

BOARD OF VISITORS INFORMATION SESSION MINUTES
March 19, 2023

An information session (open session) for the Board of Visitors was held on Sunday, March 19, 2023, at 12:00 noon in the Latham Ballroom CDEF at The Inn at Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Virginia. There was no public comment period.

Board Members Present

Letitia Long (Rector)
Ed Baine (Vice Rector)
Shelley Barlow
David Calhoun
Carrie Chenery
Sandra Davis
Greta Harris
C. T. Hill
Brad Hobbs
Anna James
Sharon Martin
Melissa Nelson
L. Chris Petersen
Jeff Veatch

Constituent Representatives Present:

Jamal Ross, Undergraduate Representative
Anna Buhle, Graduate/Professional Representative
Serena Young, Staff Representative
Holli Gardner Drewry, Administrative/Professional Faculty Representative
Robert Weiss, Faculty Representative

Also present at the meeting were: President Timothy Sands, Kim O'Rourke (Secretary to the Board), Lauren Augustine, Callan Bartel, Laura Belmonte, Lynsay Belshe, Eric Brooks, Bob Broyden, Brock Burroughs, Cyril Clarke, Lance Collins, Al Cooper, Jade Detwiler, Diana Devine, Corey Earles, Jeff Earley, Alisha Ebert, Ron Fricker, Luisa Havens Gerardo, Emily Gibson, Suzanne Griffin, Rebecca Gunn, Andrew Gunsch, Trish Hammer, Kay Heidbreder, Tim Hodge, Rachel Holloway, Matt Holt, Elizabeth Hooper, Frances Keene, Chris Kiwus, Sharon Kurek, Astrid Lawyer, Jack Leff, Rachel Maizel, Brett Malone, Robert Mann, Meghan Marsh, Elizabeth McClanahan, Connie McCormack, Ken McCrery, Nancy Meacham, Scott Midkiff, Ken Miller, Jeff Mitchell, April Myers, Justin Noble, Kelly Oaks, Mark Owczarski, James Perkins, Charlie Phlegar, Kevin Pitts, Ellen Plummer, Dylan Powers, Zohab Qazi, Robin Queen, Paul Richter, Lisa Royal, Amy Sebring, Brennan Shepard, Ken Smith, Dan Sui, Aimee Surprenant, John Sutphin, John Tarter, Don Taylor, Jon Clark Teglas, Rob Viers, Tracy Vosburgh, Michael Walsh, Melinda West, Lisa Wilkes, Paul Winistorfer, and Chris Yianilos.

Rector Long convened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the Information Session. The agenda included:

- Access and Affordability Proposal – On behalf of himself and Dr. Menah Pratt, Vice President for Diversity, Inclusion, and Strategic Affairs, as co-chairs of the task force, Dr. Matthew Holt, Agriculture and Applied Economics Department Head, presented the work of the task force on the Access and Affordability proposal. As the Board’s representative on the task force, Ms. Harris commented on the rigor and thoroughness of the committee’s work. President Sands stated that a financing plan is being developed and it is hoped to be able to present the plan to the Board prior to the June BOV meeting. In addition to the relationship to tuition and fees, President Sands spoke to the importance of engaging external audiences as well as looking at internal reallocation. He noted that access and affordability is one of our strategic investment priorities. He has also asked the committee to look into the role of internships.
- Annual Legislative Update – The presentation began with Mr. Chris Yianilos, Vice President for Government and Community Relations, reviewing federal research funding and student financial aid. He discussed FY23 federal directed spending and plus-ups that affect higher education and Virginia Tech specifically. Ms. Elizabeth Hooper, Associate Vice President for Government and Community Relations, summarized relevant legislation that was passed by the 2023 Virginia General Assembly and those bills that failed, some of which may return for consideration in a future session. She also spoke about the upcoming election in which all members of the House of Delegates will be up for re-election. Ms. Amy Sebring, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, reviewed the status of the state budget. Minimal amendments have been made thus far to the initial appropriations act. Since the state has a functioning budget for FY 2022-24, we may wind up with a skinny budget with few changes from a year ago. Alternatively, the house and senate budget conferees may adopt additional amendments. The Board will be updated as soon as there is more information.
- Tuition and Fees Update – The lack of budget action in Richmond makes setting tuition and fees a challenge. Eighty percent of E&G costs are for personnel, so compensation is a driver. Utilities and other fixed costs affected by inflation are also significant factors. Yet, access and affordability and the impact of tuition and fees on families is of paramount concern. We consider how we compare to peers and to other schools that out-of-state students might be considering. Among our priorities are expanding financial aid, and enhancing the student experience and facilitating activities such as participation in internships, study abroad, and other activities that contribute to students’ experience while enrolled. In terms of access and affordability, it is estimated that \$30 million is needed to close the gap in net price, requiring additional resources. Mandatory cost increases are on the horizon for salaries, benefits, inflationary increases coupled with strategic investment priorities (what investments have been made and what additional resources need to be brought to bear) and critical needs requests, A 5 percent salary increase in E&G remains in the state budget, which would cost Virginia Tech about \$31.4 million because the state

funds only about 40 percent of the increase. There would also be an incremental cost in the employer share of health insurance. Increased facilities and IT costs will be ongoing, not one time. It is hoped that the state will provide some discretionary funding rather than funds for only prescribed purposes. to redeploy existing dollars and figure out how to deploy any new resources. She projected that the university will stay below rate of inflation for tuition, but perhaps not for fees.

Anna Buhle emphasized that graduate students on assistantship need a living wage, and that even \$200 would put some grad students over the edge. As the representative for graduate and professional students, she strongly opposes increases in tuition and fees. As the representative for undergraduate students, Jamal Ross likewise opposed an increase in tuition.

Board members discussed the need to look at ways to reduce expenses and to prioritize expenditures. Although the Board will not take action during this Board meeting, they are mindful of the May 1 deadline for those offered admission to make their decision and will set another date for the vote on tuition and fees as soon as possible.

- Six Year Capital Outlay Plan – Mr. Bob Broyden, Associate Vice President for Campus Planning and Capital Financing explained that the plan is updated every two years in coordination with the state’s capital budgeting program. He explained all the steps in the process, emphasizing that steps 1 and 2 are planning approvals; they do not authorize action. Steps 3 through 8 authorize actions. There were 118 unique needs identified for this planning period. Of those, 24 were below capital project threshold (not to be included in plan), 15 logistically were outside the planning period, and 46 need additional internal study, leaving 33 potentially actionable. Of these 33, 12 are on the general fund list and 21 on non-general-fund list. Then they look at planning constraints. Business plans are being developed for each project. They put all the projects in the proposed plan into forward-looking debt model and determined that the debt ceiling is not expected to be exceeded. The construction labor force is not growing with the volume of construction projects, which creates delays, so in planning timelines, they factor in other major projects in the local area. In response to a question about how the upward trend in interest rates might affect the plan, Broyden responded that the model factors in an increase of 50 basis points. In debt model, every year that moves out assumes increase in cost of capital. The committee expressed confidence in the soundness of the planning models. The need to view alternative capital was pointed out. For example, if Virginia Tech does not pursue a project, will some other entity do so? How a project differentiates our brand is an important consideration.
- Freedom of Speech and Inquiry Discussion – Task force chair Dr. Robin Queen explained that in the proposed statement, the task force wanted to express that both freedom of expression and academic freedom are vital to the university. Academic freedom is critical to research. The recommendations put forth by the task force fall into three categories: policy, procedures and best practices, educational opportunities.
- Constituent Reports – Due to time constraints, these were delayed to the full Board meeting the next day.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

*(Copies of the presentations and reports are filed
with the permanent minutes and attached.)*

Virginia Tech Board of Visitors Meeting

Information Session

**Sunday, March 19, 2023
12:00 p.m.**

**The Inn – Latham Ballroom
Virginia Tech Campus**

Access and Affordability Proposal

- Dr. Menah Pratt, Vice President for Diversity, Inclusion, and Strategic Affairs
- Dr. Matthew Holt, Agriculture and Applied Economics Department Head

Annual Legislative Update

- Mr. Chris Yianilos, Vice President for Government and Community Relations
- Ms. Elizabeth Hooper, Associate Vice President of Government and Community Relations
- Ms. Amy Sebring, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Tuition and Fees Update

- Ms. Amy Sebring, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
- Mr. Ken Miller, Vice President for Finance and University Treasurer

Six-Year Capital Plan

- Mr. Ken Miller, Vice President for Finance and University Treasurer
- Mr. Bob Broyden, Associate Vice President for Campus Planning and Capital Financing

Freedom of Speech and Inquiry Discussion

- Dr. Robin Queen, Chair of Task Force on Freedom of Expression and Inquiry

Constituent Reports

- Mr. Jamal Ross, Undergraduate Student Representative to the Board
- Ms. Anna Buhle, Graduate Student Representative to the Board
- Ms. Serena Young, Staff Representative to the Board
- Ms. Holli Drewry, Administrative and Professional Faculty Representative to the Board
- Dr. Robert Weiss, Faculty Representative to the Board

Access and Affordability:

Current Approach and Progress Updates

MENAH PRATT AND MATT HOLT

MARCH 2023

VIRGINIA TECH'S ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY INITIATIVE: A BRIEF REVIEW

- *The BOV explored A&A as a strategic priority at the August 2022 retreat.*
- *In November 2022, the BOV called for “Closing the Aid Gap” relative to peer institutions.*
- *In his January 2023 State of the Univ. Address, Pres. Sands emphasized A&A as one of the top institutional priorities.*

KEY PRINCIPLES FOR THE INITIATIVE

1. Overarching goal: *cover more in-state students with more support.*
2. “*Closing the Gap*” identified the need for ≈\$30M more per year to resource the aid program relative to our peers. *Target achievement over five years.*
3. Closing the *net price gap* is *not the same as* closing the *affordability gap*. Affordability will require even *more resources over ten+ years* (target pending).

KEY PRINCIPLES FOR THE INITIATIVE (CONTINUED)

4. For impact, we must focus on *recruiting, first-year retention, and sustained support* while at VT.
5. Listening to and *incorporating student voices* is key to constructing an effort with sustained success.
6. The *additional resources* for expanding need-based aid programs will come *from internal, state, and philanthropic sources*.

CURRENT APPROACH AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

<i>Steering Committee</i>	<i>Working Groups</i>
Chaired by Menah and Matt	1. Student Experience
Stakeholders From: Enrollment Management Student Affairs Advancement Government Relations Finance Communications Dean Representative BOV Representative	Chaired by R. Holloway, E. Graves, and F. Keene Interviewing students; identifying success bottlenecks; ensure the full Hokie experience.
	2. Financial Feasibility
	Chaired by L. Havens, J. Earley, and T. Hodge Developing short- and long-term strategies; emergency aid needs.

**Annual Legislative Update
Review of the 2023 General Assembly Session**

BOARD OF VISITORS INFORMATION SESSION

March 1, 2023

Overview of the Appropriations Process

Amendments to the 2022-24 Biennial Budget

On September 30, 2022, the university submitted budget requests, based on its approved Six-Year plan, to the Department of Planning and Budget. The requests were considered by the Executive Branch and used to inform the development of the Governor's proposed 2022-24 Executive Budget. Governor Youngkin presented the Executive Budget proposal to the General Assembly on Thursday, December 15, 2022. The General Assembly session opened on January 11, 2023.

Traditionally, each chamber of the General Assembly will review the Executive Budget proposal, introduce desired amendments, and pass an amended biennial budget proposal to be reviewed by the other chamber. As the two chambers' budgets often differ from each other, the budget proposals are taken up by a Conference Committee. The Committee, composed of members of each chamber, then produces a compromise budget for final approval in both the House and Senate. Once approved, the Governor has 30 days to review the General Assembly's budget and propose any vetoes for consideration at the reconvened session in April. After final General Assembly approval, the budget becomes a chapter within the current year's Acts of Assembly, and is thereafter referred to as the Appropriation Act.

The 2023 General Assembly adjourned on February 25, 2023 without passing a traditional comprehensive package of budget amendments. Instead, a "skinny budget" was approved that made minimal modifications to the *existing biennial budget*. The Conference Committee continues to work on a larger package of amendments. This report summarizes the key elements of the Executive Budget and competing House and Senate budget proposals. A supplement will be provided to the Board once final actions have been approved by the legislature.

Decision Package Summary

In September 2022, the Office of the Governor provided guidance and instruction for the submission of decision packages to be considered as amendments to the 2022-24 biennium budget. The university was advised to submit requests specific for Virginia Tech specific needs through the Decision Package process. Priorities impacting institutions throughout the Commonwealth, including student financial aid, operations and maintenance, tuition moderation, and Virginia Military Survivors & Education Program, would be considered on a broader level.

Based on the university's previously submitted Six-Year plan, the university shared the institution's budget priorities with the Office of the Secretary of Education and submitted targeted budget requests to the Department of Planning and Budget in October. The university's requests included the following items for 2022-24:

	\$s in Millions
<u>University Division Operating</u>	FY24
1) Improve Affordable Access to Medical Education	\$26.4
2) Develop Artificial Intelligence Risk Center	1.0
3) Establish Pilot Program for Clinical Research Center	1.0
4) Enhance Security and Resilience of Space-Based Systems	1.0
<i>Subtotal University Division</i>	29.4
<u>CE/AES Division Operating</u>	
1) Reduce Impact of Inflationary Cost Increases	1.0
<i>Total Operating</i>	\$30.4
<u>University Division Capital Projects</u>	FY24
1) Expand Virginia Tech-Carilion School of Medicine and Fralin Biomedical Research Institute	\$216.2
2) Renovate and Expand Chemistry/Physics Facilities	122.9
3) Derring Hall Envelope Repair Project	18.4
4) Burruss Hall Water Pipe System Replacement Project	7.4
5) Power House Renewal Project	8.1
6) North Chiller Generation Plant Equipment Replacement	6.7
<i>Subtotal University Division</i>	\$379.7
<u>CE/AES Division Capital Projects</u>	
7) Improve Center Woods Complex	\$21.7
<i>Total Capital</i>	\$401.4

A summary of actions included in the Executive Budget that impact Virginia Tech and the higher education operating environment is found in Attachment 1.

2023 General Assembly Session

The General Assembly session began on January 11, 2023. House and Senate members submitted amendments to the proposed Executive Budget Bill by January 13th for consideration by the respective body's financial committee. Through that process, the university submitted targeted requests for additional funding:

	<i>\$s in Millions</i>
<u>University Division Operating</u>	FY24
1) Support Growth in Virginia Military Survivors & Dependents Education Program	\$ 7.2
2) Expand Affordable Access to Medical Education	6.7
<u>CE/AES Division Operating</u>	
1) Reduce Impact of Inflationary Cost Increases	1.0
<i>Total Operating</i>	\$ 14.9
<u>Capital Projects</u>	
1) NGF Appropriation for Project to Expand VTSCOM and FBRI	\$ 2.9
2) VT Cooperative Extension: Center Woods Complex	21.7
<i>Total Capital</i>	\$ 24.6

General Assembly Budget

The House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees published their proposed amendments to the 2022-24 Executive Budget on February 5, 2023. House and Senate budget proposals impacting Virginia Tech are summarized in Attachment 1. Additional details about these actions and others impacting the operating and higher education environment are summarized in Attachment 2. The General Assembly adjourned on February 25th after approving a so-called ‘skinny budget’ to fund four critical items, most notably a fix to a K-12 education funding error. A date for a special session for further legislative action on amendments to the 2022-24 biennial budget has not yet been announced.

Legislation with Higher Education Impact

During the 2023 General Assembly session, 2,863 pieces of legislation were considered by lawmakers. The university has followed this legislation, particularly that which may impact the university, and advocated or influenced legislation impacting higher education, when appropriate.

Legislation was proposed on a wide range of higher education-related topics. The following represent a sample of finance-related items that may have an impact on the university, and their final status:

Legislation that passed:

HB1403: Requires any public institution of higher education that maintains and operates university housing during scheduled intersessions to provide access to such housing at no cost to any student who is eligible for a certain tuition and fee grant based on his placement in foster care at age 18 and satisfaction of several other enumerated criteria, provided that the student (i) is a registered student for the immediately following academic

term and (ii) meets the definitions and conditions of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended.

HB1555/SB1373: Directs the governing board of each public institution of higher education to develop and implement policies requiring a trauma-informed human trafficking awareness and prevention training program be provided to and completed by all first-year students as a part of such institution's first-year orientation program.

SB955: Provides that public institutions of higher education may enter into special arrangement contracts with the Virginia Department of Military Affairs for the purpose of providing reduced rate tuition charges for any member of the Virginia National Guard receiving state tuition assistance grants.

SB1280: Directs the governing board of each public institution of higher education to adopt policies requiring that participation in an internship or work-based learning experience be integrated into a student's degree program so as not to extend the time to complete the degree. The bill directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) to convene a work group to make recommendations on the development, adoption, and implementation of the policies required pursuant to the bill. No changes will be implemented until July 1, 2025.

Legislation that did not pass:

HB1890/SB1356: Would have required the governing board of each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to provide for the guaranteed admission of any eligible veteran applicant.

HB2076: Would have made several changes to expand the eligibility criteria for the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program.

HB2152: Would have provided that any child of an active duty service member or veteran who claims Virginia as his home state and filed Virginia tax returns for at least four years during active duty service is eligible for in-state tuition charges regardless of domicile.

HB2462: Would have required SCHEV to develop procedures for (i) identifying each individual who has defaulted on any loan agreement that he entered into in order to finance all or any portion of the cost of tuition or mandatory fees to attend the baccalaureate public institution of higher education at which he earned his degree within five years of earning such degree and (ii) determining which such loan defaults qualify for repayment by the baccalaureate public institution of higher education at which the individual earned his degree.

SB1030: Would have required the Board of Visitors to adopt policies and procedures requiring transparent disclosure to each Virginia student or parent what dollar amount of such student's annual tuition and other mandatory fees is used to provide financial aid,

grants, or scholarships for other students at such institution, as well as an opportunity to opt out of such payment.

SB1098: Would have prohibited any public institution of higher education from implementing a new program of instruction or implementing a new curriculum for an existing program of instructions without first obtaining the approval of SCHEV, the House Committee on Education, and the Senate Committee on Education and Health.

SB1110: Would have prohibited any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth from conditioning the provision of an academic transcript to a current or former student on the payment of an outstanding debt to such institution if the student is requesting the transcript for the purpose of (i) applying for employment or (ii) pursuing opportunities in the Armed Forces or National Guard. The bill would have also prohibited any public institution of higher education from conditioning the provision of an academic transcript to a current or former student on the repayment of an outstanding debt if (a) the outstanding debt is less than \$500 or (b) the student has enrolled in a repayment plan and, as of the date of the request, has made at least three consecutive monthly payments.

