

**Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs**  
**Resolution to Expand CGPSA Membership to Graduate Students from Extended Campuses**

**CGPSA 2024-25A**

Resolution Proposal Sent to University Council Cabinet	11/19/24
University Council Cabinet Review	11/21/24
First Reading by Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs	12/11/24
First Reading by Graduate and Professional Student Senate	01/23/25
Approval by Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs	02/12/25
Approval by Graduate and Professional Student Senate	02/20/25
First Reading, University Council	03/03/25
Approved, University Council	03/17/25
President Review	03/18/25
Effective	Upon Approval

**WHEREAS** Virginia Tech is a university with a geographic reach spanning the entire commonwealth of Virginia; and

**WHEREAS** this reach includes campuses in Roanoke, Northern Virginia, and scattered facilities and Agricultural Research and Extension Centers across the commonwealth of Virginia; and

**WHEREAS** Graduate and Professional students may be found at many, if not all, of these extended campus facilities; and

**WHEREAS** the unique interests of extended campus Graduate and Professional students are often underrepresented in the shared governance system; and

**WHEREAS** the Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs (CGPSA) is among the principal policy boards representing all Graduate and Professional students, and expressed an interest in better representing extended campus students in its 2024- 2025 term; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that CGPSA membership will be expanded by two members, starting academic year 2025-26, with one position for a graduate student from the Roanoke campus, and the other position for a graduate student from any of the campuses in the DC area . Representatives for both of these positions will be elected by the Graduate and Professional Student Senate, in consultation with the Roanoke Graduate Students ~~Association~~ **Assembly** and the DC Graduate Student ~~Association~~ **Assembly**; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Article VII, Part D of the University Council Bylaws be amended as shown below in red:

## Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs (CGPSA)

### Membership:

- Chair will be elected by the Graduate and Professional Student Senate
- Dean of the Graduate School (advisor)
- Dean of students
- Director of student conduct
- Dean of the University Libraries
- Associate dean and director of admissions and academic progress
- Director of student services
- Associate dean of the Greater Washington D.C. Metro Area
- One dean selected by the Council of College Deans
- Nine graduate and professional student senators elected by the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (one per college)
- One graduate and professional student representative from the Roanoke campus elected by the Graduate and Professional Student Senate in consultation with the Roanoke Graduate Student Assembly
- One graduate and professional student representative from any of the campuses in the DC area (Innovation Campus, Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center, and the Virginia Tech Research Center in Arlington) elected by the Graduate and Professional Student Senate in consultation with the DC Graduate Student Assembly
- One A/P faculty representative elected by the A/P Faculty Senate
- One staff representative elected by the Staff Senate
- One faculty senator elected by the Faculty Senate
- One undergraduate student representative elected by the Undergraduate Student Senate
- Two at-large student members from the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity (CEOD): one graduate and professional student and one undergraduate student, concurrent with their terms on CEOD

**Comments from Graduate and Professional Student Senate First Reading:**

Concern that only having one student representative on CGPSA from Roanoke campus would not be representative of all student experiences on this specific remote campus. There was a concern that most people perceive the Roanoke campus as the “medical campus” and that a medical student would be recruited for this position.

Although representation from the medical school is needed, there is a growing number of graduate students who are on this campus who have experiences different from those of medical students, including students in the Translational Biology, Medicine, and Health program.

Thus, there should be a consideration for having at least two representatives from the Roanoke campus who can speak on behalf of the graduate AND professional student experiences on this unique remote campus.



# Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate

<https://governance.vt.edu/ap-faculty-senate.php>

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**January 9, 2025**

**To:** Vice President of Policy and Governance

**From:** A/P Faculty Senate Polices and Issues Committee

The A/P Faculty Senate Polices and Issues Committee has reviewed and approves/endorsees the Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs Resolution 2024-25A to Expand CGPSA Membership to Graduate Students from Extended Campuses.

The following comment was received:

The language of the D.C. area, has this been reviewed as well by the D.C. area Graduate Student Union or GSU, that was previously organized at the Falls Church campus? Also curious how the # was calculated for the respective campuses. Very important inclusivity principle at work behind this resolution. Given that there are 100s of graduate students in the D.C. area, I am curious what the proportions of representation are for them vs. BB campus.

We have no further comment.



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**ADHOC COMMITTEES**

# Staff Senate

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

**December 20, 2024**

**To: Vice President of Policy and Governance**

The Staff Senate Committee on Policy and Issues has reviewed and by majority, approves CGPSA Resolution 2024-25A. We do have a few comments and questions for consideration.

The resolution specifically mentions Agricultural Research and Extension Centers (AREC) as a place where graduate students may be found across the state.

However, the resolution is only asking for two additional seats, one for a representative from the Roanoke campus and one for a representative from any of the DC area campuses. Why are representatives from ARECs not considered for a position? Why not allow the two new representatives to be from any non-Blacksburg campus affiliation?

Additionally, is the addition of a single representative from Roanoke and the DC area campuses equitable in comparison with the representation from the Blacksburg campus? Finally, while we know that if the CGPSA wanted to modify its membership in the future this could be accomplished by a resolution, is it possible to include some forward-thinking language in this resolution that would allow for these changes to be made without the need for a resolution in the future?

We have no further comment.

**Thank you,  
Amber Robinson, Chair Staff Senate Policies and  
Issues Committee**