



Senate Meeting for 2023-2024
Undergraduate Student Senate at Virginia Tech

Apr 23, 2024

Colonial Hall, Squires Student Center

A. Call to Order

- a. Meeting called to order by Kiera at 6:33pm

B. Adoption of Agenda (6:35-6:40)

- a. Samuel Snyder moves to adopt agenda
- b. Liam Glavin seconds

C. Adoption of Previous Minutes

- a. [4/9/2024 Student Agenda Minutes](#)
 - i. *Minutes have been sent out in advance*

D. Unfinished Business

- a. [2024-2025 USS Budget](#) (6:40-6:50)
 - i. Alex Pomeroy motions to approve the budget
 - ii. Kyra Brey Seconded
 - iii. Budget was approved

E. New Business

- a. Speaker of the Senate Debate (6:50-7:20)
 - i. Taylor
 1. Resolution building
 2. Bridge to bring senators and cabinet together to find solutions that work for all of us.
 - ii. Nidhi
 1. Unity is collective action and collaboration. Shared commitment to serving the student body
 2. Grown means that we need to have training and mentorship to strengthen our collective effectiveness



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3. Diversity because our strength lies in diversity. Foster a sense of belonging
- iii. Kyra
1. Recognition and engagement with the student body. At the same time we have succeeded and failed. Three goals
 - a. Fostering a safe and inclusive atmosphere
 - b. Transparency of thoughts and ideas between senators and cabinet
 - c. Growth of organization for improvement
- iv. Question: What have you done during your time as a senator that you are most proud of?
1. Kyra
 - a. Growing more connected and engaging in senate
 - b. Practice and develop interpersonal skills
 2. Nidhi
 - a. Part of issues and policy working on helping international students
 - b. Professional development
 3. Taylor
 - a. Using voice for something that she is passionate about for betterment of the student body
 - b. Being able to represent the national panhellenic council
- v. Question: Speaker of senate is the chief representative, how would you bridge the gap between cabinet and senators



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1. Taylor
 - a. We are in the most tense time right now
 - b. Working to help senators understand their role and power
2. Nidhi
 - a. Partner with other groups to help uplift students
3. Kyra
 - a. Having open and honest communication
 - b. Accountability for anyone who is in the Speaker of the Senate Roll
- vi. Why do you feel you are the best candidate to be the speaker of the senate?
 1. Nidhi
 - a. It is alright to not understand what is going on. It is ok to come and ask for help and she wants to be open for everyone to come and ask for help
 2. Taylor
 - a. Being the voice for people who are too scared to speak up
 - b. Wants to make people feel as comfortable as possible
 3. Kyra
 - a. Passion exceeds experience and knowledge. Growth. There is room for growth still
 - b. Increased perspective taking. Hearing all the sides to one story
- vii. Closing Statements



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1. Kyra
 - a. Assist all by making change that senators want to see
 - b. Rebuild connection within organization
 - c. Open and honest communication
2. Nidhi
 - a. Commitment to unity, growth, and inclusivity
 - b. Work toward shared goal
 - c. Untapping potential in each senator
3. Taylor
 - a. Senate has sparked and ignited love for advocacy.
 - b. "If not you than who"
 - c. Hopes no matter the outcome she was able to ignite passion and that senators know if they want change they have the power to do it

viii. Congratulations to our next Speaker of the Senate Kyra Bray!!!

b. New directors and BOV Representative Recognition (7:20-7:25)

c. Leslie New BOV Representative

-excited to get start!

Naomi's new Hokie effect direction

-excited to work with us

d. Hokie Effect Shirt Voting (7:25-7:30)

e.



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- i. <https://virginiatech.questionpro.com/a/TakeSurvey?tt=vKt%252BwhzCVjkEChrPeIW9eQ%253D%253D&custom4=USS>

F. Discussion of recent email

Liam- Question about cabinet transparency

-cabinet is trying to hide things from the senate and suppress their voices

-rubs him the wrong way and hurts him personally

-cabinet is stalling efforts to discuss the matter of the cease-fire resolution

Taylor white-Question 1: Why does the cease-fire resolution keep being added and unadded

-Question 2: How is the cabinet going to get back their trust and transparency with the senate

-the cabinet isn't fulfilling their duties

-emails are being sent out every tuesday about the cease-fire

Response- Keria

-for any resolution there is a process stated as two readings in Issues and policy and DEI

-we need feed back to resolutions

Follow up question; Taylor

-are we allowed to do an emergency meeting

-when did these readings happen

Response: Keria

-The first readings happen last Tuesdays

-she does not run the committees

Co response: Alex efird

-we did the first reading last Tuesday



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-Lack of time to schedule another meeting

Response; Taylor-How are you all going to build trust back

Response-Keria

-we can post cabinets

-we talk about confidential things(Who deserves tenured)