SB1193: Would have required each public institution of higher education to disclose to the SCHEV all financial gifts, bequests, grants, or payments received from or any contracts entered into with any foreign government by such institution or any employee or agent thereof.

HB1800/SB1197: Would have imposed several new requirements on governing board of public institutions of higher education relating to transparency.

SB1202: Would have declared eligible for in-state tuition at a public institution of higher education, regardless of domicile, any non-Virginia student who is a member of the Virginia National Guard and who is eligible pursuant to relevant law for a grant in the amount of the difference between the full cost of tuition and any other educational benefits for which he is eligible as a member of the Virginia National Guard.

SB1358: Would have directed the governing board of each public institution of higher education to adopt policies providing that the percentage of first-time undergraduate students enrolled at such public institution of higher education must be capped at a two percent increase over a biennium.

SB1434: Would have required the allocation of at least 15 percent of the investment returns on endowment funds for the purpose of ensuring access and affordability.

HJ511: Would have requested the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to study, in collaboration with the Department of Education, the feasibility and efficacy of offering the dependents of public elementary and secondary school teachers in the Commonwealth reduced rate in-state tuition at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth for the purpose of improving retention rates of public-school teachers in the Commonwealth.

HJ541: Would have directed the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the cost efficiency of public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth and to identify opportunities to reduce the cost of public higher education in the Commonwealth.

Future Actions

The General Assembly will reconvene for a one-day session on April 12, 2023 to consider the Governor's amendments and vetoes to legislation. As of the drafting of this report, Governor Youngkin has not yet scheduled a special session for further consideration of amendments to the 2022-24 biennial budget. A supplemental report will be shared with the Board when final budget actions are understood.

PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

as of March 1, 2023

\$s in millions

	Six-Year Plan Requests		Executive Budget		House Budget		Senate Budget	
	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24
Operating Budget								
General Fund								
University Division E&G								
Affordable Access / Tuition Mitigation	\$ 0.0	\$ 12.2	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	\$ 7.1	\$ 0.0	\$ 22.6
Support Growth in VMSDEP Waivers	6.0	7.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Improve Affordable Access for Medical Education	-	26.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provide funding for operations and maintenance of new facilities coming online in FY24	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Subtotal University Division E&G Budget</i>	6.0	46.8	-	-	-	7.1	-	22.6
Employee Compensation (estimated state share)								
Salary Increase								
5% Faculty, Staff, and GAs, June 10, 2023	-	-	-	13.3	-	13.3	-	13.3
Add'l 2% (Total of 7%) Faculty, Staff, and GAs, June 10, 2023	-	-	-	-	-	5.3	-	5.3
Add'l 0.5% Flexible Compensation Funding	-	-	-	-	-	1.3	-	-
One-time Bonus								
\$1500 Bonus for Full-Time State Employees, Effective December 1, 2023	-	-	-	3.2	-	-	-	-
\$1000 Bonus for Full-Time State Employees, Effective December 1, 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.1
Contingent Merit Bonus for Full-Time State Employees, Effective December 1, 2023	-	-	-	TBD	-	-	-	-
<i>Subtotal University Division E&G Compensation</i>	-	-	-	16.5	-	19.9	-	20.7
Student Financial Aid								
Virginia Undergraduate Financial Aid	-	20.7	-	-	-	-	-	3.8
Research								
Pilot Program for Clinical Research Center	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Testbed for Security and Resilience of Space-Based Systems	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial Intelligence Risk Center	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-
<i>Subtotal Research</i>	-	3.0	-	-	-	1.0	-	-
Higher Education Equipment Trust Fund								
Traditional Allocation	-	-	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3
Research Allocation	-	-	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2
<i>Subtotal Equipment Trust Fund</i>	-	-	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5	15.5
Subtotal - University Division	6.0	70.5	15.5	32.0	15.5	43.6	15.5	62.6
Cooperative Extension/AES Division (CE/AES) E&G								
Reduce Impact of Inflationary Cost Increases	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Building Resiliency Initiative	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-	-
Provide funding for operations and maintenance of new facilities coming online in FY24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2
<i>Subtotal CE/AES Division E&G</i>	-	1.0	-	-	-	0.5	-	0.2
Employee Compensation (estimated state share)								
Salary Increase								
5% Faculty, Staff, and GTAs, June 10, 2023	-	-	-	3.7	-	3.7	-	3.7
Add'l 2% (Total of 7%) Faculty, Staff, and GTAs, June 10, 2023	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	-	1.5
Add'l 0.5% Flexible Compensation Funding	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	-
One-time Bonus								
\$1500 Bonus for Full-Time State Employees, Effective December 1, 2023	-	-	-	1.1	-	-	-	-
\$1000 Bonus for Full-Time State Employees, Effective December 1, 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7
Contingent Merit Bonus for Full-Time State Employees, Effective December 1, 2023	-	-	-	TBD	-	-	-	-
<i>Subtotal CE/AES Division E&G Compensation</i>	-	-	-	4.8	-	5.6	-	5.9
Subtotal CE/AES Division	-	1.0	-	4.8	-	6.1	-	6.1
Total Operating Budget State Support	\$ 6.0	\$ 71.5	\$ 15.5	\$ 36.8	\$ 15.5	\$ 49.7	\$ 15.5	\$ 68.7

PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
as of March 1, 2023
\$s in thousands

CAPITAL BUDGET

University Division

Maintenance Reserve

Expand Virginia Tech-Carilion School of Medicine and Fralin Biomedical Research Institute (planning)

2022 Supplement Pool (c)

Potential Projects: Innovation Campus Academic Building and Mitchell/Randolph Hall

Cooperative Extension & Agricultural Experiment Station Division

Improve Center Woods Complex (planning)

TOTAL CAPITAL SUPPORT

	State Support		
	Executive Budget	House Budget	Senate Budget
	\$ 35,141 (a)	\$ 38,137 (a)	\$ 35,141
	\$ 6,005 (b)	\$ 9,000 (b)	\$ 9,000 (b)
	(c)		
	-	\$ 1,500 (d)	-
	\$ 41,146	\$ 48,637	\$ 44,141

Footnotes:

- (a) The Executive Budget included \$35.14M of Maintenance Reserve funding for Virginia Tech for the 2022-24 Biennium. The House increased the Maintenance Reserve funding pool by \$27.4M, including Virginia Tech's FY2024 Maintenance Reserve allocation by nearly \$3M. The Senate did not propose any changes from the Executive Budget in their Committee Reports.
- (b) Support for the planning of the VTCSOM and FBRI expansion is authorized to proceed with \$6.05M of institutional nongeneral funds. Both the House and Senate proposed increasing this nongeneral fund planning authorization to \$9 million.
- (c) The Executive Budget included a 2022 Supplement Pool in the amount of \$400M. This includes \$100M in FY23 and \$300M in FY24, which are contingent upon state revenue collections meeting FY23 forecasts. The House and the Senate have differing positions on the amount of this Supplement Pool; as the House would like to decrease it while the Senate would like to increase it. Virginia Tech desires to obtain a portion of this supplement pool funding for several projects including the Innovation Campus Academic Building and Mitchell Hall.
- (d) The House included the Improve Center Woods Complex project within the 2022 General Fund Capital Planning pool.

**2022-24 BUDGETS AS OF CROSSOVER
AS OF TUESDAY, March 1, 2023**

The Executive column reflects incremental changes in the 2022-24 biennial budget proposed by the Governor.
House and Senate columns reflect incremental changes proposed by each body to the Executive Budget.

	Executive	House	Senate
<i>University Division (Agency 208) Operating Budget</i>			
Affordable Access and Tuition Moderation	No additional incremental support proposed.	Proposes \$7.1M from the General Fund in the second year to hold in-state undergraduate tuition increases to no more than one percent in FY24.	Proposes \$22.6M from the General Fund in the second year to support the growing need for student support services; address increased costs resulting from inflation; refine or create programs that meet current and future workforce needs; and minimize the need to raise tuition and fees.
Student Financial Aid	No additional incremental support proposed.	No change to Executive Budget.	Proposes \$3.8M from the General Fund to support increased affordability for low- and middle-income students.
<i>Cooperative Extension & Agricultural Experiment Station (CA/EAS) Division (Agency 229) Operating Budget</i>			
Building Resiliency Initiative	No additional incremental support proposed.	Proposes \$0.5M from the General Fund in the second year to support extension programs and complete the phase-in of additional extension agents and specialists.	No change to Executive Budget.
Operations & Maintenance of New Facilities	No additional incremental support proposed.	No additional incremental support proposed.	Proposes \$166K from the General Fund in the second year for the operation and maintenance of the Seafood Agricultural Research Center.
<i>Employee Compensation and Benefits</i>			
Salary Increase	Maintains 5% state employee increase effective June 10, 2023 as authorized by 2022 General Assembly.	Proposes 7% effective June 10, 2023. Proposes an additional 0.5% salary increase (for total of 7.5%) to address turnover, vacancies, and compression issues or to acknowledge exceptional work performance.	Proposes 7% effective June 10, 2023.

Bonus/Differential Compensation	One-time bonus of \$1,500 for full-time state employees effective December 1, 2023. Proposes a revenue-contingent performance-based bonus payment of up to 10% of an employee's salary to top performing state employees, effective December 1, 2023.	Eliminates both bonus programs proposed in the Executive budget.	Reduces one-time bonus for full-time state employees to \$1,000. Eliminates revenue-contingent performance-based bonus.
Health Insurance Premiums	Proposes 4.1 increase in 2 nd year.	No change to Executive budget	No change to Executive Budget.
<i>Virginia Tech Research</i>			
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation	N/A	Proposes \$1.0M from the General Fund in the second year be designated to the "Fralin Biomedical Research Institute to research the efficacy of making electroencephalogram combined transcranial magnetic stimulation available for veterans, first responders, and law-enforcement officers."	No change to Executive Budget.
<i>Statewide Initiatives and Language Impacting Higher Education or Virginia Tech</i>			
Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies	N/A	N/A	Proposes restoring language inadvertently removed as part of the introduced budget in the 2022 Session which establishes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies 2) Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding 3) Joint Subcommittee on the Future Competitiveness of Virginia Higher Education The Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies shall issue an interim report by October 15, 2023. Full text of the amendment is included in the appendix.

ATTACHMENT C
Attachment 2

Out-of-State Tuition Authority	N/A	Provides Norfolk State University, Virginia State University, and other institutions of higher education with less than 20 percent nonresident enrollment with the relief from the requirement to charge all nonresidents at least 100% of their cost of education.	No change to Executive Budget.
Tuition and Fee Transparency	N/A	Proposes requiring institutions to disclose to students and/or parents what dollar amount of such student's annual tuition and other mandatory fees is used to provide financial aid, grants, or scholarships for other students at such institution, and a mechanism for such student to opt out of paying that portion.	No change to Executive Budget.
Student Transcripts	N/A	Proposes requiring each public institution of higher education to release an academic transcript directly to the employer or prospective employer of a current or former student enrolled at such institution upon request, regardless of outstanding debt if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Debt is less than \$500, or 2) Student has enrolled in repayment plan and made at least 3 consecutive payments. 	No change to Executive Budget.
Interest Earnings and Credit Care Rebate	Transfers unappropriated escrow balances from prior years to the General Fund. Includes \$1.4 million escrowed from Virginia Tech (in 2019 and 2020) that will not be returned.	No change to Executive budget.	No change to Executive budget.

ATTACHMENT C
Attachment 2

<p>Higher Education Financial Reporting</p>	<p>Proposes that “The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, in consultation with the Department of Accounts, shall develop a process and standardized format for institutions of higher education to report annual financial data for all state and local funds that are not recorded in the state's central financial reporting system. Such data shall include fiscal year-end revenues, expenditures, and cash balances by fund detail code and title or other similar identifiers. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia shall collect this data from each institution of higher education by September 30, 2023, and annually thereafter.”</p>	<p>No changes to Executive budget</p>	<p>No change to Executive budget.</p>
<p>Innovative Internship Program</p>	<p>Proposes an additional \$5M from the General Fund for the Innovative Internship Fund and Program for a total of \$15M in FY24.</p>	<p>No change to Executive Budget</p>	<p>No change to Executive Budget</p>
<p>SCHEV Pell Initiative</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>No change to Executive Budget</p>	<p>Proposes an additional \$25M to Pell Initiative to attract and retain low-income students. Institutions may pitch pilot programs to use portion of pool funds.</p>
<p>Mental Health Services</p>	<p>Proposes \$9M from the General Fund in one-time support to SCHEV for student mental health services in elementary, secondary, and higher education institutions. SCHEV and VDOE shall coordinate efforts to pursue a common vendor to provide such services including virtual care.</p>	<p>Proposes technical changes to the proposed language, separating the higher education pilot program from K-12 activities.</p>	<p>Proposes language that would clarify that the use of funds is designated as a one-time appropriation to support student mental health services in institutions of higher education; removes language related to elementary and secondary students.</p>
<p>Study Student Debt Policy</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Directs Secretary of Education, the Office of Attorney General, and SCHEV to evaluate student debt policies and practices at public institutions of higher education.</p>	<p>No change to Executive budget.</p>

Capital Budget			
Maintenance Reserve	The 2022 General Assembly provided \$35.14M to the university; no Maintenance Reserve funding changes are proposed in the 2023 Executive Budget amendment for Virginia Tech.	Proposes an additional \$3.0M in the 2nd year for a total of \$38.14M over the biennium.	No change to Executive Budget funding levels. Proposes directing the Department of Planning and Budget to review and approve projects for agencies and higher education institutions.
Virginia Tech Detail Planning Projects	Proposes \$6.05M (Nongeneral Fund) for the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and FBRI Expansion Project Planning.	Proposes increasing VTCSOM/FBRI total authorization to \$9.0M (NGF). Adds Improve Center Woods Complex to the Capital Planning Pool (GF).	Proposes increasing VTCSOM/FBRI total authorization to \$9.0M (NGF).
New Capital Supplemental Pool	Proposes \$400M statewide, contingent upon state revenue collections meeting FY23 forecast.	Proposes reducing supplemental pool to \$248.5M.	Proposes increasing supplemental pool to \$450M.
9(d) Debt Authorization	Proposes 9d Debt Authorization for the Replace Randolph (Mitchell Hall) Project and the Improve Building Envelope Repairs Project	No change to Executive Budget.	No change to Executive Budget.
Equipment	Proposes \$65.1M from the General Fund for equipment for previously approved projects; Includes the Undergraduate Science Laboratory Building.	Proposes increasing the total authorization to \$67M (\$1.9M increase).	No change to Executive Budget.
Alternative Financing related to Public Private Partnership Agreements	Proposes requiring approval of alternative financing arrangements by Cabinet Secretary, Secretary of Finance, and Secretary of Administration. Also requires Treasury Board approval of financing arrangements for capital projects executed by private foundations in instances where an institution of higher education has agreed to provide financial or non-financial types of support related to the project.	Proposes language to clarify that additional administrative authorities required for the use of alternative financing mechanisms do not apply to projects otherwise specifically authorized by the General Assembly in this, or any preceding Appropriation Act. Full language in the Appendix.	Proposes elimination of Executive Budget proposal. A companion amendment to § 4-4.01 Capital Projects General requires the Treasury Board to review and submit recommendations to the Secretary of Finance and Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees. Full language in the Appendix.

Appendix

Item 1#3s: Joint Subcommittees on Higher Education (Restoration of long-standing language with new changes tracked)

Page 12, after line 34, insert:

~~¶~~ 1. The Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees shall each appoint four members from their respective committees to a joint subcommittee to review public higher education funding policies and enrollment management and to make recommendations to their respective committees. The objective of the review is to develop policies and formulas to provide the public institutions of higher education with an equitable funding methodology that: (a) recognizes differences in institutional mission; (b) provides incentives for achievement and productivity; (c) recognizes enrollment ~~growth~~ management; and (d) establishes funding objectives in areas such as ~~faculty salaries~~ operations, financial aid, and the appropriate share of educational and general costs that should be borne by resident students. In addition, the review shall include the development of comparable cost data concerning the delivery of higher education through an analysis of the relationship of each public institution to its various national peers. The public institutions of higher education and the staff of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia are directed to provide technical assistance, as required, to the joint subcommittee.

2. The **Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies** shall conduct an assessment of the adequacy of the current educational and general funding levels for Virginia's public institutions of higher education. The assessment shall be used to develop guidelines against which to measure funding requests for higher education. The assessment shall include, but not be limited to, the following components:

- a) Updated ~~student to faculty ratios~~ cost models based on current practice or industry norms.
- b) Consideration of support staff ~~needs and the changing requirements~~ types of support staff due to students served, ~~technology and privatization of services previously performed by the institutions.~~
- c) Costs of instruction, such as equipment, utilities, facilities maintenance, and other nonpersonal services expenses.
- d) Recognition of the individual mission of the institution, student characteristics, location, or other factors that may influence the costs of instruction.
- e) Benchmarking of the funding guidelines against a ~~group~~ groups of peer institutions, or other appropriate comparator group, to assess the validity of the guidelines.
- f) Means by which measures of institutional performance can be assessed and incorporated into funding and policy guidelines for higher education.

3. The Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies shall develop a more precise methodology for determining funding needs at Virginia's public institutions of higher education related to enrollment ~~growth. The methodology should take into consideration that~~ management. ~~support staff and operations may need to be expanded when enrollment growth reaches certain levels.~~

4. The Joint Subcommittee may seek support from the staff of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees, the public institutions of higher education, or other higher education or state agency representatives, as requested by the Joint Subcommittee. At its discretion, the Joint Subcommittee may contract for consulting services.

5. The Joint Subcommittee is hereby continued to provide direction and oversight of higher education funding policies. The Joint Subcommittee shall review and articulate policies and funding methodologies on: (a) the appropriate share of educational and general costs that should be borne by students; (b) student financial aid; (c) undergraduate ~~medical and graduate~~ education funding; (d) ~~the mix of full time and part time faculty~~ first professional programs; (e) the mix of in-state and out-of-state students as it relates to tuition policy; (f) dual enrollment; and ~~(g) and~~ and the viability of statewide articulation agreements between four-year and two-year public institutions.

6. a. It is the objective of the General Assembly that funding for Virginia's public colleges and universities shall be based ~~primarily~~ on the framework and principles provided in the 2022 State Council of Higher report on Costs and Funding Needs and the funding guidelines outlined in the November, 2001 report of the Joint Subcommittee on Higher Education Funding Policies.

b. ~~Based on the findings and recommendations of its November, 2001 report, the~~ The Joint Subcommittee shall coordinate with the State Council of Higher Education, the Secretary of Education, and the Department of Planning and Budget in incorporating the higher education funding guidelines into the development of budget recommendations. The Commission shall issue an interim report on October 15, 2023, and final report.

c. As part of its responsibilities to ensure the fair and equitable distribution and use of public funds among the public institutions of higher education, the State Council of Higher Education shall incorporate the funding guidelines established by the Joint Subcommittee into its budget recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

...

