



Staff Senate

Minutes, Nov. 17, 2022 Regular Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Virginia Tech Staff Senate was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by President Serena Young. The agenda was adopted as submitted.

There were two presentations at this meeting. The first was an overview of the shared governance system at Virginia Tech and the role the Staff Senate plays in the new structure that went into effect in July 2022. April Myers, Director of Governance Administration, and Lori Buchanan, Senior Manager of Governance Administration, were the presenters. Their presentation is attached to these minutes.

The second presentation was presentation on the new health services available to employees. TimelyCare is a virtual health service with three distinct services for employees to access: TalkNow, which connects you to a mental health professional; twelve scheduled counseling appointments; and health coaching opportunities. Care.com will be offering backup child and adult care services as a subsidized solution to assist when regular care is unavailable. Ana Agud from Hokie Wellness was the presenter. Her presentation is attached to these minutes.

The meeting closed with an announcement urging staff to participate in the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign (CVC). Donations through the charitable campaign support many local organizations; donors can choose where funds are channeled when signing up to donate.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, January 19, 2023. There will not be a meeting in December.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce B. Harper
Staff Senate Secretary



Overview of Shared Governance at Virginia Tech

April Myers

Director of Governance Administration

and

Lori Buchanan

Senior Manager of Governance Administration



What is Shared Governance?

1. Shared responsibility and cooperation among all groups
2. Major groups have collective voice on matters of policy and procedure
3. Responsibilities are allocated according to areas of competence

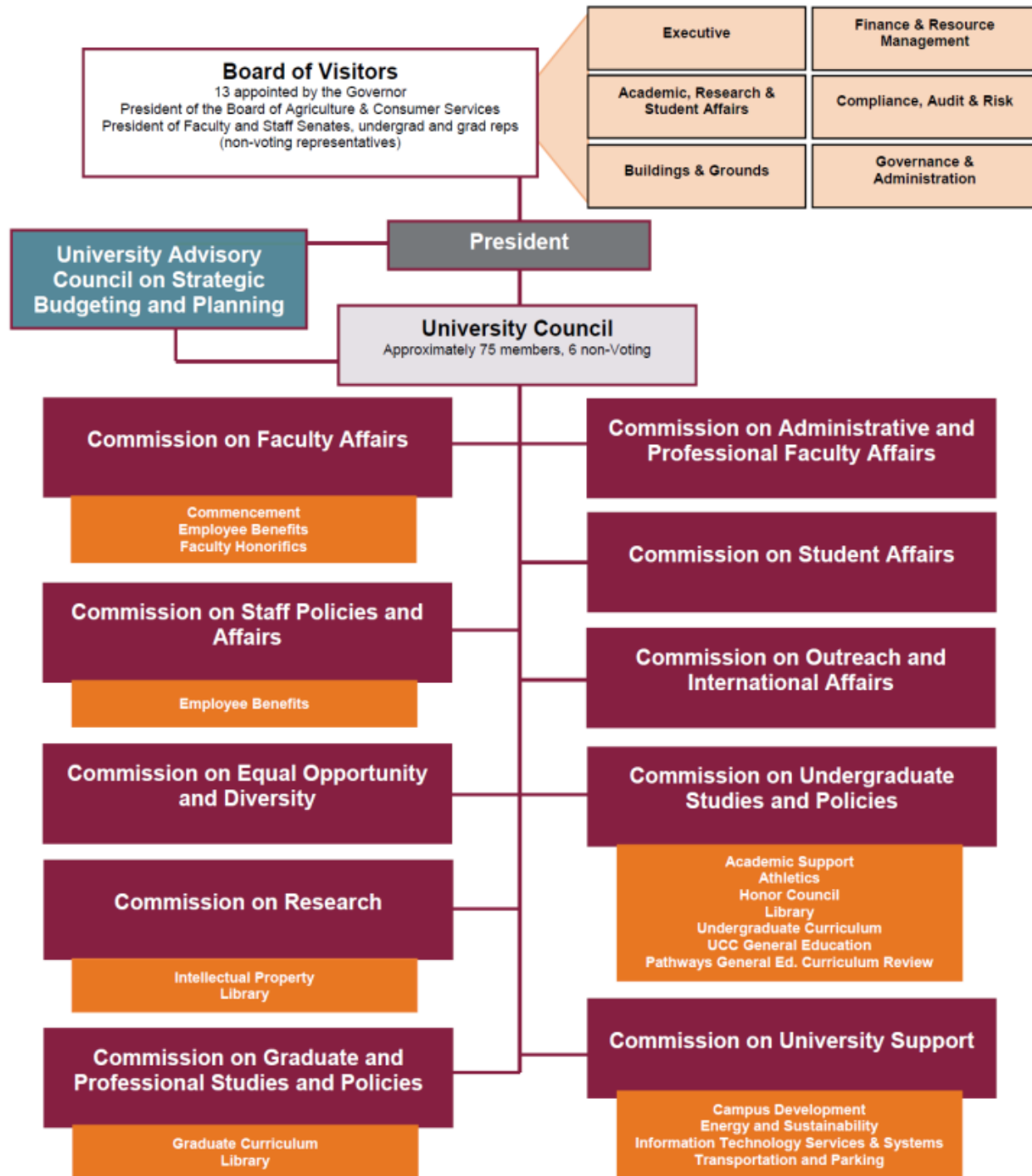
Why Get Involved in Shared Governance?

