

**Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs**  
**November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Zoom**

**Present:** Janice Austin, Camille Block, Barbara Hoopes, Alex Kinnaman, Lee Learman, Rachel Maizel, Gonzalo Ortiz, Rohsaan Settle, Sally Shupe, Lauren Surface, Aimee Surprenant, Shaka Sydnor, Tyler Walters

**Absent:** Jiayuan Dong, Faizan Sabir, Mark Sikes, Neha Taneja

**Absent with Notice:**

**Guests:** Catherine Cotrupi, April Myers, Heather Wagoner

**1. Adoption of Agenda – Rachel Maizel**

**2. Adoption of Minutes from October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

There not being a quorum, a motion to approve the minutes could not be made.

The meeting began at 3:32pm. The quorum was not met.

**3. New Business**

Presentation by Heather Wagoner: Policy 5000 SA-LT Briefing

- Major policy changes include:
  - o Renaming policy to University Real Property (Building, Grounds, Infrastructure) Usage and Events; restructured sections
  - o Creation of Time/Place/Manner Guidelines
  - o Creation of Overnight Hours (12a-6a)
  - o Creation of camping definition
  - o Canopy tents without walls are allowed for scheduled events (must comply with 5406). Tents with walls, regardless of size, must be approved by the appropriate scheduling office.

**4. Member Reports**

**a. Graduate School Updates:**

- We have received a proposed amendment to the Honors System Constitution regarding how research misconduct is mishandled. There will be a committee formed that includes two student representatives. Changes to the constitution will go through CGPS&P.
- Annual Progress Reports & Reviews: These annual reports for students are required by the Graduate School. It is important for students to get feedback: research and scholarly

progress, progress to degree, etc. Progress reports should include funding possibilities for next year. Programs for students will not be terminated without at least two unsatisfactory progress reports.

- Assistantship Stipend Table Modifications: There are currently fifty steps on the table and a group put together by Dean Surprenant has been working on simplifying it. The group's recommendations to simplify it to eleven steps will be viewed by the Board of Visitors when the assistantship compensations are considered for 2025-26, likely in June.
- Grad Ed Week Awards: The Graduate School honors students and outstanding faculty during the Graduate Education Week ceremony at the end of March. Each college is responsible for the criteria process and the process for choosing their outstanding master's student, outstanding doctoral student and outstanding faculty mentor. Please notify the Graduate School of who your winner is by February 14th.
  - o [graduateschool.vt.edu/about/awards.html](http://graduateschool.vt.edu/about/awards.html)

## **b. Senate Updates**

### **GPSS – Lauren Surface**

- The Little Hokie Hand-me-down was a success.

### **Faculty Senate – Alex Kinnaman**

- It is resolution season – there are several solutions going through governance.
- See chart of current resolutions here: [Resolutions-November2024 - Google Docs](#)

### **Administrative and Professional Senate**

- Nothing to report

### **USS**

- Nothing to report

### **Staff Senate**

- Nothing to report

## **5. General Orders/Discussion Topics -**

The meeting ended at 4:23pm