ATTACHMENT C
Attachment 2

V.1.a. The Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees shall each appoint four members from their respective committees to a **Joint Subcommittee on the Future Competitiveness of Virginia Higher Education** to (a) review ways to maintain and improve the quality of higher education, while providing for broad access and affordability; (b) examine the impact of financial, demographic, and competitive changes on the sustainability of individual institutions and the system as a whole; (c) identify best practices to make the system more efficient, including shared services, institutional flexibility, and easily accessible academic pathways; (d) evaluate the use of distance education and online instruction across the Commonwealth and appropriate business models for such programs; (e) review current need-based financial aid programs and alternative models to best provide for student affordability and completion; (f) review the recommendations of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission on the study of the cost efficiency of higher education institutions and make recommendations to their respective committees on the implementation of those recommendations; (g) study the effectiveness and value of transfer students; (h) evaluate the effectiveness of dual enrollment in reducing the cost of higher education; and (i) study the effectiveness of preparing teachers to enter the K-12 system.

b. The Subcommittee will also conduct a focused review of access, affordability, quality, and autonomy issues related to Virginia's public higher education system. As part of that review the Subcommittee will explore ways to (a) improve the quality of higher education; (b) review the autonomy and flexibility granted to Virginia's public higher education institutions, including the history of restructuring and the expansion of autonomy; (c) examine access and affordability in higher education, including the cost of education and need-based financial aid programs; (d) review the impact of financial, demographic, and competitive changes on the sustainability of Virginia's public higher education system; and (e) identify any practices that would result in more efficient outcomes regarding cost and completion, including dual enrollment and online programs.

2. As the Joint Subcommittee conducts its analysis, it shall consider the mission, vision, goals and strategies outlined in the statewide strategic plan for higher education developed and approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, and endorsed by the General Assembly in House Joint Resolution 555 of the 2015 Session of the General Assembly.

3. As part of its deliberations, the Joint Subcommittee shall review alternative tuition and fee structures and programs that could result in lower costs to in-state undergraduate students.

4. The Joint Subcommittee may seek support and technical assistance from the staff of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees, the public institutions of higher education, the staff of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, and the staff of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. Other state agency or higher education representatives shall provide support upon request. At its discretion, the Joint Subcommittee may contract for consulting services.

5. The members of the Joint Subcommittee shall provide a final report to their respective committees at the conclusion of the review."

Item C-0 #1h: Alternative Financing (House proposal)

Page 604, strike lines 36 through 43 and insert:

I. Conditions Applicable to Alternative Financing

"The following authorizations to construct, purchase, lease or exchange a capital asset by means of an alternative financing mechanism, such as the Public Private Education Infrastructure Act, or similar statutory authority, are continued until revoked. *Except for projects specifically authorized or contained in this act, or any preceding Appropriation Act, Projects new project requests submitted to the Governor, in accordance with in this section, shall be consistent with the guidelines of the Department of General Services, and comply with Treasury Board Guidelines issued pursuant to § 23.1-1106 C.1.d, Code of Virginia, and be subject to review and approval of the Treasury Board pursuant to § 2.2-2416, Code of Virginia, the responsible Cabinet Secretary, the Secretary of Finance, and the Secretary of Administration.* Furthermore, projects in this section shall be submitted for comment to the Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan Advisory Committee, established under § 2.2-1516, Code of Virginia."

Item 4-4.01 #1h: Alternative Financing (House companion amendment to C-01#1h)

Page 677, strike lines 43-49

- Note: Executive Budget proposal in *italics*. House modifications shown in ~~strike through~~.

v.4. Except for institutions of higher education governed by Chapters 933 and 943 of the 2006 Acts of Assembly, Chapters 594 and 616 of the 2008 Acts of Assembly, Chapters 675 and 685 of the 2009 Acts of Assembly, and Chapters 124 and 125 of the 2019 Acts of Assembly, *and Chapters 76 and 77 of the 2021 Acts of Assembly, Special Session I*, any alternative financing agreement entered into between a state agency or institution of higher education and a private entity or affiliated foundation must be reviewed and approved by the Treasury Board. *This includes the terms and structure of any bonds, public-private partnerships, or other financing arrangements executed by private foundations for housing or other capital projects with respect to which an institution of higher education is obligated or agrees to provide financial or other types of support, including an agreement of non-financial support such as a support agreement.*

~~2. Any proposed alternative financing agreement, including public-private partnerships and projects authorized under § 2-0 I. of this Act, shall be submitted for the review and approval of the responsible Cabinet Secretary, the Secretary of Finance, and the Secretary of Administration prior to reviewing a detailed proposal and prior to entering into an agreement.~~

Item C-01 #1s: Alternative Financing (Senate proposal)

Page 604

- Note: Executive Budget proposal in *italics*. Senate modifications shown in ~~strikethrough~~.

"I. Conditions Applicable to Alternative Financing

The following authorizations to construct, purchase, lease or exchange a capital asset by means of an alternative financing mechanism, such as the Public Private Education Infrastructure Act, or similar statutory authority, are continued until revoked. Projects in this section shall be consistent with the guidelines of the Department of General Services, and comply with Treasury Board Guidelines issued pursuant to § 23.1-1106 C.1.d, Code of Virginia, ~~and be subject to review and approval of the Treasury Board pursuant to § 2.2- 2416, Code of Virginia, and § 4-4.01 v. of this Act. Projects in this section shall be submitted for review and approval of the responsible Cabinet Secretary, the Secretary of Finance, and the Secretary of Administration prior to reviewing a detailed proposal and prior to entering into an agreement.~~ Furthermore, projects in this section shall be submitted for comment to the Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan Advisory Committee, established under § 2.2-1516, Code of Virginia:"

Item 4-4.01 #2s: Alternative Financing (Senate companion amendment to C-01#1s)

Page 677, strike line 47 through 49, and insert:

"2. Any proposed alternative financing agreement, including public-private partnerships and projects authorized under § 2-0 I. of this Act, shall be submitted for review by the Treasury Board. The Treasury Board shall review and make recommendations to the Secretary of Finance. Such recommendations shall also be reported to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations and the House Committee on Appropriations. Nothing in this provision shall require the approval of the Secretary of Finance prior to reviewing a detailed proposal and prior to entering into an agreement."

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

CHRIS YIANILOS, VICE PRESIDENT FOR
GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

ELIZABETH HOOPER, ASSOCIATE VICE
PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT &
COMMUNITY RELATIONS

AMY SEBRING, EXECUTIVE VICE
PRESIDENT & CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

March 19, 2023

FEDERAL FUNDING UPDATE

CHRIS YIANILOS, VICE PRESIDENT FOR
GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

THE FEDERAL BUDGET IN FISCAL YEAR

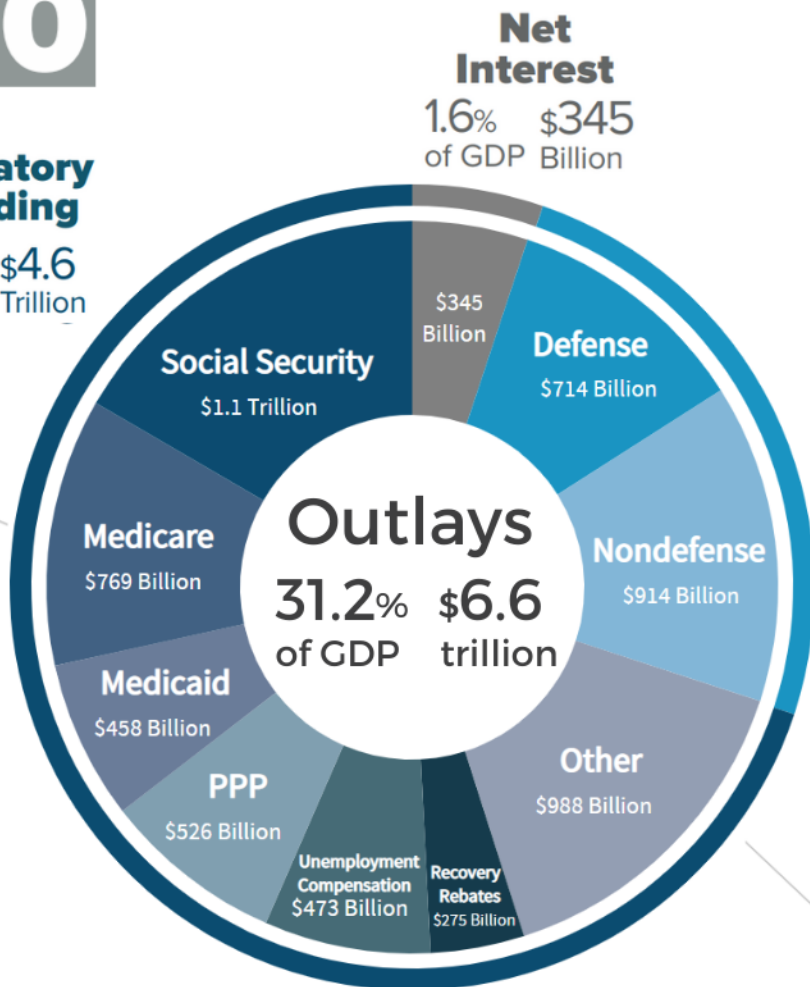
2020

ATTACHMENT C

Mandatory Spending

21.8% of GDP
\$4.6 Trillion

Outlays for Medicare minus income from premiums and other offsetting receipts



Taxes that fund social insurance programs, primarily Social Security and Medicare's Hospital Insurance program

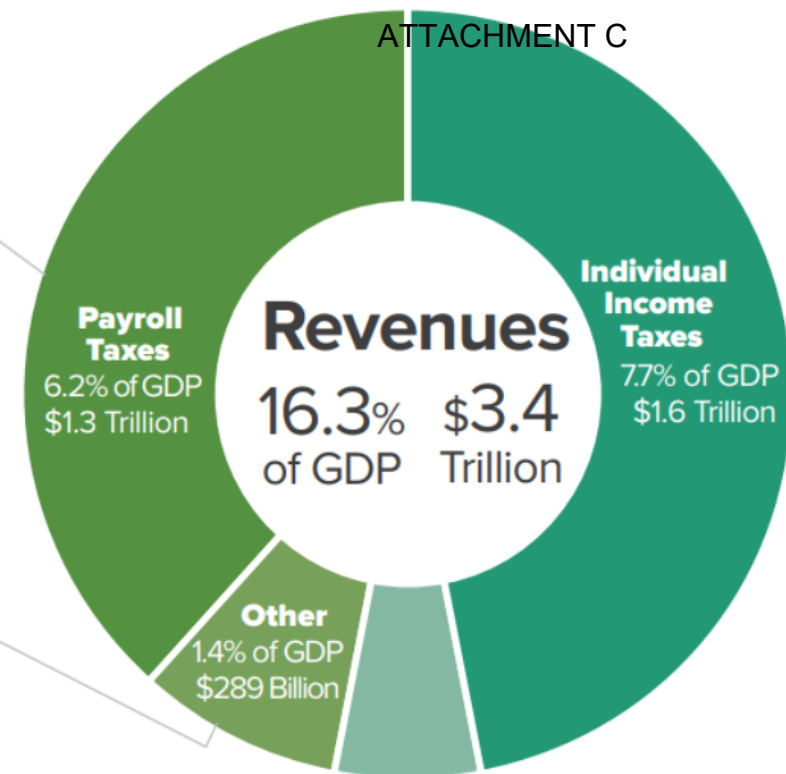
Excise taxes, estate and gift taxes, customs duties, remittances from the Federal Reserve, and miscellaneous fees and fines

Discretionary Spending

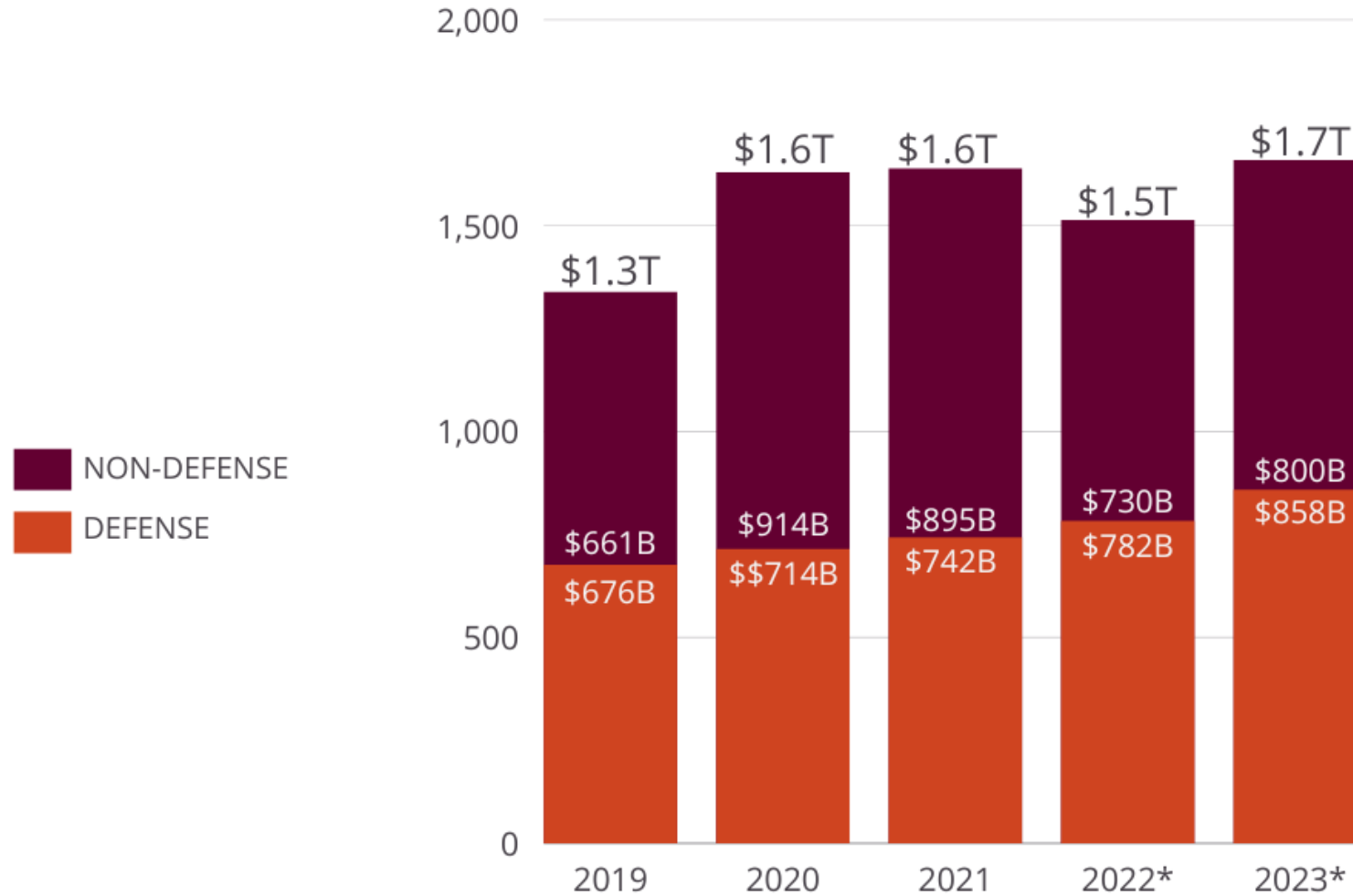
7.8% of GDP
\$1.6 Trillion

Outlays for many programs related to health, transportation, education, veterans' benefits, housing assistance, and other activities

Outlays for federal civilian and military retirement, some veterans' benefits, the earned income and child tax credits, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and other mandatory programs, minus income from offsetting receipts