1. Taps the knowledge, insight, and experience of the faculty, staff, and students with the goal of finding opportunities to advance the institution
2. Genuine shared governance gives a voice (but not necessarily ultimate authority) to all constituencies
3. Provides professional development opportunities
4. Creates an “all in this together” environment among constituent groups, building trust through two-way communication and transparency

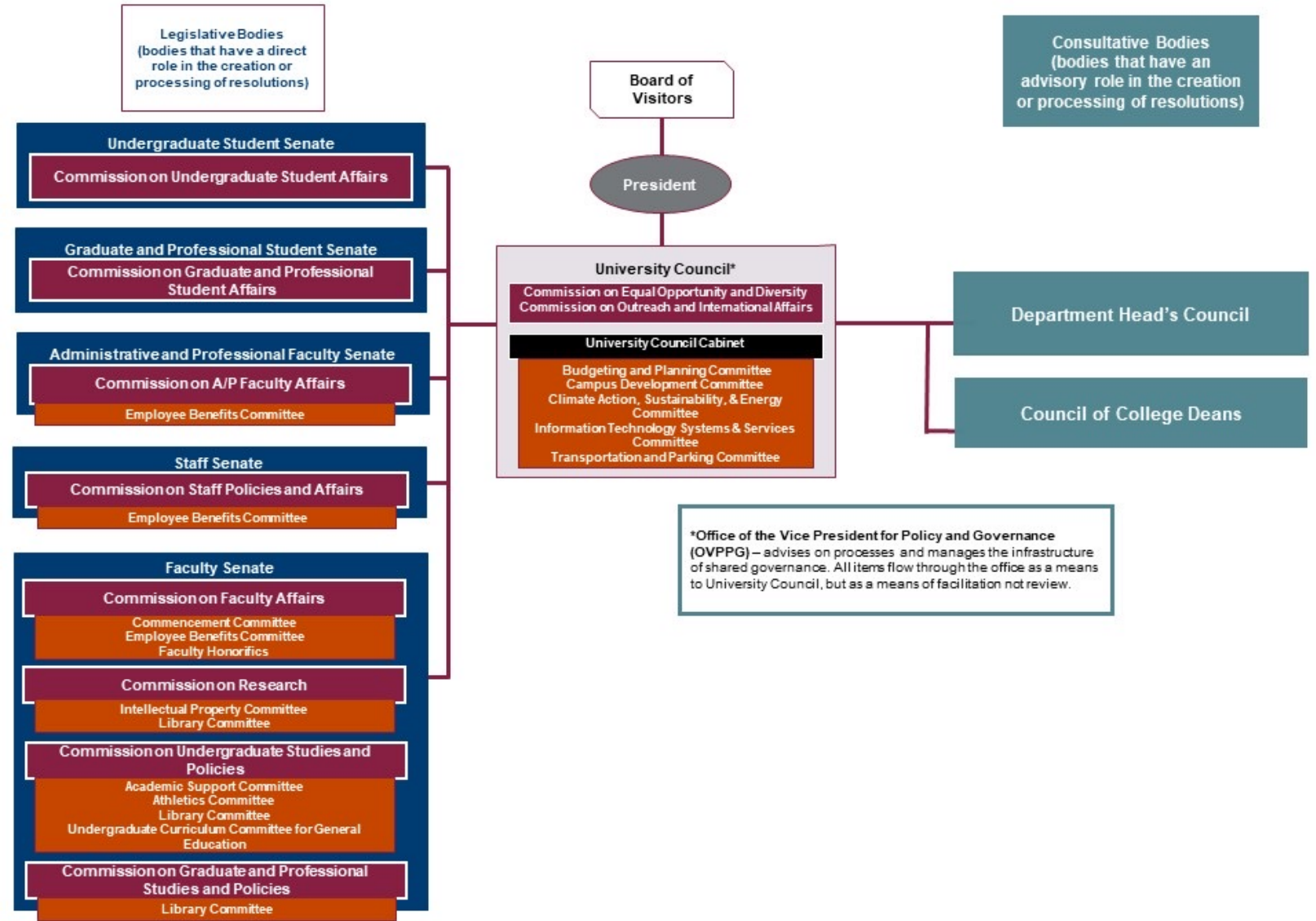