-Still making amendments to the agenda

-cabinet and keria will have a talk

-sees the importance of having a united front

Ability to set up a one-on-one meeting with Keria or any members of the cabinet

Co response- Alex eifrd

-wants to have dedicated office hours next semester

CO response-Shahed Sanuri

-Keira had the ability to do it through email

Question-Laim

-will a cabinet member be removed if leaked information and the cabinet does not agree

-a threat to be removed from the position due to speaking out

Response-Keria

-impeaching people is not the goal

-circumstances are taken into account

-the difference between professionalism and freedom of speech

-when in the senate meeting the goal is to be a united front from a cabinet standpoint

Question-Liam

-talking and disagreeing is a virtue to getting things done

Response-Keria



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-Disagreeing is important but in the space of a cabinet meeting

-disagreeing without putting other people down

Co response-Shahed Sanuri

-Tristan was forced to step down from his position due to the cabinet memo

Co-response-Obrain

-Elected individuals signed

-The cabinet memo was known about and used for every senate except the very first one

-cabinet uses it to set norms

Co-Response-Shahed Sanuri

-Did not see the memo and did not sign it

Question–bella gilbert-How will we go about this situation next semester

Response-Keria

- Ad hoc committee is at work on the situation

- Want to support all voice

Question-Samuel slider -is the cabinet being affected by people above and scared to lose the position

Response-Obrain

-cabinet memo allowed for us to be in a safe space for each cabinet member to share their perspective

Question Shahed Sanuri- why was cabinet keeping memo hidden

Response-Keria

-it was signed in Feb and Shahed Sanuri did not have it.



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-memo was important between cabinet members \

Question-Shahed Sanuri-why wasnt the memo brought to me

Keria-it was an honest mistake

Statement William Young-this is just turning into a dispute

Question-Taylor -how are you creating a safe space due to the statement about an eye for an eye mentality

Response-Mahima Suresh

-this cabinet memo was a working document and was just what the previous senate had.

Motion to extend meeting to 8:15 by Laim Glavin

Second-bella gilbert

Motion carried

G. Cabinet and Director Reports (7:30-7:40)

i. [Cabinet & Director Reports 4/23](#)

President Keria -new title 9 dropped

VP Issues and Policy Alex efird -Fill out USS Special programs and stressless forms

VP DEI Obrain martin-State of DEI

VP Administration Lane-USS Feedback

VP BOV Will Storey- food drive updates

Emma Roshioru Direc of Gov Relations- VA 21 SLI application



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H. Ad-Hoc Committee Report (7:40-7:45)