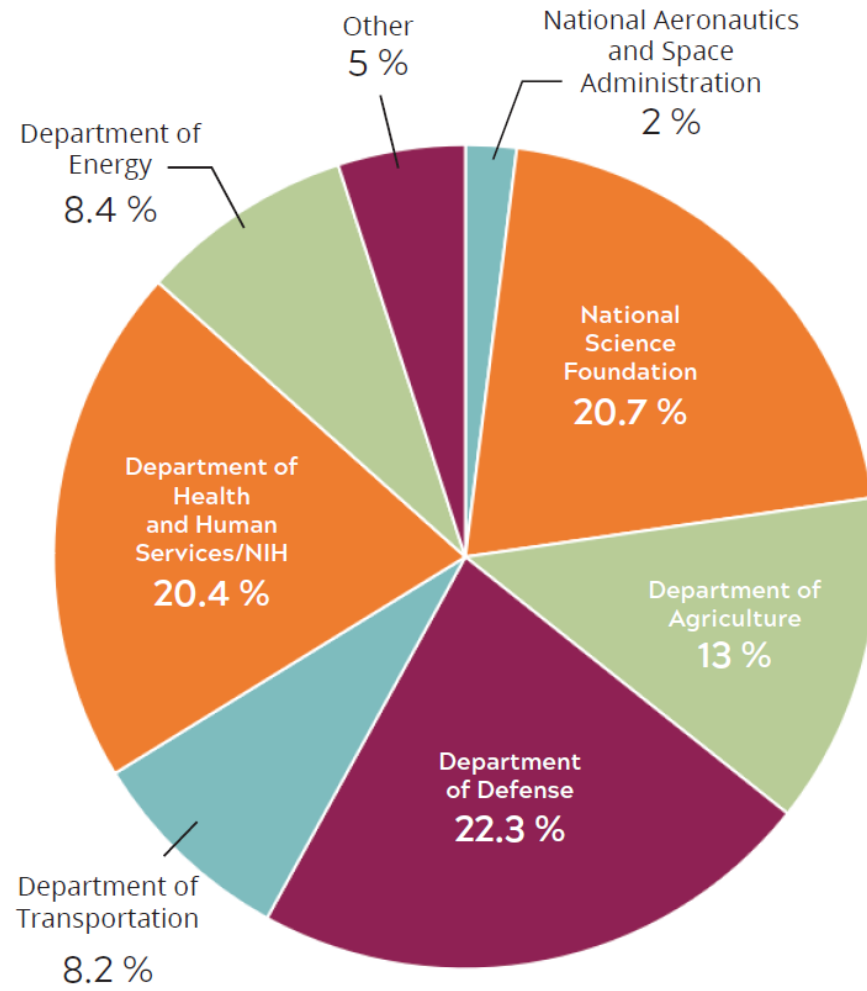


DISCRETIONARY SPENDING



*Figures may be adjusted by the Congressional Budget Office at a later date

Federal Research Portfolio



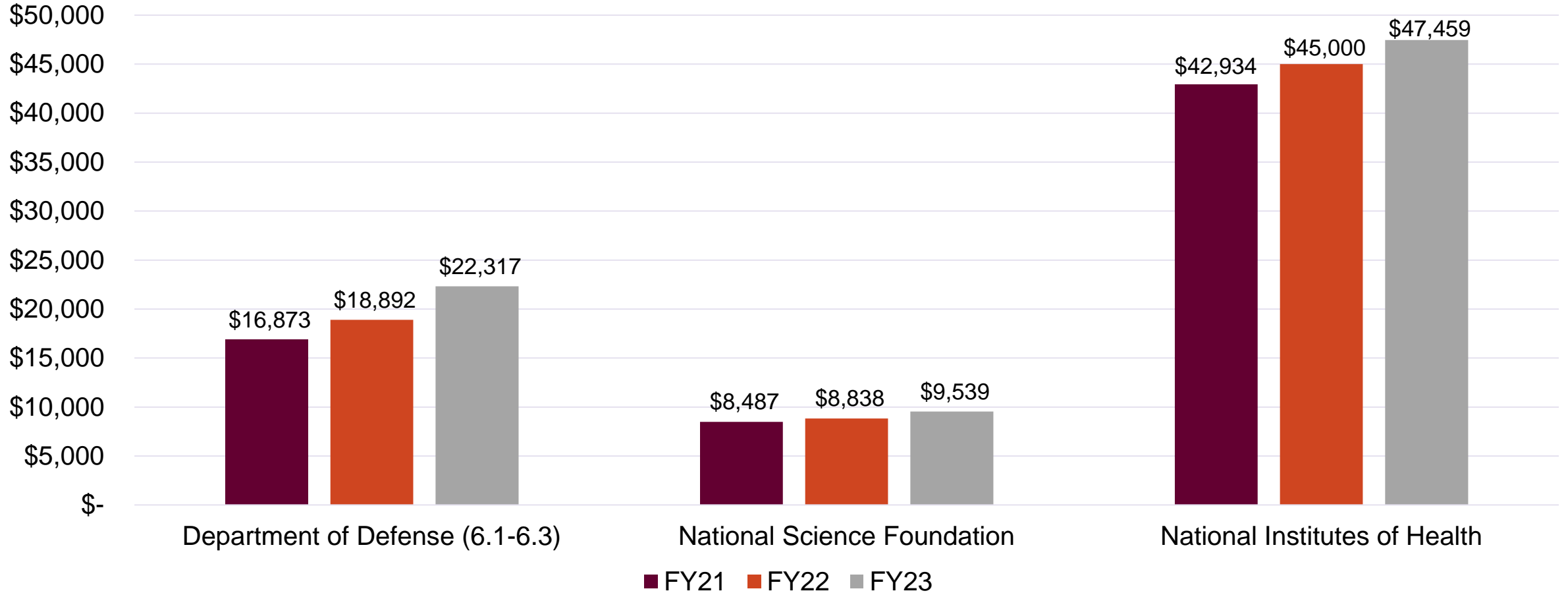
#54

Ranked 54th by the NSF
 out of approximately
 640 research
 universities in research
 expenditures

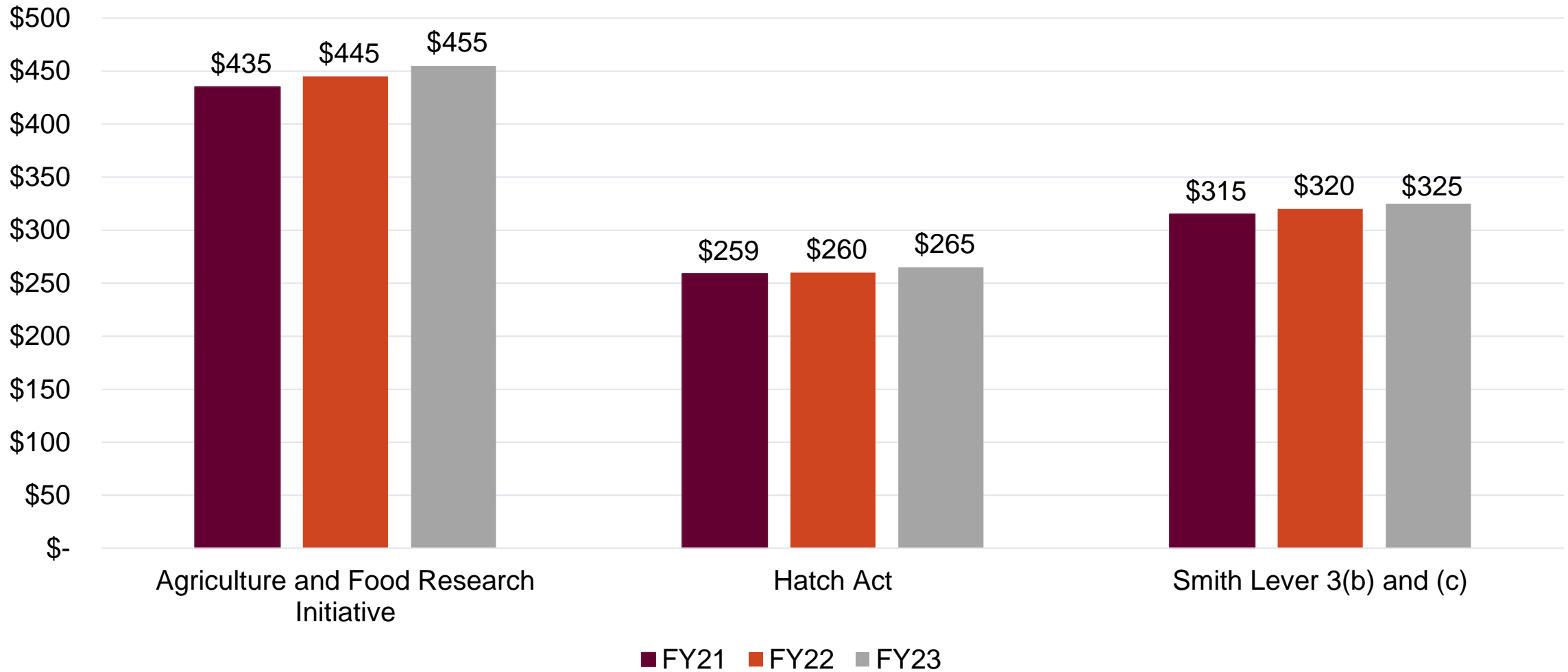
\$590
 million

Produced over \$590
 million in research
 expenditures in FY2022

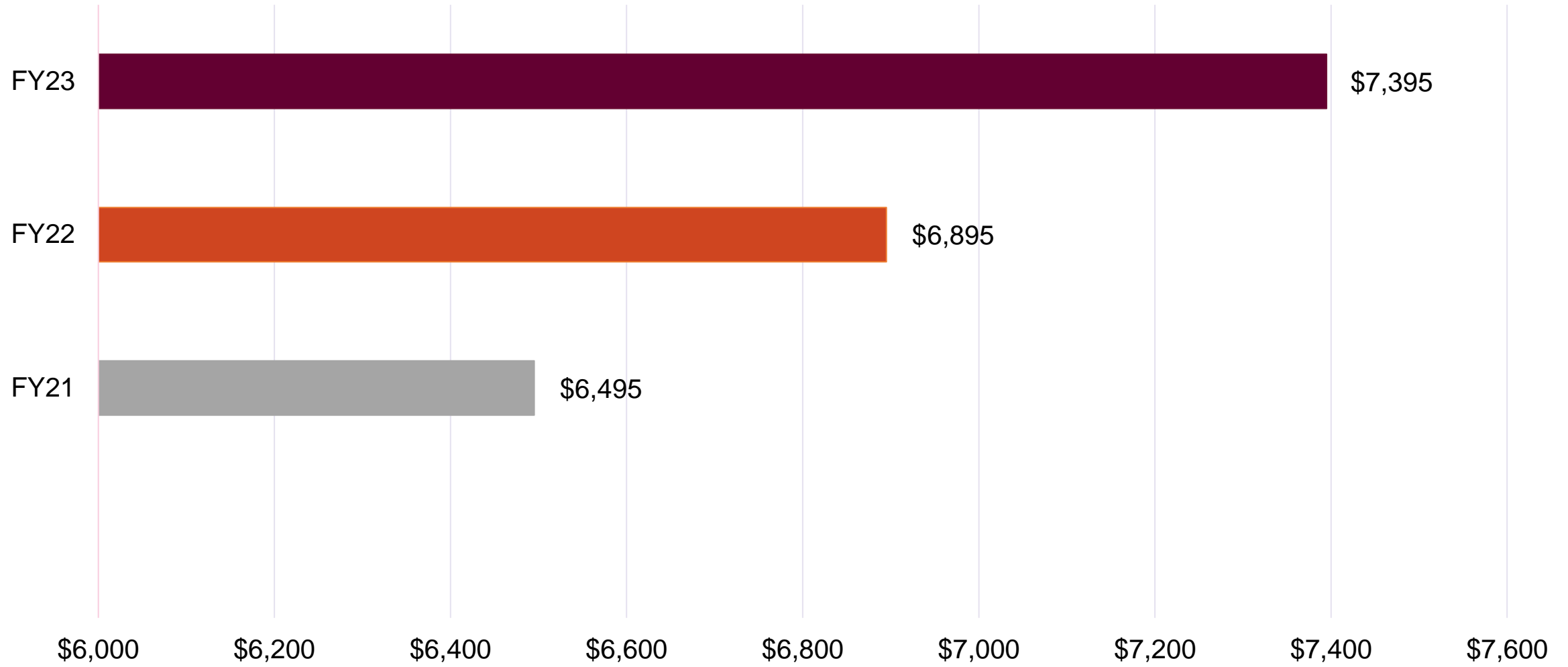
FEDERAL RESEARCH FUNDING (in millions)



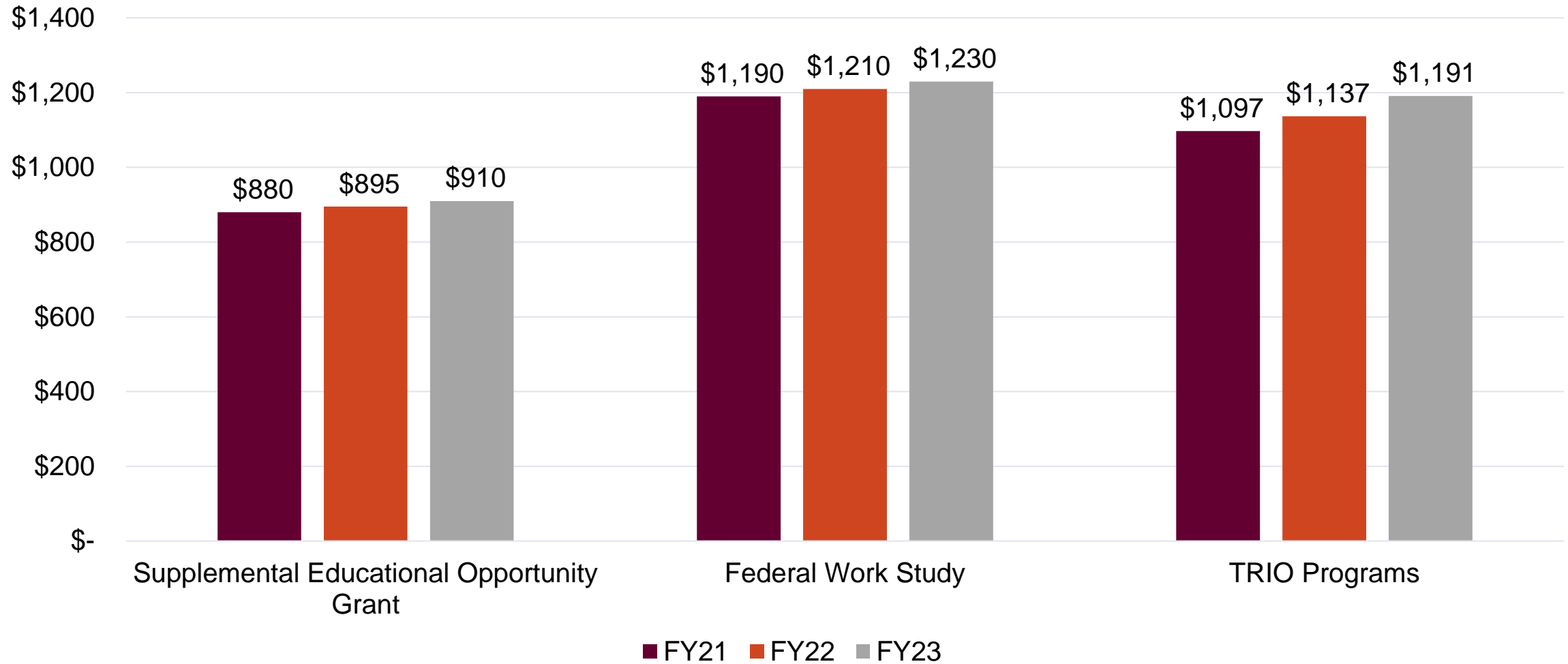
AGRICULTURE (in millions)



MAXIMUM PELL GRANT



STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND OUTREACH (in millions)



FY23 Directed Spending and Plus-Ups



DISCUSSION

GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

ELIZABETH HOOPER, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT
OF GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislation that PASSED included:

<u>HB1403</u>	Housing for foster care students during intersessions
<u>HB1555/SB1373</u>	Development and implementation of training programs on human trafficking
<u>HB1916/SB910</u>	Powers and duties of threat assessment teams
<u>HB2133</u>	Clarifies the State Fire Marshall authority and jurisdiction of state-owned buildings, property or structures
<u>HB2348/SB1271</u>	Public notification requirements for animal testing facilities
<u>SB955</u>	Special Arrangement Contracts for Virginia National Guard
<u>SB1044</u>	Requirement for new identity cards to include 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline telephone number
<u>SB1280</u>	SCHEV work group to examine policies that would require participation in an internship or work-based learning experience
<u>SB1459</u>	Prohibiting the use of applications such as TikTok and WeChat by public bodies

GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislation that FAILED to pass included:

<u>HB1387/HB1399/SB911/SB1186</u>	Biological sex and participation in interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural and club athletic teams
<u>HB1800/SB1197</u>	Reporting mandates related to transparency
<u>HB1890/SB1356</u>	Guaranteed admission of eligible veterans
<u>HB1957/SB954</u>	Construction Management at Risk requirements and limitations
<u>HB2076</u>	Eligibility criteria for the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program
<u>HB2152</u>	In-state tuition eligibility for children of active-duty service members or veterans
<u>HB2462</u>	Institutional liability for certain student loan defaults
<u>SB991</u>	Authority of General Assembly over immunization requirements
<u>SB1030</u>	Policies and procedures on disclosure of tuition and fees used for financial aid, grants, and scholarships; Virginia student or parent can opt-out of T/F used for financial aid
<u>SB1098</u>	Expands approval requirements of new programs of instruction to include General Assembly education committees

GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislation that FAILED to pass included:

<u>SB1110</u>	Prohibition on withholding of transcripts
<u>SB1193</u>	Disclosure of financial gifts, bequests, grants, and payments received from any foreign government
<u>SB1202</u>	In-state tuition eligibility for members of Virginia National Guard
<u>SB1295</u>	Requirements for industry input on curriculum development and attainment of industry credentials
<u>SB1358</u>	Enrollment cap of 2 percent increase for first-time undergraduate students
<u>SB1410</u>	Development of policies and institutional regulations increasing protections of academic freedom and freedom of expression
<u>SB1434</u>	Requirement that foundations with a value exceeding \$250 million to allocate at least 15% of investment returns for access and affordability
<u>HJ511</u>	SCHEV study on reduced rate in-state tuition for dependents of public school teachers in the commonwealth
<u>HJ541</u>	JLARC higher education cost efficiency study

STATE BUDGET UPDATE

AMY SEBRING, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT &
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

2022-24 STATE BUDGET UPDATE

Environment for 2023 Session

- \$3.5 billion in incremental funding available for appropriation
 - Combination of FY22 surplus and economic growth
- Executive budget included \$1 billion in corporate and individual tax relief
 - House budget largely consistent with Governor's proposed tax relief
 - Senate budget focused on expanded funding of core services
- On-going economic concern over interest rate hikes, declining corporate profits, and geo-political conflicts
- Continued emphasis on maintaining structural integrity

2023 HIGHER EDUCATION OPERATING BUDGET ATTACHMENT C

Issue Area	Virginia Tech Request	Executive Budget	House Budget	Senate Budget
OPERATING BUDGET - 208				
<i>Access and Affordability/ Tuition Moderation</i>	✓		✓	✓
<i>Student Financial Aid</i>	✓			✓
<i>Unfunded Tuition Waiver (VMSDEP)</i>	✓			
<i>Employee Compensation</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Medical Education – Affordable Access and Expanded Class Size</i>	✓			
<i>Targeted Research</i>	✓		✓	
<i>O&M for New Facilities</i>	✓			
OPERATING BUDGET - 229				
<i>Employee Compensation</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Unavoidable Cost Escalations</i>	✓			
<i>Building Resiliency Initiative</i>	✓		✓	

2023 HIGHER EDUCATION CAPITAL BUDGET ATTACHMENT C

Issue Area	Virginia Tech Request	Executive Budget	House Budget	Senate Budget
CAPITAL BUDGET - 208				
<i>Maintenance Reserve</i>	✓		✓	
<i>Capital Project Supplements</i>				
<i>- Innovation Campus Academic Building I</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>New Capital Planning</i>				
<i>- Expand FBRI/VTCSOM</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
CAPITAL BUDGET - 229				
<i>New Capital Planning</i>				
<i>- Improve Center Woods</i>	✓		✓	

NEXT STEPS

- 2023 General Assembly adjourned on February 25th
 - Approved a 'skinny budget' to fund four critical items, most notably a fix to a K-12 education funding error.
- Governor may schedule a special session for further budget deliberation.
 - Precedent: 2001 General Assembly failed to agree on package of amendments, maintaining the previously passed biennial budget.
- General Assembly will consider Governor's actions on legislation during the April 12th Reconvene session.
- Supplemental report will be shared with the Board when final budget actions are understood.