Major Changes to Shared Governance

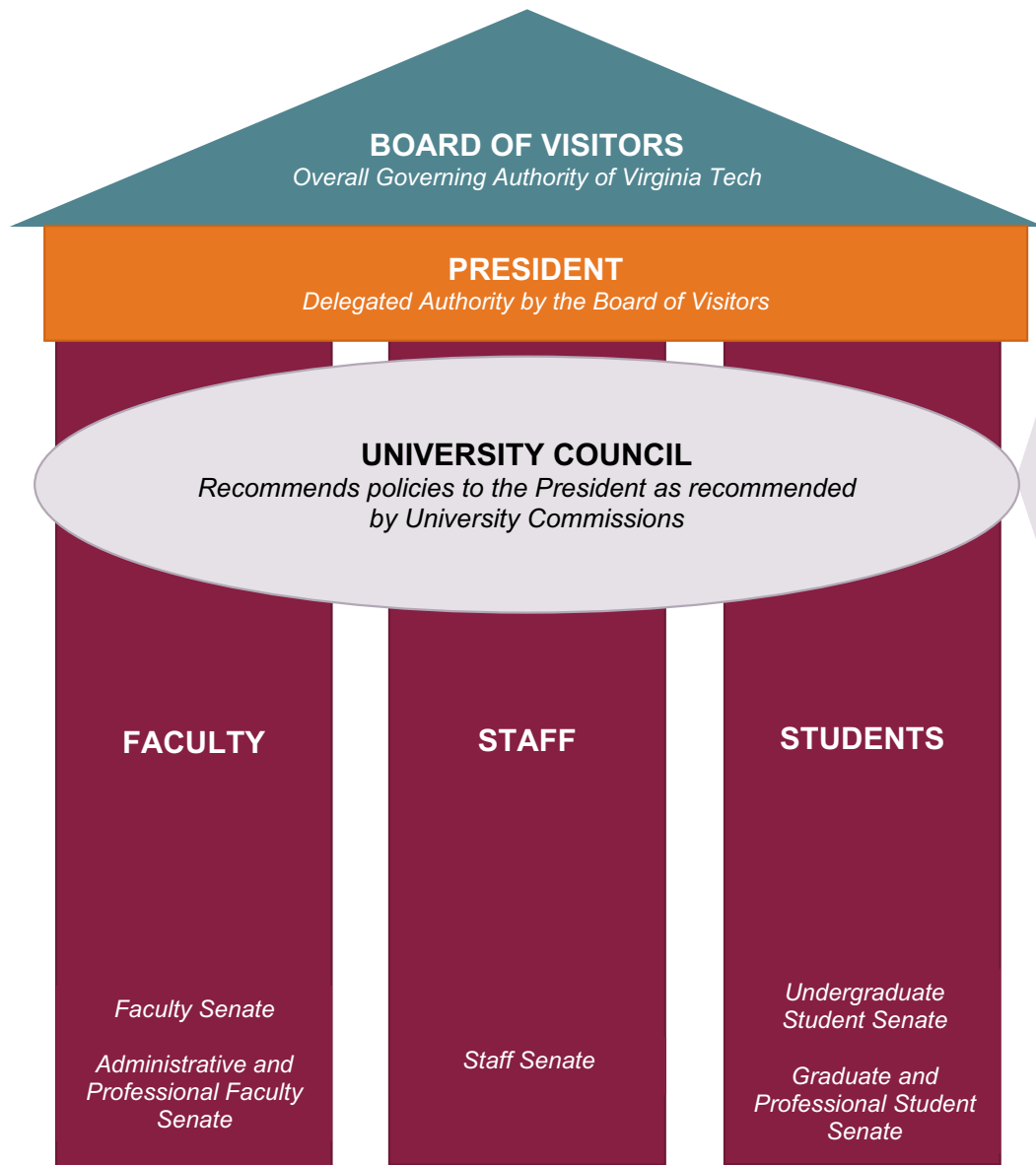
1. Changed the structure of shared governance
 - a) Creation of University Council Cabinet
 - b) Inclusion of University Senates
2. Reduced the size of University Council
3. Expanded resolution process
4. Senates have legislative authority and responsibility over defined areas
5. New University Mission Initiative process
6. Eliminated the university-level approval for course and program proposals

