

Staff Senate Constituency Report
Virginia Tech Board of Visitors
August 21 - 23, 2022 Presented by Serena Young, Staff Senate President

Rector Long, members of the Board of Visitors, President Sands, administrators, and guests: Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you about Virginia Tech's staff.

This is an exciting time of year as employees and campus are ramping up for our Fall Semester. Summer has seemed to fly by but I'm sure most would agree we are looking forward to those cooler temperatures and Hokies Football of course.

I am happy to announce at the beginning of the Summer Semester, our Staff Senate unanimously approved the new Constitution and Bylaws. These will now move forward to University Council and then I will bring them to the Board for full approval in the coming months. We are also creating procedures for new staff associations, as well as developing standard operating procedures for the executive roles within our senate. This will help with retaining history and streamlining information for new and incoming people.

At our last Board of Visitors meeting, I talked about the concerns with the new Commonwealth Telework Policy, as you are all aware, all telework agreements submitted were approved and for that Staff are grateful. We are thankful to Bryan Garey and his wonderful team of individuals for all their hard work and efforts in helping to make this possible.

This fall three major projects/announcements are going to be made. I am not at liberty to discuss those yet because an overall message will be going out to employees sometime this fall semester. What I can tell you is, they are a direct answer to several major concerns and issues directly affecting staff and faculty here at Tech. If all goes well, some of the long-standing issues staff and faculty have faced will see great improvement. Human Resources is also rolling out the new Performance Planning System which will hopefully address the long-time concern for Staff and Supervisors/Leadership evaluations. These projects are a direct result from creativity and teamwork, persistence, and hard work. We are thankful to all individuals who have made them possible!

The McComas Leadership Seminar planning is well under way, and I believe as we promised last year, this year's seminar will be the best one yet. We have a phenomenal speaker already lined up with lots of other surprises in store as well. I am looking forward to this Fall semester and serving with you for another year and can't wait to see what more we can accomplish.

On behalf of Staff Senate, I would like to thank you for listening today. I appreciate your attention today and I thank you for the opportunity to share Staff thoughts. I look forward to sharing our ongoing progress and collaborating with you all to make this year the best one yet!

Sincerely,
Serena D. Young