FY24 TUITION AND FEES UPDATE

AMY SEBRING, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

March 19, 2023

CURRENT ENVIRONMENT

- Tuition and fee recommendations informed by several factors:
 - Level of state support
 - Known costs
 - Strategic initiatives
 - Market competitiveness
- Access and affordability a key consideration while balancing the resources needed to provide a quality education and services





ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY INITIATIVE OBJECTIVES

1. Expanding Financial Aid
2. Enhancing the Student Experience

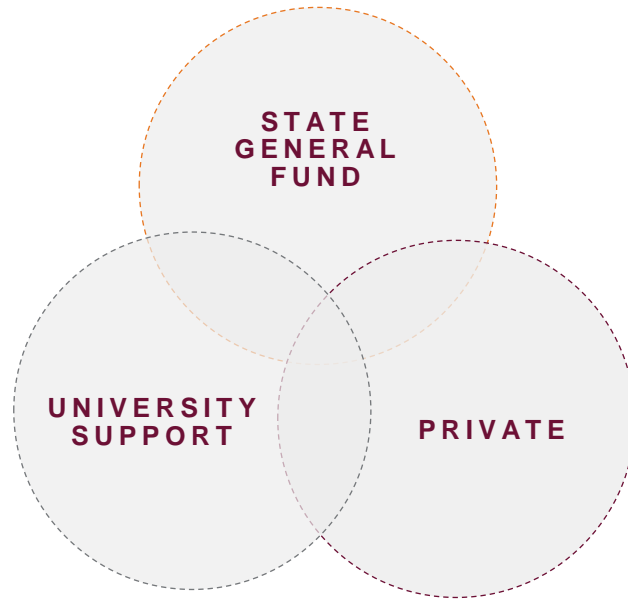
As a global research land-grant university, Virginia Tech must be within reach financially for everyone—regardless of income, gender, race, or identity—who wishes to pursue academic excellence, world-class research, and service to the world.

Envisioning Virginia Tech Beyond Boundaries, A 2047 Vision

ACCESS & AFFORDABILITY INITIATIVE FUNDING

- Funding Needs:

- \$30M (based on net price gap of peers) to enhance affordability within 5 years (Phase 1);
- An additional \$20+M to address long-range goals



- Programmatic Focus:

- Expand Pell-eligible student support,
- Enhance Presidential Scholars Initiative,
- Optimize other need-based program



VIRGINIA PUBLIC FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS, FY23 RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE

Institutions	Tuition and E&G Fees		Mandatory Fees		Room & Board		Total Cost	
	\$	Rank	\$	Rank	\$	Rank	\$	Rank
<i>William and Mary (Freshmen)</i>	\$17,570	1	\$6,400	2	\$13,828	1	\$37,798	1
<i>University of Virginia (First Year)</i>	15,339	2	2,889	13	12,876	5	31,104	2
<i>Virginia Military Institute</i>	9,782	6	10,132	1	10,674	14	30,588	3
<i>Virginia Commonwealth University</i>	12,956	3	2,686	14	12,239	6	27,881	4
<i>Longwood University</i>	8,420	9	6,180	3	13,032	3	27,632	5
<i>Christopher Newport University</i>	9,375	7	6,050	4	11,990	7	27,415	6
<i>George Mason University</i>	9,795	5	3,609	11	13,120	2	26,524	7
<i>University of Mary Washington</i>	8,998	8	5,296	6	11,596	10	25,890	8
Virginia Tech	12,289	4	2,377	15	10,756	13	25,422	9
<i>James Madison University</i>	7,684	11	5,408	5	11,940	8	25,032	10
<i>Old Dominion University</i>	7,257	12	4,373	8	12,928	4	24,558	11
<i>University of Virginia's College at Wise</i>	6,224	14	5,274	7	11,919	9	23,417	12
<i>Radford University</i>	8,252	10	3,664	10	10,424	15	22,340	13
<i>Virginia State University</i>	6,269	13	3,385	12	11,544	11	21,198	14
<i>Norfolk State University</i>	5,752	15	3,870	9	10,844	12	20,466	15

UNIVERSITY BUDGET PROCESS

1. Determine mandatory cost increases
2. Update resources needed to meet five-year strategic investment plan
3. Use critical needs request process to identify:
 - Unit-level resources aligned with strategic priorities
 - Cross-cutting issues impacting multiple units
 - Capacity limitations and areas of risk
 - Opportunities to reallocate existing resources more effectively
4. State budget process determines availability of general fund resources
5. Availability of resources – both incremental and base funding – drives pace of strategic investments and internal realignments



FY24 E&G Mandatory Cost Drivers

\$ in millions

	Range	
	Minimum	Maximum
<u>State Costs</u>		
Faculty/Staff/GAs Raise (5%-7.5%)	\$ 31.4	\$ 47.1
Employee Health Insurance Increase	4.0	4.4
Virginia Military Dependent & Survivor Benefits (VMSDEP)	5.0	5.0
State Costs	40.4	56.5
<u>Unavoidable Costs</u>		
Fixed Costs (Utilities, Insurance, Leases)	1.9	1.9
Operation & Maintenance of New Facilities	2.2	2.2
Promotion and Tenure	0.7	0.7
Unavoidable Costs	4.8	4.8
(less) State Share of Costs	(15.6)	(22.2)
University Share of State and Unavoidable Costs	\$ 29.6	\$ 39.1

INITIATIVES UNDER DEVELOPMENT TO ADVANCE THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

Destination for Talent

- Student Access and Affordability
- Human Resources – Recruitment and Retention

Academic Excellence

- Tech Talent Investment–Innovation Campus
- Health and Biomedical Sciences
- Integrated Security
- Destination Areas 2.0

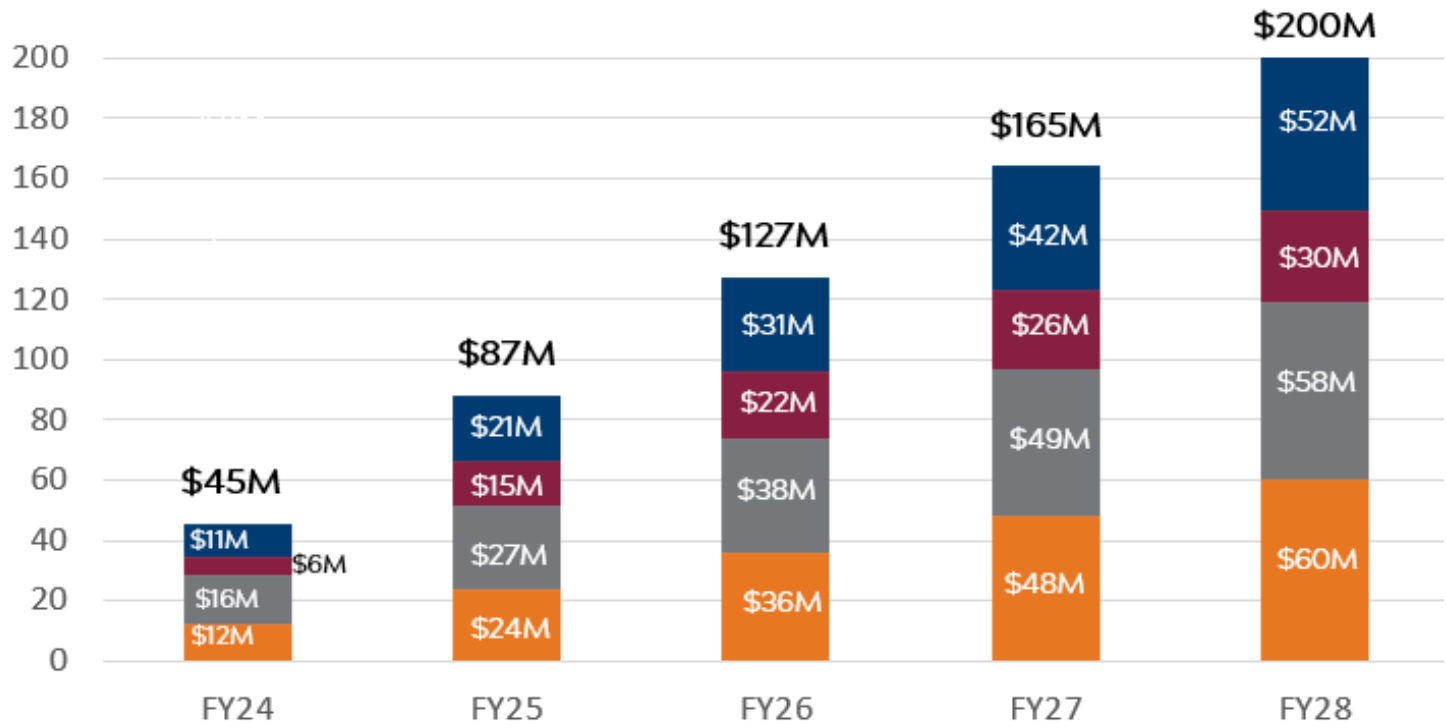
Enabling Infrastructure and Capacity

- Advancement
- IT Transformation/Technology Infrastructure
- Facilities Renewal

Academic Quality and Critical Needs

- Academic Incentive-Based Funding (PIBB Model)
- Annual Critical Needs Requests

Multiple fund sources will contribute to the achievement of these strategic initiatives



FY24 E&G Projected Resources

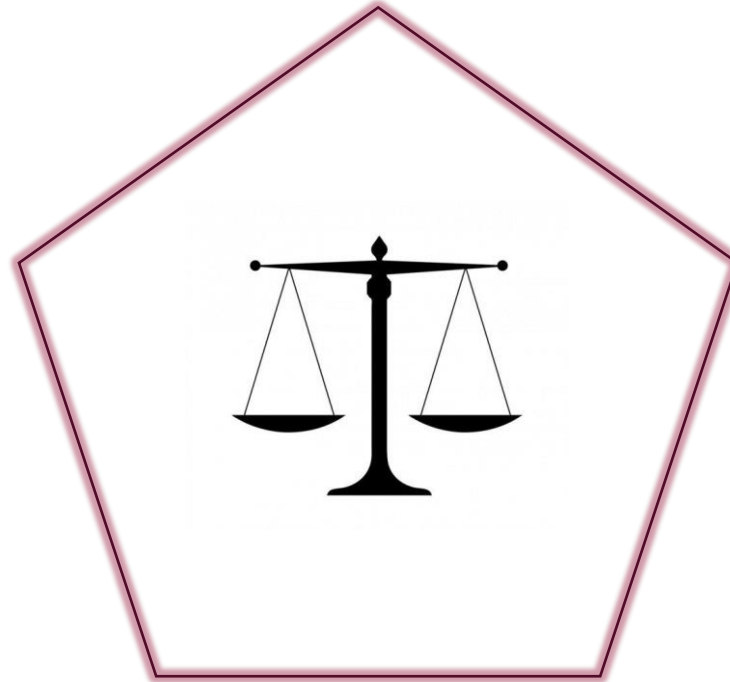
\$ in Millions

		Range	
		Minimum	Maximum
Resource Need (from Prior Slide)		(29.6)	(39.1)
Initiative Progress (towards the \$45M)		(12.0)	(24.0)
	Resource Need	(41.6)	(63.1)
Enrollment (net)		11.3	11.3
Reallocation/Recoveries		2.5	2.5
Misc		1.1	1.1
General Fund (unrestricted)		-	22.6
Tuition Increase (0-4.9%)		-	25.6
	Resources	14.9	63.1
	Net	(26.70)	-

BALANCING THE E&G BUDGET



Initiative Pace
\$0-45M



General Fund
TBD

Tuition
1%=\$5.2M



Costs
1% salary = \$6.3M

Reallocation
1% = \$5.9M

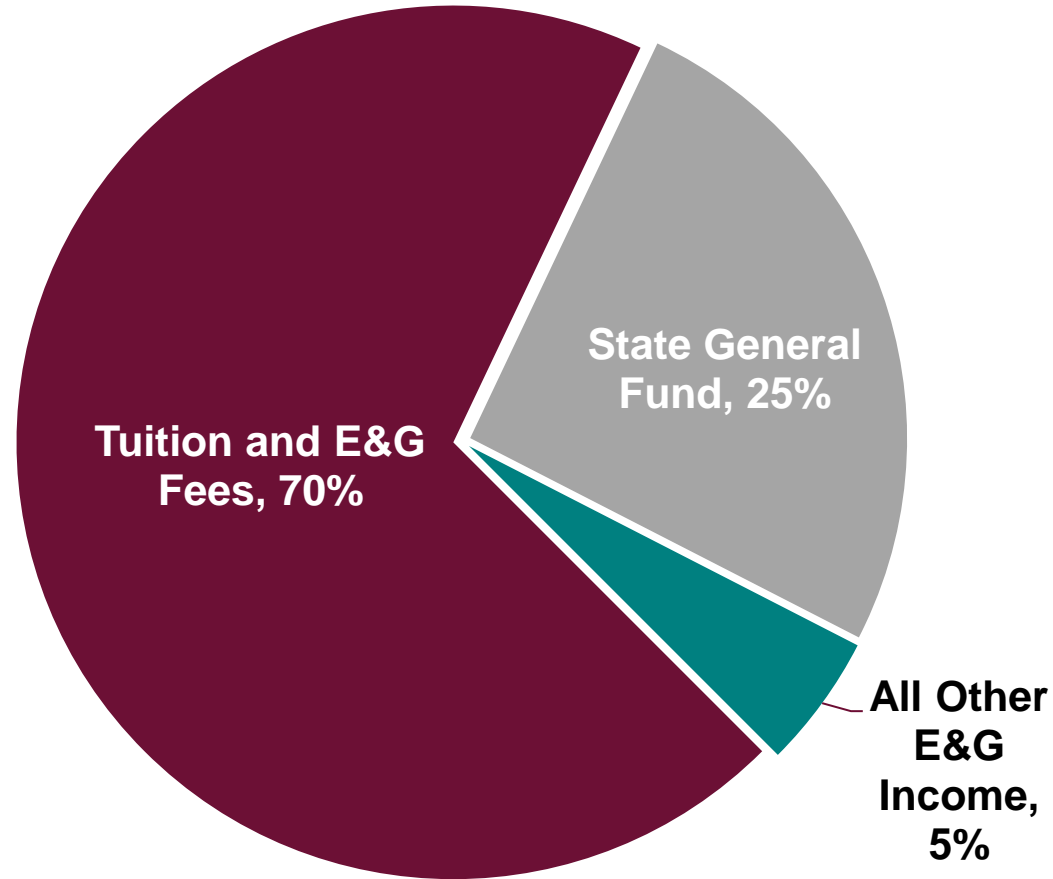


FY24 ONE-TIME FUNDING NEEDS

- University maintains a structurally balanced budget
- Base and one-time costs are budgeted separately
 - Base costs aligned with ongoing revenue
 - One-time costs aligned with one-time resources
 - One-time resources are limited
- One-time needs reflect both university-wide and college- or unit-specific needs; most one-time funds sit at the college level
 - University may withhold a portion of carryover balances to support cross-organizational needs
- Examples of central one-time needs could include:
 - University share of a state bonus,
 - Faculty startup,
 - Technology and infrastructure (including aging facility renewal and campus accessibility)

TUITION REVENUE PROVIDES 70% OF E&G REVENUE

Revenue (sources)



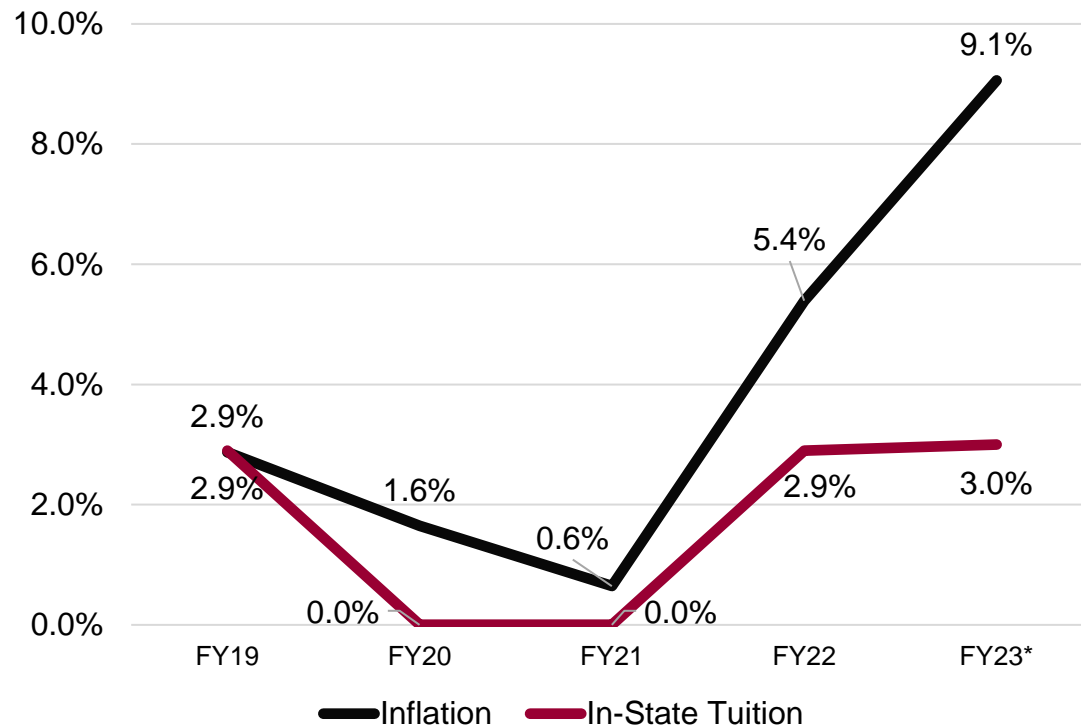
FY23 Original Budget

Tuition and Fees	\$ 653M
State General Fund	239M
All Other E&G Income	<u>46M</u>
Total	\$ 938M