Previous Governance Structure

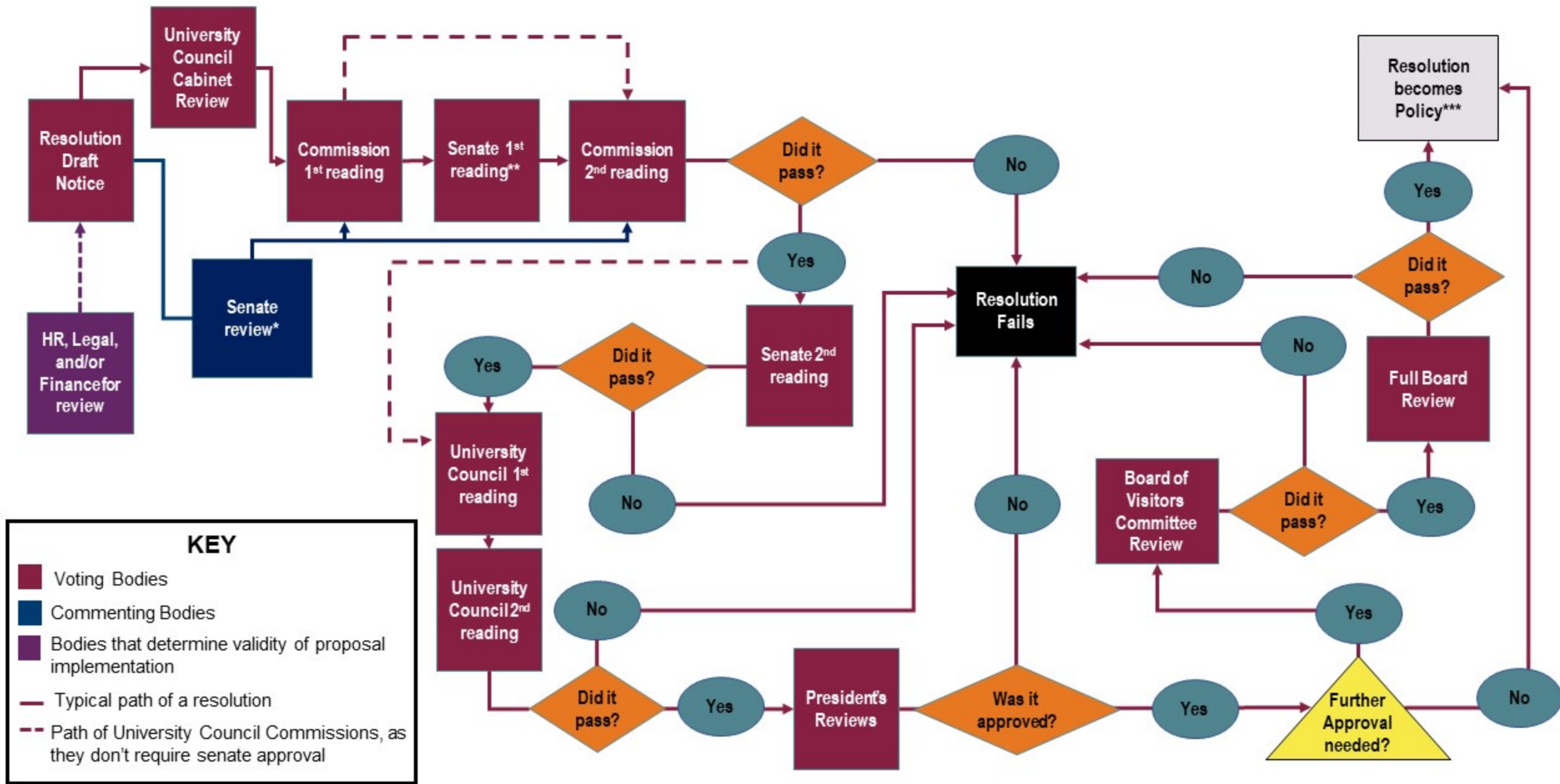


Current Governance Structure





- **Advisory body to the President that reviews and makes recommendations on topics of concern for constituencies, and refers matters to the appropriate commissions, senates, committees, groups, or individuals for review.**
- **59 Members**
 - 41 Ex Officio
 - 18 Elected
- Parliamentary Authority – **Robert’s Rules of Order**
- **University Council Cabinet**
 - **Facilitates decision-making across the system of shared governance by ensuring that the appropriate groups are creating, reviewing, and advancing policy.**
 - **14 Members**
 - 6 Ex Officio
 - 8 Elected



* Senates that do not have to approve a commission resolution before it advances to University Council (UC) have the right to comment. Such comments should be made no later than after the voting senate approves a resolution and before it is read at UC


** Senates that have 1st and 2nd readings are those that commissions report to and, therefore, senate approval is required. COED and COIA report directly to UC, so they do not have senate readings.

*** Some resolutions require approval outside of the University from SCHEV and/or SACSCOC.

Possible Pitfalls




1. Failure to consult with other senates and commissions
2. Working on topics outside of commission charge
3. Failure to consult with Legal, Budget, and/or HR
4. Not allotting enough time for the Governance Process



Structure
Review
Schedule

A review will be conducted following the first and second year to ensure revisions have improved operations. Should they be needed, additional changes and improvements will be considered.



Resources

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

Contact Information:

Office of the Vice President for Policy and Governance

800 Drillfield Drive

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Blacksburg, VA 24061

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VIRGINIA TECH.®



TimelyCare & Care.com



Ana Agud, MPH
Hokie Wellness



TimelyCare

24/7 Virtual Health and Well-being Support



TimelyCare

- Available to all full-time faculty, staff, and non-student wage employees.
- Launched Tuesday, Nov. 1.
- All services are free to employees.

