2020
- Lots of these will reduce the amount of parking for everyone; can see more by looking at the 30 Year Master Plan for the University
- Robert is trying to get more information about the loss of parking spaces for these new projects

**Next meeting:** TBA

**Next Meeting Date:**

The next meeting date is April 18, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.

**Adjourned** 1:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brandy Morse

Revised by:

Katrina Loan