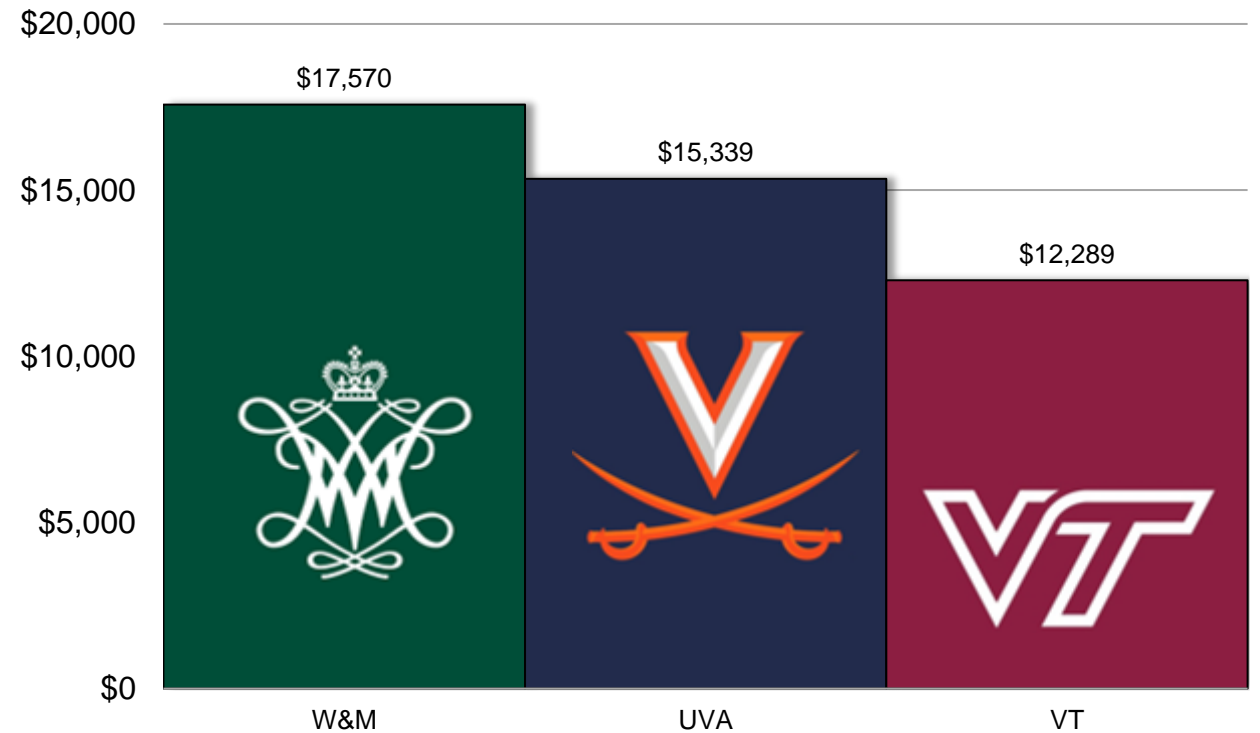
TUITION COMPARISONS

- Over the past five years:
 - Consumer Price Index (inflation) has increased **21%**
 - In-State undergraduate tuition has increased just **9%**

Virginia Tech Tuition vs. Inflation
 FY19-FY23

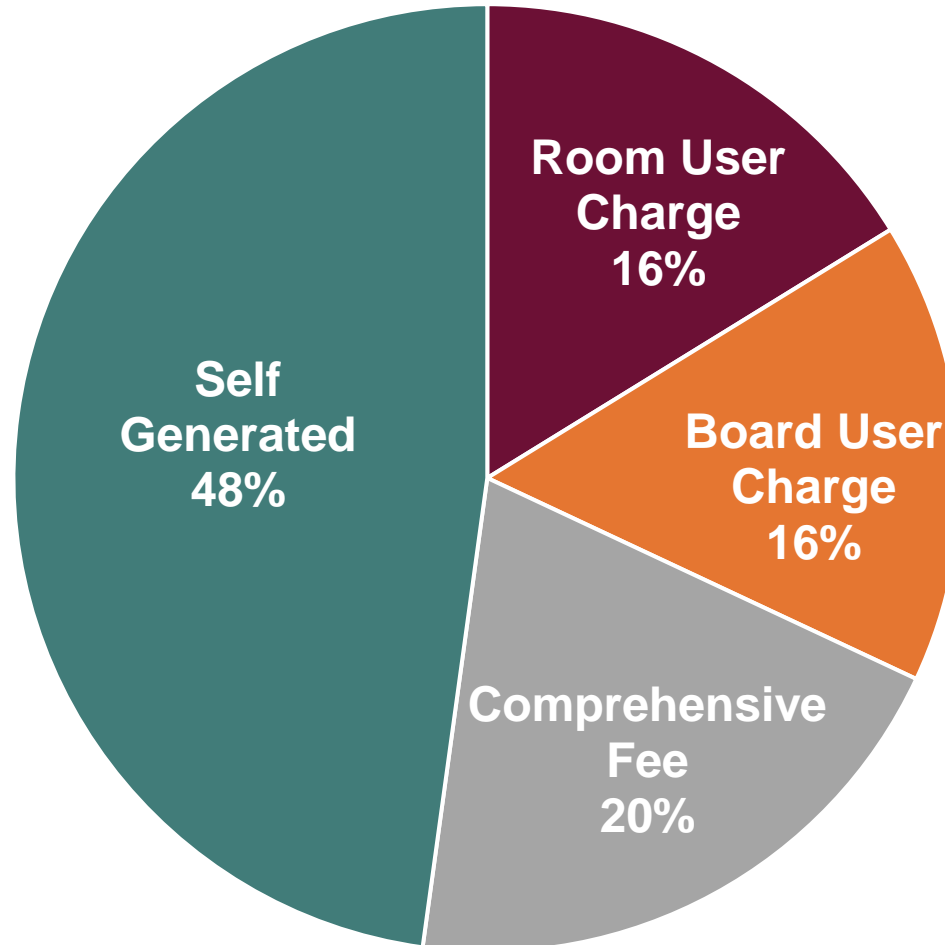


Virginia Public Four-Year Institutions
 FY23 In-state Undergraduate Tuition & E&G Fees



* FY23 In-state increase offset by one-time tuition mitigation scholarship.

COMPREHENSIVE FEE PROVIDES 20% OF AUXILIARY REVENUE



FY23 Revised Budget

Room User Charge	\$ 66M
Board User Charge	64M
Comprehensive Fee	83M
Self Generated	<u>196M</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 409M

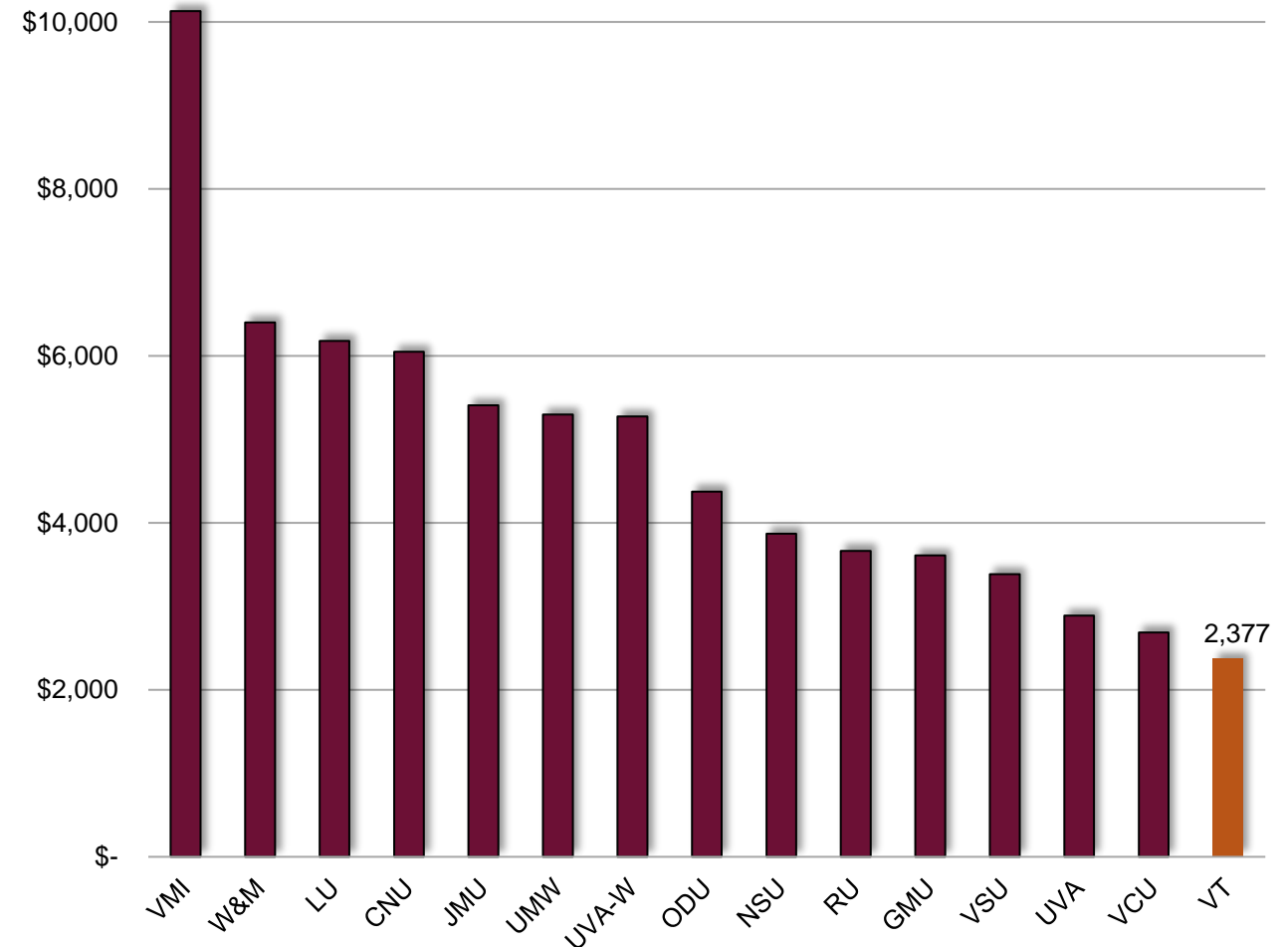
COMPREHENSIVE FEE

The Comprehensive Fee supports:

- Student Health
 - Health center, counseling, rescue squad
- Student Activities
 - Student centers, arts, student organizations
- Student Services
 - Transportation programs, career services, wireless access, Hokie Passport
- Athletics
 - Intercollegiate athletics operations
- Recreational Sports
 - Recreational programs, sports clubs, facilities

Factors influencing fee development include state compensation and benefits, inflationary costs, health and counseling, transit operations, and facility maintenance.

VT has the lowest Comprehensive Fee of Virginia's public four-year institutions.



MARKET CONSIDERATIONS FOR TUITION AND FEES

Out-of-State Undergraduate

Virginia Tech

Public SCHEV Peers Average

Regional Competitive Peers (a)

FY23	
Rate	VT Rank
\$34,920	
\$36,997	16 out of 24
\$36,188	5 out of 7

(a) Regional competitive peers: Penn State, Rutgers, University of Maryland, Ohio State, University of Pittsburgh, and North Carolina State

- Tuition and fee recommendations will be informed by internal budget process
 - Significant cost drivers will put pressure on institutional resources without additional state support
- Strategic vision currently outstrips projected resources
 - Focus on advancing student access & affordability
 - Pace of other investments will depend on incremental state funding, tuition revenue, philanthropic funds, and internal reallocations
- Intentionally looking to hold tuition increases below CPI
 - Inflation continues to run above 6%
- Fee increases are likely to run higher than CPI
 - Even with projected increases, Virginia Tech would maintain the lowest comprehensive fee among Virginia public institutions

DISCUSSION

Comments Made at the March 2, 2023, Public Comment Session

Caroline Lohr

Good afternoon Board Members,

My name is Caroline Lohr and I am the Undergraduate student senate president. Today I am speaking with you on behalf of the largest stakeholder in this issue, all 30,000 undergraduate students.

The concerns expressed to myself and the USS from students mainly stem from this campus and town not being affordable. We are in a crisis of affordable housing and the prospect of raising tuition puts even more pressure on undergraduate students who are already pushing themselves to their limit to try to afford education at Virginia Tech,

I have spoken with many pell-grant recipients as well as students who have financial aid and scholarships. They have shared stories of taking a full class load, while also having to work two jobs. Most of the time, the jobs they're working are part and full time. The overworking of students outside of the classroom in order to make ends meet has a damaging effect on their mental health and academics.

Undergraduate students are breaking themselves down to maintain the status of a successful full-time student at Virginia Tech. And while the Dean of Students offers financial aid through the student emergency fund, it is not enough to compensate for the amount of students on our campus in need.

I appreciate and acknowledge the accessibility and affordability initiative group that President Sand's has created. However, its student members, student advocates and the student body will not be able to see the full benefits of affordability, if the decision is to raise tuition extensively.

I am aware that because of the governor's freeze on in-state tuition increases last year, this year provides you all the opportunity to increase tuition to the point at which it would be if last year's freeze was not enacted. I need to express to you all how devastating to our students that would be. While you all are discussing this increase, I am asking that instead of prioritizing paychecks, sponsors and new facilities; you prioritize empathy.

You and I both will never understand what these students are going through. I am fortunate enough to converse with these students and have a little more insight, which I am bringing forth today. You are fortunate enough to make a decision that will have a longer lasting impact than an expanded facility or sponsorship. The impact of affordable education.

I believe that we all are focused on the same goal and want what is best for Virginia Tech students. One of the most impactful parts of this university is the culture surrounding the Hokie experience. It is my job to advocate that every single Hokie has an opportunity to feel this sense of belonging and to confidently call Virginia Tech home. It is devastating to hear testimonies of students who want to participate in this culture but cannot due to expanded expenses.

The best thing that you all could do and what I am advocating for, is no increase of tuition or fees. However, if that is an inevitability, please do not compound the increase for last year and this year or look to see if we could use the potential increase in resources for the student emergency fund.

Thank you for your time and consideration, I appreciate it and the work you all do.

Ben Beiter

Good afternoon. First I want to say thank you to the BOV for considering comments from the student body. As the students are who this University is here to serve, it is important to hear their voices before a decision is made that will affect the lives of tens of thousands of students.

As the president of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate, I try to work towards addressing issues that affect all graduate students. I can say, without question, that the highest priority issue that the graduate student body has been raising for the past several years is that of a living wage for graduate students. Or rather, being compensated for the work that they do at this University at a rate that covers the local cost of living. Tuition and fees are inherently wrapped up in this issue, as they are some of the largest costs that students face. Under the current cost of living in Blacksburg, including tuition and fees, students have expressed stories of struggling to afford food, housing, medication, and other necessities to live a safe and ideally happy life as a student. I know we can agree that this should be a goal of what our community offers to our student members.

The most common single issue we hear from students is about the mandatory fees that students pay. As a multi-thousand dollar cost, these fees are a heavy burden on students. There are constant and consistent complaints raised by graduate students of having to pay so much for services that they often do not use, and in the case of many students at remote campuses, do not have access to. Instead of raising fees, what graduate students want is an evaluation of the fees that are already charged. We want to understand what fees offer to students, how they are broken down, and where fee surpluses, for instance in athletics, can be reallocated to more pressing auxiliaries, such as Schiffert and Cook Counseling, amongst others. Raising the fees without looking at ways the current fees could be better utilized, transparently, fails to hear the voices of our graduate students.

Regardless of what the fees fund, raising tuition and fees for students represents an increase in the cost of just remaining a student at this University from year to year. We have recently concluded an almost year-long taskforce that has provided a report on the Cost of Living for graduate students at VT. The findings of that report clearly state that, at current compensation levels many graduate students cannot afford to live here at the University. Students are forced into situations that continuously burn-out, overwork, and drive them away from their academics, service, and research. The report makes recommendations for immediate actions that should be taken to raise support for our graduate students, and will undeniably improve the total graduate student experience. However the raising of tuition and fees goes directly against these goals, increasing costs for students who are struggling to afford what we already pay. Even for students on assistantships who do not have to pay tuition directly, increasing it drains resources from departments and advisors who are trying to manage and provide resources to support students. I strongly urge the BOV to consider these realities, and what other options are available when discussing increasing these costs to students.

Rachel Maizel

Thank you for this opportunity to speak, I'll be brief.

Increasing mandatory fees for graduate students by up to 8.8% will worsen an already dire situation. I currently pay ~\$360 monthly in fees and am draining my savings to survive. This is not a unique situation and is worse for international students (f1 visa restrictions) and those with dependents. Yesterday I spent the bulk of the day contemplating how long one can subsist on protein shakes and cereal. Increasing the fees will only further hurt your most vulnerable

population who are trying to abide by Virginia Tech's motto Ut Proism. We cannot serve anyone before taking care of our basic needs.

Increasing the fees if you do not plan to cover them in full will make this impossible. When going to the SNAPs program there is no spot to put Virginia Tech Comprehensive fees or student loans. All they see is the number we are making. You are going to make going to graduate school an impossibility for many people and lose out on unique and diverse thoughts which make Virginia Tech such a great research institution.

For undergraduates increasing fees will have a similar effect of decreasing diversity. Many undergraduates are forced to work jobs to afford to pay for housing and fees. There's an idea that undergraduates' only job is to do well in school however this is fundamentally false, especially for those who are not financially supported by their families. Even if you suggest they work longer hours to pay for this increase you will be unfairly punishing them by forcing them to take more time away from their studies just to survive. Thus creating further inequities in the higher education system. By increasing the fees you are just increasing the barrier for those already struggling financially.

If you want Virginia Tech to be a diverse and competitive institution do not increase the tuition and fees. The burden to shoulder these costs should not be on the most vulnerable populations.

Trevor Jeyaraj

I am Trevor Jeyaraj, a PhD Scholar at Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought and an International graduate student.

During our conversation last evening, my fellow international scholar room-mate from Bangladesh mentioned that if only he had a little more research stipend, he could concentrate more or better on his lab work rather than worrying about the basics of food, late night bus travel and so on, basically he was touching on the day-to-day issues international students go through as graduate students here at Virginia Tech.

I want to touch on the non-availability of summer scholarship or research stipend as a major issue for international graduate students. The lack of research stipend (no stipend at all, to be specific) during summer months and the limited on-campus work opportunities means that we are forced to rely on loans on top of the loans we have already borrowed. This situation is ironic, as borrowing from fellow students going through similar issues is embarrassing. I keep hearing similar stories from international students, I've given up, for instance, the PhD program I was already enrolled in, back in India.

Furthermore, I have constantly worried even thinking about unpaid volunteering opportunities as it might somehow violate F1 norms and have given up countless summer opportunities for such reasons. Especially for someone who is passionate about volunteering and non-profit related causes and coming from a family of social workers, this is deeply disappointing and a saddening reality for too many international graduate students like me.

Such a situation comes as a surprise as around/almost 11% of Tech's student body and 40 percent of all graduate students here at Virginia Tech are international students, and I appeal to the Board to be empathetic in this regard to consider raising our monthly stipends and offering every graduate student a 12 month scholarship.

Thank you.