TimelyCare at Virginia Tech offers:

- TalkNow connects an employee with a mental health professional to address issues promptly, providing immediate care in a crisis.
- Employees are given 12 scheduled counseling appointments per academic year with counselors licensed in the state where the employee is located.
- Health coaching provides information and guided sessions on well-being topics such as dealing with conflict, time management, exercise, sleep, nutrition, mindfulness and more.

How to Access TimelyCare

timelycare.com/viriniatech

1. Access TimelyCare.

Scan this QR code.



- Log in with .edu email address.
- Fill out some information- TimelyCare is confidential, secure & HIPAA compliant.
- Click “Get Care.”
- Check out Explore page.

■ TimelyCare – Questions? Need Help?

Having trouble logging in?

Email help@timely.med or call 1-833-4-TIMELY for assistance.

Email or call Hokie Wellness:

hokiewellness@vt.edu or 231-8878.



Care.com

Child and Adult Backup Care

Care.com membership

Care Specialists



Child and Adult Backup Care:

- One-year pilot program
- Available to full-time faculty and staff
- 10 days/employee
- \$6/hour – 4 hour minimum for in-home care
- \$15/day/child for in-center care

Child and Adult Backup Care:

- Backup care may be used when your regular care is not available during work hours.
- In-home care for children – newborn to teenage children.
- In-center Backup Care – available for center aged children during center hours.
- Adult Backup Care – available in either your home or the home of the adult needing the care.

Care Membership:

- Care Membership gives you unlimited access to platform for finding and managing care for children, seniors, pets and your home.
- Pay for caregivers directly, through Care.com site, or through the Care app.

Care Specialists:

- Care Specialists research and identify licensed providers and care resources that meet your unique needs.
- You have unlimited access to this benefit.

■ To access Care.com:

Website:

care.com/virginia-tech

Phone: 866-814-1638

Additional Information:

<https://www.hr.vt.edu/benefits/optional-benefits/Backup-child-elder-care.html>

Email Hokie Wellness at hokiewellness@vt.edu or call 231-8878