

General Assembly Meeting
Graduate and Professional Student Senate
2-1-24, 5-7PM

Prior General Assembly Meeting

2-1-24, 5-7PM, hybrid in the GLC MPR and over zoom

In attendance

Vice President | Yohan Sequeira

President | [Rachel Maizel](#)

Senators: 38

Quorum reached: NO

General Notes:

Motions:

Exec Board Reports:

Programs

- TFP and GRDP fund open, should send out this information to constituents
- APPLY FOR THE SYMPOSIUM its super cool and you can do a lot of stuff
 - Great to show off your research and get practice showing it off

Communications

- Advertise the symposium!
- Need volunteers for the housing fair

Events

- Tacos for the dean
 - Friday 9th, March 22nd, April 19th
- Grad student drinking night - free booze
- Monster trucks???

Finance

- GSBB budget of 100k - allocated 57% already
- Opening applications for the spring semester
- Director of finance?????????

Advocacy

- Conversation with ombudsperson happened last thursday, can also talk to gpss
 - It will be uploaded in the email :)
- Short version of his thing - he is an independent arbiter, confidential
- New RSO information will be updated as they come by and the process is underway
- Creating a policy document about the policies and procedures around the SVPI
 - Problems with the APP

- Sexual citizens should be included in the library - did a study on sexual violence problems at VT
- Seagal summary report - available for perusal
- Needs help with any or all of the meetings and compiling the information

BOV REP

- Grad student resource fair - come to the GLC and get free stuff!
- Come and apply to be the BOV rep! Reach out to emily for more information

Open commission/committee reports:

Construction/Campus improvement committee

- BIG drama, many companies have issues of wage theft
- They wanted to do this for the innovation campus but did not want to do this on the VT campus
- Basically will write a policy about this - might right one policy that is already the stuff that you do, have a pie in the sky one separately
 - This is a ready fruit ready to be picked, just need to write the policy, have a bunch of notes, maybe put out a call for people to help with the policy here

Old Business:

UC document constitution changes

- Need to consider this together in order to understand what they are doing to shared governance
 - Article 2: adding a segment whereby resolution proposals are fenced in by a 'conceptualization' of what shared governance can do
 - Reproductive right act - everyone passed but the president (this concerns schiffert) cyril clark said that auxiliary services cannot be in the scope of shared governance
 - Q: do they define what the scope of shared governance is?
 - Yes, it is in a supplementary document, but they say that auxiliary services, budget and all kinds of things are outside of the scope of the document
 - Also trying to slash what some of the commission charges are
 - Commission on administrative and professional faculty affairs would not be able to do anything to look over administrative corruption
 - For CGPSA
 - Removing anything about CGPSA having the ability to affect student services at all

- Overall, they are trimming and narrowing the power of graduate students: “the flower of democracy is now being crushed”
- Come to the UC meeting on monday at 3:30
 - The process for the bylaws will be 2 readings and a vote
- Q: Is anything outside the scope, does it go to the provost?
 - Yes it does, you could possibly overturn the UC vote but it takes a high majority.

UC Bylaws changes

- If you can, come to UC meeting and take up a TON of time
 - Want to make questions and comments
 - Will send an email for monday at 3:30
- What the actual UC bylaws changes are
 - When you send out a resolution, there will a lot less information in the system when you propose a resolution that will be sent out to the senates
- Q: Are we preparing a response to the state of university address pertaining to these details
 - Maybe wait to see what he says first - but create a draft and share it with everyone

CGPSA

- Looking at how we investigate suicides on VT campus
- Basically no procedure for investigating suicides on VT campus - no investigation outside of VT police
 - Many things about this have not been investigated
 - Draft a very quick resolution for CGPSA → create some policies/procedures to implement this

New Business:

Caste Resolution

- Walk through of the caste resolution document
 - VT trying to reach out to minority groups and reach out to global areas as outlined in the strategic plan.
 - Large portion of international students ($\frac{1}{3}$) of all international students are from south asia (and present in the diaspora.
 - Aiming for legal rights which we do not have a policy for in document 1025
 - Short story: someone from south asia was looking for housing, his roommates were discriminating against him based on his eating habits, this is one example of how caste is important in the US
 - Q: how does it work when someone does face discrimination?
 - Once this is added to the policy, OEA will now be able to enforce policies based on this

ELECTIONS - Blurbs being sent out

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Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vik Sin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first part resembling 'Vik' and the second part resembling 'Sin'.