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
miller buchanan	<p>I am a class of 67(graduated 1968) alumnus. In my family there are almost 20 Tech graduates. My perception is college expenses inexplicably have risen at a rate second only to health care costs during my lifetime. You are supposed to be the ones imparting knowledge to the rest of us but seem clueless when it comes to controlling costs.</p> <p>I believe by law secondary schools have to be in session 180 days per year. The school year for colleges (VT) seems to start later, have a month more days of vacation and end earlier by 4 or 5 weeks than when I attended. I assume kids today are just a lot smarter than we were.</p>	Alumnus
Morgan Welker	<p>Tuition and fees should be reduced. It is obscene how much it costs to go to college versus what it did 20 years ago when I was a student. The rich kids can pay for it. The poor kids will get financial aid. The rest in the middle can forget it or be in debt forever. How come I can't recognize the campus? Why are there constantly new buildings constructed? And buildings with nothing wrong with them replaced? Stop wasting money on fluff and cut the costs so everyone has a realistic opportunity. I was lucky, when I went to Tech, my parents could afford it and I didn't have to take on any debt. If I was going there today, there's no way they would have been able to afford it and I would not have gone. At a bare minimum, do not increase anything.</p>	Alumnus
	<p>you know what? when reading about graduate students in california having to donate plasma to live, i immediately looked up the closest plasma donation center and the compensation.</p> <p>i'll think about all of these when i'm asked to donate as an alum. virginia tech is a bottom feeding carnivore preying on cheap grad student labor.</p>	None
Raj Sahu	<p>A tuition fees increase should also be accompanied by the wage for university employees such as Assistants, graders and other on-campus jobs. But it would still harm majority of undergrad students who are not allowed to take assistantships.</p>	Student
Sophie Rust	<p>A tuition increase would be a huge burden on students and their families who are already struggling to pay for basic things due to the current state of the economy. Please don't do this!</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
	<p>As a graduate student at Virginia Tech, I find the discussion of increased fees and tuition entirely unacceptable. As graduate students, we provide essential labor to the university and our stipends already do not reflect the reality, which is that the university simply would not run without us. Student fees are a HUGE burden on graduate students as it is; we already turning around and paying roughly 10% of our annual income right back to the university in student fees. An increase in fees would cause substantial harm to the graduate students who allow the university to run and is simply unacceptable.</p>	Student
	<p>As a graduate student, I know that increasing the fees will place a more significant financial burden on me at the start of each semester. Being worried about making ends meet for the semester after signing up for the prorated fee plan limits how much effort and time I can give to my job as a research assistant. The quality of my work surely diminishes as well. Even in the past year, my advisor marked my output unsatisfactory in the weeks when the payments occurs since worrying and applying for outside funding occupies valuable research time. I plead with the BOV not to increase tuition and fees so I can continue working on the research that I am passionate about and be able to disseminate the science to the public in the future.</p>	Student
Tommy Lam	<p>As a graduate student, I still do not understand why Virginia Tech doesn't have a significant tuition discount after preliminary exams. I don't see how the current 10% helps students either focus on research more or provide departments/professors offer more assistantships to students in need.</p> <p>This is something that's common at other institutions so I'm just confused on why even though this potential common tuition reduction for graduate students isn't present at VT do we not see many other benefits like a living wage to attract strong students or bring in diverse students.</p> <p>Another concern is if tuition increases for graduate students to try and offset our potential stipend increase. I understand our stipends have to come from somewhere but playing this inflation game seems to only hurt everyone so if there's any ways for the university to work with the town of Blacksburg or Roanoke to help keep other costs down (especially housing), I think this would be very beneficial.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Brooke	As a student already paying out of state tuition the potential increase for me and other fellow out of state students would really effect our quality of living here at vt. With so many sacrifices to attend already being made the tuition cost change will certainly have me questioning my attendance as I'm sure many potential new out of state students deciding not attend in the upcoming academic year.	Student
	As a student of Virginia Tech, I have become increasingly concerned with the amount of money being pulled out from students. Many students, including myself, are struggling to be able to live in blacksburg. I am currently an out of state student, which raises my tuition even more than most students. I am only able to obtain this education through students loans. The tuition was increased my freshman year and to hear it being possibly increased again is frustrating. I hope the Board actually listens to the students that are breaking their backs to be a Hokie.	Student
Brian	Graduate students are your lowest-paid "employees" and cannot afford to pay higher tuition and fee rates, especially for services we don't even use! For example, please stop making us pay for your athletics fees when the majority of us don't even use these services! Leave us out of it! We're struggling in an institution where we were promised we would thrive both academically and financially.	Student
Morgan	I am a graduate student at VT. With Blacksburg's surge of new luxury apartments, rents all over have sky rocketed. I cannot afford to live here on my current stipend. I have \$45,000 in loans from my undergraduate degree at Virginia Tech. I am working two jobs and I'm so tired. Tuition fees should be waived not increased. Stipends need to be increased as well. Students are thinking about leaving their programs and others are considering not joining. We are in a crisis.	Student
Jasmine	I am against the increase of tuition. As a student, I want to continue to study here at Virginia Tech but I am already pushing the limits of how much I can afford to pay off my student loans in the future. Federal aid can only help so much and scholarships are available but never cover the complete cost of tuition. Tuition is already high, even for instate students, and I believe it should be a priority to maintain college education accessible to everyone, but with these increases, the opportunity of more students interested in being able to call VT home is taken away from them.	Student
Keylin Benavides - Reyes	I do not think tuition should be increased.	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
	<p>I'm against increasing tuition and fee. As an international graduate student, the monthly stipend can't afford my living expense in Blacksburg. My current monthly stipend is \$2490 pre-tax without covering 12% of health insurance and comprehensive fee. After paying the health insurance and comprehensive fee, I can only get around \$1500 per month. The rent is about \$750 in Blacksburg for an acceptable apartment and the rent is increasing each year. Also, the price for food and other life services is also increasing these years. I have no extra money for my car, clothes, and any other activities to make myself happy. If the tuition and fee increase without the stipend increasing in the same rate, I will not be able to support my life. I will have no energy to focus on my research as well.</p> <p>I know it's a hard time post-covid. But it's much harder for me to afford my basic living expenses. I discourage increasing the tuition and fee.</p>	Student
	<p>Paying for college is difficult enough for students. I understand employees of the university must fight inflation costs but so must the rest of us. Working countless hours as a student or post grad to make up for the 8% increase is not a feasible option for many. College is already not a feasible option for many and it just gets worse with higher costs. Lets keep tuition where it is in order to continue to make college accessible and make the money aspect as low stress as it can br.</p>	Student
Md Hasibul Hasan Rahat	Please cover fees for all grad students.	Student
Aum Patel	Please do not raise the tuition	Student
	Please don't increase tuition. As a student, I am strained as is with my finances.	Student
Dylan	<p>Please, do not raise fees. The fees are already very high, and as a graduate student, we are paid so little as is. I cannot even afford to get glasses in my new prescription, so I can barely see as I go through grad school. Have some compassion and allow us to afford to live, please.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
	<p>Should fee increases be implemented next academic year, the board should strongly consider waiving fees for graduate students as a part of compensation packages. Many of us cannot afford to pay fees up-front each semester; having fees deducted from each paycheck significantly reduces our already-low income. This is especially unfair to international students, who cannot legally work outside of their graduate studies. Many international students are not only supporting themselves, but their families as well. It is understandable that the university needs funding, and some of the services provided by comprehensive fees are useful to graduate and undergraduate students alike. However, it must be considered that these fees are a grave financial burden for much of the graduate student population.</p>	Student
Bridget	<p>The cost of tuition and student fees are hard to afford on the current graduate students salary. Until our salary is raised to be livable and count for inflation, the University is doing a disservice by raising it further.</p>	Student
Francis Reyes	<p>The increase in tuition is not an added financial burden students on this campus need. I understand there are reasons for the consideration of increasing tuition, but if spoken to the students, an increase is just not feasible. I stand with the rest of the student body and firmly denounce any increase in tuition.</p>	Student
Jennifer Lopez-Perez	<p>The nation as a whole is in the middle of a crisis due to the amount of student debts that there are because of the amount that tuition costs across the board. Instead of VT being part of the solution, it is instead becoming more of the problem. A good percentage of the VT population is out of state and their tuitions are as high as it is and possibly raising it will not help. Many of us, like myself, are minorities where our parents struggle everyday to work to get money and the government and FAFSA does not give us any financial aid based on income just because "they earn too much", not considering the living situations that some might be in and potential factors where their money goes to especially if there are other kids in the family. COVID affected all of us, people lost their education, their jobs, their homes and some even lost their family members. The pandemic created an influx in the prices of water and food, basic necessities because the economy was in shambles and people were out of work because of it. We are still in the aftershocks of COVID and some are still recovering from heavy losses that they experienced. A raise in tuition becomes more of a burden to students and to families, we are all struggling for the same thing and VT is not going to make it easier because of this increase.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
	The proposed increase to fees would substantially impact my ability to engage with my graduate program. As it currently is, I lose over a month's worth of income to fees every year, money that keeps me from filling medications that I need and doing other things that benefit my life as a graduate student. My partner has already had to leave his graduate program due to the financial burden of fees and I may have to leave as well if there is an increase. I understand that the university needs money to provide services, but there has to be a better way to raise this money. Putting more financial hardship on students is not the answer.	Student
	There's honestly not much to say. 8.8% is an inane and atrocious idea. I'm not sure exactly what the goal of that is, but all it's gonna do is make this school even harder for poor people to go to, which is almost all of us! we're college kids	Student
Muzakkir Chowdhury	Tuition fees going higher and higher every academic year is unreasonable when the quality of education we are receiving is pretty much the same, if not worse.	Student
	Tuition for VT is already very high for public college, does not offer a lot of assistance for help either. Raising tuition would only result in more students not being able to pay ultimately having to drop out or just not come at all. If drop our rates rise, less people will want to come overall.	Student
James Poland	Tuition is already astronomically high. Most kids can't even imagine going to college if it wasn't for scholarships that are already rare and lack equity for all students . This move directly shows more care for padding a salary than students on campus. You mention keeping tuition increases below the average inflation rate but fail to mention how the increases in tuition has far surpassed average inflation. I want to pursue grad school to earn a doctorate. I want to stay with Virginia tech because I'm a 3rd gen student and love the atmosphere of vt. Grad students are paid low as it and this will only hurt them more. If this money was to go towards the betterment of the students this would be no issue but vt seems more like a company than a sanctuary for education.	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Maya	Tuition and fees should not be raised at all. With record levels of inflation and a low minimum wage, many students can't afford an increase. The state should be subsidizing tuition and Virginia Tech should be increasing financial aid. The reason why students can't afford college like the previous generation is because the state actually decreased how much they pay public institutions. A lot of people I know are not going to Virginia Tech because tuition is too expensive and the school offers little assistance. In addition, 1/3rd of Virginia Tech students are food insecure. I don't understand how you can fathom increasing tuition when the 33% of the students that attend this institution currently can't afford to consistently eat. No one should have to choose between their physical health and their education. Please do not raise tuition. I want people to experience the Virginia Tech I know and love. They can't do that when tuition is more expensive. In addition, you are going to be hurting the minorities especially at this school by raising tuition. You can't have a mission to increase diversity and then adopt a tuition increase that would disadvantage minority students.	Student
Chen Qian	We can not afford the increase in the fees!	Student
Caroline Begley Begley	What non monetary options have you considered outside of raises for graduate students? Have you considered a stipend, on campus housing, or food plans?	Student
Onnr Grogan	There are multiple different signs posted from various graduate students hanging in HABB1 at the Blacksburg campus about the financial disparities and struggles that we must face.	Student
Carlos Hinojosa	Out-of-state tuition is already over 2 times the amount of. In-state tuition. Increasing the tuition would put an undue burden on individuals of all backgrounds, but especially first-generation and out-of-state students.	Student
Angelique	I am a senior at virginia tech and this tuition and fee increase is the last straw. my experience at this university has been consistently awful. staff are untrained and rude, teachers are clueless as to what's going on, the amount of staff bloat is ridiculous, and cook counseling is STILL off campus. nobody at this "school" cares about its students, Virginia tech is a corporation who only cares about how much money you can squeeze out of your students.	Student
Kexin Xie	If you would like to increase the fees and tuitions, please increase the corresponding wages for graduate students, otherwise the graduate students can not cover their basic living expenses. Please be considered and pay your careful attention to graduate students' study and life.	None
Little deen	Lower the f***** tuition	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Skye Weichbrodt	Just raise it more, come on, don't be shy!	None
Jackie Mitchell	Doing this will hurt so many students	Student
Bianca Campoverde	Raising tuition goes crazy, especially in this day in age.	Student
Laura	As a first-generation student from a single mother household, it has already been a struggle being able to afford to go to VT. I have worked a job since freshmen year which was at a dining hall, this year I am a Residential Well-Being Student Leader which helps with the costs. I am already working constantly to afford this and with prices being raised would mean I would have to work more to be able to pay it off. It is not fair, we already pay enough.	Student
Nakea	I feel as though Virginia Tech should not increase tuition because it is already bad enough that we have to pay out hundreds of dollars for textbooks and computers. Some people can't even come back to tech because they can't afford it right now so the best idea is to not increase it.	Student
Connor Gocke	Many of my peers would be greatly affected negatively if tuition is increased.	Student
Sofia Palma	As students, paying the current tuition is already hard enough. If changes and developments want to be made, it is up to the university to find the funding and it is unfair for students to have to face the consequences of increased tuition for reasons that are not up to them.	Student
Olivia Batten	Being at Virginia Tech has been a dream of mine. I love this place. I love the people. I love the school. However, I lose my dream and I lose the connection to this place I love with an increase in tuition. I just cannot afford it.	Student
Jeb Brown	If tuition is increased by as much as proposed, I may not be able to afford tuition and will have to drop out.	Student
Olivia Ramsey	Please do not raise tuition, it is not fair to the lower middle class tax bracket where you categorize them to be able to afford tuition even though it is not possible. It is also not fair to claim that only instate people will receive a scholarship to offset the cost. Out of state students already pay way more than instate does. It should be waived for out of state students because they chose tech, chose to travel many hour and leave their families to be here, and spend extra on travel expenses on top of extra thousands of tuition. It is not fair that students will have to take more out for students loans which will cause more student debt. That does not seem like equality to me and it is not very Ut Prosim to treat people differently based off of their home or income.	Student
Abdullah Khurram	Please lower the tuition and pay the grad students a fair wage	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Branden Aguilar	Paying out of state tuition is lucrative in itself with paying almost double the amount as someone who is coming from an in state high school. And to have people back home working so hard to give me an education just for them to be faced with an increase in price for no reason is actually disrespectful. This feels like a punishment when in reality we have done nothing wrong.	Student
Jennifer Alexandra Thompson	I'm a graduate student and I would so hugely benefit from comprehensive fees being covered. I have to take our bank loans to pay for them and my bills every year, but having those covered would better help me pay bills.	Student
Alison Moura	Stop being greedy. These tuition raises are excessive. Milking students for all they are worth and coercing them into decades of debt is just plain wrong and y'all know it.	Student
Andrew Cummins	Hello, An increase in tuition is not only unnecessary but unacceptable. That is just about an additional \$3,000 dollars per student . This increase along with the increased fees would push a considerable amount of students away from the institution. To prevent this, the institution would have to give out more scholarships and students would have to get more financial aid. For the students who don't get scholarships or financial aid, which would put them into considerable student loan debt. These are just some reasons that this increase in tuition is not the right decision.	Student
Andrew Gunsch	I don't doubt that you understand the financial trajectory of the university better than I do, and I know that you aim to consider all ramifications before making a decision regarding the proposed tuition and fee increases. To that end, you need to make use of all of the information available to you. I only ask that you do so. To be more specific, I ask that you consider again the statements made on the March 2nd meeting and those submitted in writing. Consider the circumstances in which many students find themselves. Then consider that these are only representative of those who can take the time to practice and deliver a spoken live statement or draft a written statement for the public record. Ask yourselves: What goes unspoken? Who is silent? What do we want higher education to be? And will the proposed tuition and fee increases take the university in that direction?	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Anna Klewicki	I will never be able to fully convey how important Virginia Tech is to me. As an out-of-state student, finding my home away from home at this amazing institution was such a privilege. It is very sad to think that if I was faced with the tuition and fee increases being currently proposed, Tech would have been out of reach for me. I would have never had the opportunity to complete 250+ hours of service with my service sorority, present at multiple research conferences about a topic I love, receive a \$2,000 grant, be voted Student of the Year of my department, and understand what it's like to be a part of perhaps the greatest college community in the world. There are not many schools as special as Tech in the United States. I can assure you I would have never been as happy as I am now if I had not had the opportunity to come to Virginia Tech. Please consider how the trajectory of someone's entire life could be changed with the decision to increase tuition.	Student
Ashlyn O'Neill	I'm an out of state student paying for tuition MYSELF! I'm a first Gen both my parents don't have degrees but I came to VT for engineering because we're the best there is. But is the best really that great if I can't even afford my groceries compared to the cost of going to school here. Tuition should not be raised FOR ANYBODY. It's ridiculous it's even being considered in light of things that have happened the past 3 years. Not to mention since I'm out of state I get little to no financial aid instead having to use merit scholarships and apply for everything possible. I need to transfer if you increase tuition at all. The fact you're considering up to 9 percent makes me want to curl up in a ball defeated. Have I worked this far to simply be outed from my education by an over privileged board of visitors that isn't in touch with the students?	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Mahatub Khan Badhon	<p>I'm deeply concerned about the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors' proposal to raise tuition and comprehensive fees. Concerns and issues about rising living costs in Blacksburg have been shared on multiple occasions by many graduate students, including myself. This proposal, if approved, will become a financial burden for graduate students and impact their productivity negatively at VT. It could also create additional stress on international students, who may already be facing challenges related to adapting to a new country and culture. These students often have limited financial resources and rely heavily on scholarships and other forms of financial assistance (TAs/RAs) to pursue their academic goals.</p> <p>The proposed increase in fees could result in some students being forced to work longer hours to cover their expenses, which could affect their ability to focus on their studies and perform well academically. This, in turn, could have long-term implications for their future careers and prospects. In light of these concerns, it is essential that the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors carefully consider the impact of this proposal on all students, particularly those who may be more vulnerable to financial challenges. It is essential that the university provides a supportive and inclusive environment that enables all students to thrive and achieve their full potential, regardless of their financial circumstances.</p>	Student
Muhammad Usman Baig	<p>Members of the Board,</p> <p>I am a first year international grad student at the department of Physics at VT and I strongly oppose any proposed increase in tuition and other fees. As somebody who has no savings right now for any emergency and is barely making ends meet, further increase in cost of living and fees would be catastrophic for me. Instead, please look into other means to reduce costs and provide for the needs of the university. Furthermore, I strongly urge that the Board approve the suggestions of the Graduate Student Assistantship Support Task Force report, and cover fees for all graduate students on assistantships by next fall so we can do what we're here to do i.e study and research without constantly worrying about feeding ourselves.</p>	Student
Becca Halm	<p>Although I understand why tuition and fee increases must happen due to the state of the economy, it would be appreciated by most if not all Hokies if the increase was minimal rather than a significant jump. If rates/tuition increase, I would also hope more resources would be allocated to tuition/fee assistance options so that there is a chance for lower economically standing individuals to be a Hokie.</p>	Alumnus

