

MINUTES

Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs

Thursday, October 2, 2025

1:00 pm

<https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/81014285754>

Present – Gabe Petry (presiding), Chelle Darr, Amber Hagan, Sara Lucy, Rachel Miles, James Perkins, Michelle Raines, Kayla Robertson, and Aqab Zahoor.

Absent with Notice: Judy Alford and Dwayne Edwards.

Absent: Becky Bott-Knutson, Clay Crumpler, Lacey Doyle, Nikki Gland-Turpin, and Sophia Minor.

Guests: Kari Evans, Rebecca Hubble, and April Myers.

Gabe Petry called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of October 2, 2025.

Gabe Petry noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the Governance Website: governance.vt.edu

3. Discussion

Gabe Petry initiated a conversation about the first item on the Commission's 2025-26 Work Plan, addressing the lack of bereavement leave for staff. The focus was reviewing bereavement and family personal leave policies, with committee members discussing equity concerns and the need for consistent standards across different employee groups. The group agreed to gather more information about leave policies from various sources before developing recommendations.

4. Announcements

- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1:28 p.m.