Alex p ad hoc updates

I. Public Forum

J. Announcements

K. Adjournment

Sub-Pool Number	Description	Core								
		Budgeted			Actual			Variance		
		Generated	SAFAB	Combined	Generated	SAFAB	Combined	Generated	SAFAB	Combined
101	Fall Retreat	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00
102	Spring Retreat	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00
103	(New Cabinet)Spring Retreat	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00
104	Name Tags	0.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00	70.00
105	Branded Polos	204.07	195.93	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	204.07	195.93	400.00
106	Miscellaneous Cabinet	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
107	Cabinet Business Cards	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
	Cabinet Total	2,904.07	265.93	3,170.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,904.07	265.93	3,170.00
201	Promotional Giveaways (USS Branded)	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
202	Orientation Resource Fair Tabling	140.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	140.00
203	Social Media Ads	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
204	Canva Subscription	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
205	General Organization Marketing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
206	Miscellaneous Communications and Marketing	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
	Communications and Marketing Total	6,040.00	300.00	6,340.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,040.00	300.00	6,340.00
301	NACA Student Government Institute East Registration	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
302	NACA Student Government Institute East Meals	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
303	NACA Student Government Institute East Transportation and Gas	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
304	NACA Virginia Tech Membership (Partial)	434.00	0.00	434.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	434.00	0.00	434.00
305	COSGA Registration	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
306	COSGA Lodging	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
307	COSGA Meals	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
308	COSGA Transportation and Gas	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
309	SCHEV Conferences Registration	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00
310	SCHEV Lodging	1,750.00	0.00	1,750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,750.00	0.00	1,750.00
311	SCHEV Conferences Meals	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
312	SCHEV Conferences Transportation and Gas	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
313	Miscellaneous Conferences	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
	Conferences Total	6,184.00	0.00	6,184.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,184.00	0.00	6,184.00
401	Inauguration Event Planning and Productions	1,270.00	730.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,270.00	730.00	2,000.00
402	Inauguration Pins	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
403	Inauguration Food	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00
404	Inauguration Marketing (Print - 65 & Social Media - 75)	140.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	140.00
405	Cabinet Campaign Reimbursements	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
406	Senator Campaign Reimbursements	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
407	Cabinet Banner Campaign Materials	0.00	305.00	305.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	305.00	305.00
408	Elections Advertising (General: Print - 100 & Social media - 75)	1,425.00	0.00	1,425.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,425.00	0.00	1,425.00
409	Elections - Debate Specific Advertisement (print - 100 & social media - 160)	760.00	0.00	760.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	760.00	0.00	760.00
410	Elections Logistics (Debates, Coffee with Candidates, etc)	1,000.00	500.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	500.00	1,500.00
411	Coffee Card	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
412	Miscellaneous Elections	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
	Elections Total	8,695.00	1,535.00	10,230.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,695.00	1,535.00	10,230.00
501	Hokie Day - Gas	400.00	317.58	717.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	317.58	717.58
502	Hokie Day - Vehicle Rental	300.00	420.00	720.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	420.00	720.00
503	Hokie Day - Lodging	3,000.00	1,250.00	4,250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	1,250.00	4,250.00
504	Hokie Day - Food	700.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	700.00
505	Hokie Day - Tolls/Parking	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
506	ACC Advocacy Day - Lodging	1,400.00	600.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,400.00	600.00	2,000.00
507	ACC Advocacy Day - Gas	379.42	156.02	535.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	379.42	156.02	535.44
508	ACC Advocacy Day - Vehicle Rental, Ride Share and Parking	720.00	280.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	720.00	280.00	1,000.00
509	ACC Advocacy Day - Food	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00
510	VA21 Lobby Day - Lodging	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
511	VA21 Lobby Day - Transportation, Parking, and Gas	715.44	0.00	715.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	715.44	0.00	715.44
512	VA21 Lobby Day - Food	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
513	VA21 Spring Conference - Transportation	337.72	0.00	337.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	337.72	0.00	337.72
514	VA21 Spring Conference - Food	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
515	VA21 Summer Leadership - Institute Registration	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
516	Governmental Affairs Marketing	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
517	Federal/State/Local Polling Booth Event Planning	0.00	1,475.88	1,475.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,475.88	1,475.88
518	Miscellaneous Governmental Affairs	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
	Governmental Relations Total	11,102.58	4,499.48	15,602.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,102.58	4,499.48	15,602.06
601	Framing of Hokie Effect Shirts	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
602	Slogan and Design Contests	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
603	Promotions	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00
604	Shirts (for tailgates, tosses, etc)	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
605	Hokie Effect Stipend	7,100.00	0.00	7,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,100.00	0.00	7,100.00
606	Miscellaneous Hokie Effect	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
607	Hokie Effect Stickers	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	Hokie Effect Total	27,600.00	0.00	27,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,600.00	0.00	27,600.00
701	Meeting Event Planning/Productions	0.00	5,038.72	5,038.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,038.72	5,038.72
702	Forums	100.00	1,000.00	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	1,000.00	1,100.00
703	Town Hall	100.00	1,000.00	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	1,000.00	1,100.00
704	Miscellaneous Legislative Affairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Issues and Policy Total	200.00	7,038.72	7,238.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	7,038.72	7,238.72
801	Banquet Production and Event Services	2,600.00	0.00	2,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,600.00	0.00	2,600.00
802	Banquet Food and Drinks	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
803	End of Year Awards	800.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	800.00
804	Graduation Cords	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
805	Stoles	210.00	0.00	210.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	210.00	0.00	210.00
806	Nametags (Senate and Directors)	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
807	Team Building Events	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
808	Member Apparel	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
809	Senate Meeting Food	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00
	Membership Development Total	16,110.00	0.00	16,110.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,110.00	0.00	16,110.00
901	Office Supplies	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
902	Office Redo	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
903	Telecommunications	369.00	0.00	369.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	369.00	0.00	369.00
904	Copier Expenses	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
905	Meridia Voting Software	700.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	700.00
906	Insurance Policy	200.00	1,554.00	1,754.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	1,554.00	1,754.00
907	Miscellaneous Office Expenses	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Fixed Office Expenses Total Total	7,269.00	1,554.00	8,823.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,269.00	1,5	

1001	Outreach Events and Tabling	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
1002	Outreach Marketing	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
1003	Miscellaneous Outreach	700.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
1004	Stress Less w/ USS Marketing (Print - 85 & Social Media - 75)	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
1005	Stress Less w/ USS Event Planning/Productions (Fall/Spring)	80.00	820.00	900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.00	0.00	80.00
1006	Stress Less w/ USS Food	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
1007	Institutional Appreciation (Coffee w/Admins, etc.)	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00
	Special Programs Total	3,680.00	820.00	4,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,680.00	0.00	3,180.00
1101	Miscellaneous Administration	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
	Administration Total	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
1201	Miscellaneous Appropriations	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
	Appropriations Total	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
1301	Major Projects Fund	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
	Major Projects Fund Total	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
1401	UCSO Annual Luncheon	4,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
1402	DEI Town Halls	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
1403	Miscellaneous DEI	1,500.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Diversity Equity and Inclusion Total	6,500.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,500.00	0.00	6,500.00
1501	Board of Visitors Expenses	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Board of Visitors Total	500.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	TOTAL	103,384.65	16,013.13	116,397.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	103,884.65	15,193.13	118,577.78