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Brad Catron	Being an Alumnus, and parent of an Alumnus, we were able to obtain our educations without the onus of student loans or debt. I also see what is an ever changing physical environment in Blacksburg and on campus. The constant construction and erecting of new buildings. Why keep building when our efforts should be more on affordable education? It seems to me that helping fund needy students' educations would help diversify our educational system more so than "popping" up a million dollar drone cage. We have a duty to help people (Ut Prosim), not hamstringing them with debt in hopes of a brighter future. This is frustrating to see, and I sincerely hope we can funnel money to helping those who need it, rather than a business "grow or go" strategy.	Alumnus
Megan Bronson	I am a grad student and Virginia Tech, and I live in Christiansburg because I cannot afford to live in Blacksburg due to rent prices. This year my rent went up by \$75 dollars. That's a \$900 annual increase. While I do not have the ability to submit a public comment to my landlord, I do have the ability to submit one now to the BOV as my employers seeks to raise the fees I put on a credit card every semester and work off incrementally, never really catching up. The bottom line is that I cannot afford every area of my life to keep rising in cost and be expected to be able to commit the same amount of time and attention to my studies as required, because I have to pick up freelance projects to make ends meet. Raising fees and tuition becomes a barrier to my success as a scholar, in addition to contributing to my inability to pay rent, buy food, and pay for medical copays. It just doesn't seem very ut prosim to work against the grad students who do so much labor for the university.	Student
Brooke Gannon	I'm a student who pays their own tuition and an increase in tuition, especially this much, will add much more financial stress. Please think of the students who have to pay their own tuition.	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Cameron Warren	<p>Dear members of the board,</p> <p>I am a staff member in the Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise and I strongly oppose the proposed tuition and fee increases. Virginia Tech's funding needs can surely be met in a different way that doesn't affect the livelihoods of our most vulnerable populations: the undergraduate and graduate student population</p> <p>To speak more specifically about our graduate student population, I do think it's a great dishonor and shame that our graduate students share these horrific stories of not being able to afford rent, groceries, medical trips, etc while they bring in millions of dollars to the university in research grants. The big grants always make it in the VTX and get spread through local and national news while our graduate students suffer. It's disgraceful and I think Virginia Tech can do better than that, and in fact, be a leader in providing a LIVING WAGE to our graduate students. Additionally, I urge the BOV to follow the recommendations outlined in the Graduate Student Assistantship Support Task Force Report and cover the fees for all graduate students on assistantships by the next Fall semester.</p> <p>Also, while we're talking about living wages, I support the need to raise wages for ALL Virginia Tech employees. When graduate students started fighting for their right to a living wage, can you believe the nerve of some faculty members to utter the words "well if we pay our graduate students more, we'll have to pay our staff more", as if that was an actual argument. This is hardly an argument. If anything, it's a statement that recognizes that the university takes advantage of graduate students AND staff members and this does not sit well with me. I've sat in meetings where department heads have pleaded with faculty to treat staff members better because "faculty are replaceable and staff are not". If that were the case, why isn't my pay reflected to match my value? And why is my pay then used as a line of reasoning to keep graduate students under Virginia Tech's boot?</p> <p>In conclusion, don't add fuel to the flames of the student debt crisis, come up with another way to support Virginia Tech's funding needs, cover graduate student fees, and provide</p>	Faculty/Staff
Camila Gamarra Zuniga	<p>There are so many students here that work hard to make the money needed to go to school here. Adding more money would be a disservice and would not reflect the care I know Virginia Tech as for its students. It could result in someone not being able to go to school and make a better life for their family</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Camille Basilio	Do NOT raise tuition please. Finances are struggling more most families and they cannot afford a raise in tuition this coming academic year. A moratorium on tuition raises can be afforded by this institution to be put into place.	Student
Carly Marshall	People already pay enough to go to this school. Do not raise tuition.	Student
Caroline Begley	We have discussed in the past that the budget is one of the main setbacks to increasing the living wage. One alternative would be providing free on-campus housing for graduate students. This would be internal finance that could be resolved easier than increasing the budget. In this, graduate student could afford to live without having to increase their stipend. *What are your thoughts on this alternative?	Student
Christian Ramos	As a student with an EFC of \$0, I receive maximum consideration for financial aid. But that is still not enough to pay for textbooks, supplies, housing cost, groceries, gas, and many other bills that I need to survive and function as a student and human being. I work every academic break the university provides (summer, winter, and spring) 40 hours a week to save up and have money for those expenses. A 8.8% in tuition would severely hurt my ability to pay for those expenses and take months of finances away from me. I will not be able to be a student at Virginia Tech with such a devastating increase in cost. Please reconsider that action.	Student
Connor L Brown	It is frustrating as graduate students that we need to turn over ~5-10% of our salary from tuition remissions back to the school for fees. The system seems to be disproportionately designed to boost the ability of the athletics program to sell tickets to football games.	Student
Dante Fuoco	VT student fees greatly - and negatively - impact my ability to stay afloat financially. They are fees I essentially never access, as I am not an undergrad and do not take advantage of according facilities. I say this especially as someone who endures three months in the summer without pay.	Student
David Giovanni Delacruz	In accordance to the consideration of increasing tuition, I am writing to suggest against this. In leu of economic challenges and recession this is a very difficult time for many. Please suggest against the vote.	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Define	I think it is absurd to be increasing tuition by so much. I understand adjusting for inflation, but this is too inflated. If this increase happens, I truly hope a majority of it is used for the benefit of students in the form of scholarships, lower parking costs, decreased class fees, etc. But I doubt that will happen. It is very saddening that VT has essentially become a money hungry corporation when those in power could skip a promotion for a year and come up for these costs.	Student
Diego Andr�s Vega-Nazario	A tuition increase will place an even greater burden on middle to low class income families. Both my parents work two jobs in order to afford my college tuition and expenses. They also live paycheck to paycheck since they are supporting me. I applied to as many scholarships I was eligible to apply to, and after earning a few one-time small ones, affording college tuition is still a hassle. Raising tuition would place an unnecessary burden on many middle class Hokie families that support their children's future career through a college education.	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Dasha M	<p>As the DEI graduate student representative in my department, I hear the stories of my fellow peers that talk about how the comprehensive fees add an extra burden on top of paying (1,000\$ or more rent), car repairs, healthcare costs, and food. There are students in my department on Food Stamps because of what we are paid. The international students in my department face additional challenges.</p> <p>I personally live in Christiansburg so my rent is cheaper (650 a month) but I have to pay car maintenance costs and gas money. I was lucky enough to receive a small scholarship to cover my comprehensive fees this year and it has made a big difference in my life. Every graduate student should not have to pay this fee. This upcoming May, because I didn't have to pay the comprehensive fee, I have now scheduled my wisdom teeth removal that I have delayed for two years because I couldn't save up enough money. I also babysit on the side for a family in Blacksburg for gas money. I am ashamed to admit this because I know I could be spending that time on my project and school related work. If graduate students did not have to pay the comprehensive fees and received fair compensation, students like myself wouldn't have to work extra jobs.</p> <p>I urge you to not raise tuition and fees and to cover fees for graduate students. I believe this a DEI equity issue. My peers that have entered other institutions such as East Carolina University make the living wage for the areas that they live in, but graduate students here do not. Tuition and fees need to NOT be increased.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Doug H	<p>Most graduate students don't utilize all of the services included in the comprehensive fees. It feels like we are being compelled to take out loans for things we don't use, or that the BoV is concerned with cash flow back into the university. Money that goes out to pay us must come back in, if students can afford the payment plan, or must be brought in by loans to keep the university balance sheets positive.</p> <p>It's frustrating that people who are aware of our stipend amounts and have been repeatedly alerted to the cost of living challenges 1) refuse to increase our stipends to match the cost of living and 2) resist the urge to simply scale fees with increases to stipends. I'm not sure what other surveys, reports, or documentation are required for a meaningful change in university policy.</p> <p>Graduate students need a raise, without coordinated increases in fees, parking permits, etc. Beyond a cost of living "adjustment," we need a genuine raise in pay without the university tax.</p>	Student
Emma eisenbeiss	commenting on tuition increases. tuition is already unaffordable for most college students. And at that, having a campus that is constantly under construction so we can't enjoy the full facilities, it feels unfair to increase tuition anymore.	Student
Jiayi Lian	<p>Hi,</p> <p>I am a graduate student. The living expense is drastically increasing recently. After the tax and the reduction for comprehensive fee, I receive about 1,700\$ per month. The living expense is about 1,600\$ per month, including 650\$ for the rent, 120\$ for electricity, 60\$ for the internet, 700\$ for food, and 100\$-200\$ for the other cost. These expenses do not involve the transportation fees such as the insurance for my car, property tax and gas. In such situation, I sometimes choose to eat less or cheaper to afford the extra expenses. It makes me quite disappointed. The proposed Tuition and Fee increases will destroy my financial condition. Please do not raise them and help us graduate students to maintain a descent life.</p> <p>Best, Jiayi</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Meghan Dillon	<p>As an out of state student I know firsthand how detrimental increased tuition can be for someone's future. As of now I will be paying off my loans till i am probably in my 40s. It should not be realistic that someone who is wishing to pursue an education should be paying even more than I am at this point. The education at virginia tech should be accessible for people to experience.</p>	Student
Emily M Burns	<p>the board has prioritized the affordability of a virginia tech degree while making targeted investments that enhance the value of a Virginia Tech education to both students and the Commonwealth and continue to position the university as a leader in teaching, research, and innovation.</p> <p>To further advance affordability, the university will continue to grow philanthropic support and increase student financial aid programs, including the Funds for the Future program, which offsets the cost of tuition and fee increases for returning students with family incomes up to \$100,000</p> <p>For the 2023-24 fiscal year and consistent with the university's six-year plan approved by the Board of Visitors in November, the board will consider tuition and Educational and General (E&G) fee increases between 0 percent and 4.9 percent for Virginia resident undergraduates, non-resident undergraduates, and on-campus graduate students.</p> <p>The board will also consider increases between 0 percent and 8.8 percent for mandatory non E&G fees to support mandated cost increases including employee compensation and benefits, sustaining and enhancing student services enhancements including the transit system and student health/counseling services.</p> <p>Virginia Tech maintains the lowest mandatory non-E&G fees among public four-year institutions in the Commonwealth</p> <p>If you are an individual with a disability and desire an accommodation, please send an email to vppg@vt.edu or call 540-231-6232 during regular business hours at least 10 days prior to the event.</p> <p>tuition and fees at public institutions in Virginia are higher than national medians for similar institutions</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Emma Stern	<p>I am an out-of-state undergraduate sophomore studying Clinical Neuroscience at Virginia Tech. I chose Virginia Tech for the amazing STEM programs, the wonderful community, and the opportunities this school provides. I have a single mother paying for my tuition and it is difficult on her. I do not receive much aid similarly to many other students. So, I took on student loans. I live in an off-campus apartment with one of the biggest leasing companies in Blacksburg, CMG Leasing. Price gouging student apartments is cruel and unfair. These massive corporations are profiting off of students solely because they know they have no other choice. My mother is paying for my apartment in addition to my tuition because she wanted to me to focus on my studies and I'm beyond grateful. Unfortunately, she cannot provide my rent anymore because of the financial strain it has put on her. My major is strenuous and I struggle every week to make ends with my schoolwork, it's extremely stressful. However, I now work full-time in the Emergency Department with the Lewisgale Regional Health System to pay for my rent, groceries, and other necessities. All on top of being a STEM major like the majority of Virginia Tech students. I feel like the walls are closing in on me and I'm having trouble balancing my life as-is. This tuition increase would be devastating to me and so many other students, families, and the Hokie community as a whole. We love this university, please reconsider and think about the detrimental impact this will have on Hokie Nation.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Fez Fessenden	<p>Dear Board of Visitors,</p> <p>First, I want to express my gratitude for your taking our comments. I and many of my graduate student peers come to you to request an increase in funding, and avenues for communication like this are integral to our advocacy.</p> <p>Second, I want to say that we ask for an increase in funding out of necessity, not greed. Particularly, we cannot afford to pay the comprehensive fees with our current stipends. Though it may seem like a small percentage of our stipends, the comprehensive fees that we pay severely affect the amount of income we have per month. This semester, I could not afford to utilize even the payment plan for the comprehensive fees, because the \$200 per paycheck that it takes would have left me without the money to pay for my rent and car payment, let alone groceries and utilities. Instead, I had to take out a third party loan to pay for the fees up front. Beyond the fees, because we do not have opportunities for summer funding, I and my peers will need to supplement with enough jobs to pay for the rising cost of living in Blacksburg, and if we cannot find enough work in this town, move elsewhere. Personally, I will need to move back to my hometown for the summer in order to afford the rent that I cannot stop paying here. I implore you to consider an increase in funding for your graduate students. I can only speak for myself, but I love this town and student body and am so grateful to be a student and instructor here. However, without an increase in funding to cover the cost of living, I will be unable to continue my studies and teaching at Virginia Tech.</p> <p>Thank you again.</p> <p>Sincerely, Fez Fessenden</p> <p>First year MFA in Poetry</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Xander Gershberg	<p>I've observed, both for myself and others in my program, that the financial stress of our low stipends directly impacts graduate students ability to stay in the program and to succeed there. I regularly hear my classmates describe coming to class hungry, weighing the cost of textbooks versus groceries and rent, opting out of medical and dental care because of the cost, taking menial jobs that take away time from their research and professional development, and getting burnt out quickly from juggling their basic needs with their academic and professional goals. Virginia Tech's role in my success often feels paradoxical. While I'm here to specialize and professionalize in my field, the lack of compensation and resources at Virginia Tech disincentivize me from getting the development I can from the program or from even remaining at Virginia Tech. Adopting the report's recommendations as soon as possible will alleviate my and many, many others' struggles and better ensure all graduate students success in the program.</p>	Student
Gianni Gambino	<p>An increase of 8.8% is ridiculous and will cause less people to attend our school as well as push many ppl over the edge on their loans. 8.8% is a massive increase.</p>	Student
Han Chen	<p>Dear Board of Visitors,</p> <p>As a Ph.D. student and instructor of undergraduate statistics classes at Virginia Tech, I urge you to consider the financial challenges that graduate teaching assistants face when proposing tuition and fee increases. Currently, graduate teaching assistants are only covered with 88% of health insurance costs, and we are required to pay a comprehensive fee of approximately \$1400 per semester. Unfortunately, the rate of inflation outpaces our salary increases, making it difficult to afford these expenses without proper salary increments.</p> <p>I respectfully request that the board take these concerns into account when considering any future tuition and fee increases. As graduate teaching assistants, we are an essential part of the university's academic mission, and it is vital that we receive fair compensation for our work. Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Han Chen</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Ivanna Guzman	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am reaching out in regards to the potential tuition and fee increase. I am a current undergraduate student at VT. Currently a senior, I have struggled the past two years since transferring to VT to be able to financially pay tuition and rent all the while being a full time student and secretary founder for my sorority here on campus. I've had to work two side jobs totaling an additional 30 hours on top of the 40 hour commitment to attend classes and complete course material. These things do not account for the extra time that is needed to dedicate towards the maintenance of a home, food, healthy extracurricular such as forming lasting bonds or activities to serve in volunteer initiatives, and most importantly one's own mental health. I urge the board to not go through with this increase as I do not wish to know that other younger people may suffer worse financial pressures than I have.</p> <p>Please. Some students do have receive parental support and aid in the manner or amounts that you would think. An expected report of my Fafsa for parental support was to exceed thousands of dollars when in reality no money was afforded to contribute to my education or rent because of the large size of my family. This partly goes to show a system that does not take into account the person circumstances of individuals as one would like, and ultimately results in less financial aid that only increases the urgency to have to work multiple jobs. I ask that you reconsider for the students to might suffer as I have.</p> <p>Best Regards,</p>	Student
Jack Dillow	Tuition is already too high as it is. Raising it would only cause negative results within the student body.	Student
Jennifer Garcia	I am against this. There is already enough burdens on students to increase economic burden even more.	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Jingbin Xu	<p>Dear Board of Visitors:</p> <p>Hope this email finds you well.</p> <p>Greetings from Jingbin Xu. I am a thrid year Ph.D. student at Virginia Tech.</p> <p>"Just a few months ago, about 48,000 unionized academic workers across the University of Californiaâ€™s 10 campuses walked off the job on Nov. 14, calling for better pay and benefits. The workers include teaching assistants, postdoctoral scholars, graduate student researchers, tutors and fellows and perform much of the teaching and research at the stateâ€™s premier higher education system. They are demanding significant pay increases."</p> <p>The living cost in Blacksburg is inflated in recent years. Given that most grad students are already not paid a living wage, increasing these makes it that much harder for graduate students to afford the basics.</p> <p>I disagree on the tuition and fee increase proposal.</p> <p>Kind regards, Jingbin</p>	Student
Jesse Janoski	<p>Dear Members of the Board,</p> <p>My name is Jesse and I am a PhD candidate in the Department of Biological Sciences. I strongly oppose the proposed tuition and fee increases as students face rising costs of living and inflation during an ongoing pandemic. I urge you to find an equitable way to meet Virginia Tech's funding needs and support the need to raise wages for Virginia Tech employees to a living wage. Graduate students are integral to the university's research portfolio and land-grant mission, and should be treated and compensated fairly accordingly.</p> <p>Sincerely, Jesse</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Jillian Krinsky	For a place that I love so much, itâ€™s losing its charm. If I were to handle a .08% increase, thatâ€™s the difference of paying off my loans for 30 years vs 40. donâ€™t be greedy.	Student
Jordan Vargas	Do not raise tuition please I am very poor	Student
Joseph Taylor	Iâ€™m begging you to please not increase student fees. The Blacksburg area has become so expensive and I hardly make any money as it is. I eat plain peanut butter out of the jar for most lunches because I donâ€™t have any money AND I have to give a huge chunk of the money I do have (12% of my annual stipend) back to the school anyway in student fees. Please donâ€™t increase the fees anymore. I have no money left in my bank account at the end of each month almost entirely due to student fees and housing expenses. Itâ€™s impossible to focus on my education when Iâ€™m constantly stressed about my finances. Please donâ€™t raise the fees anymore.	Student
Julia Armstrong	Your graduate students are proud and grateful to be a part of this institution, but they consistently struggle to make ends meet. Many of us have taken second and even third or fourth part-time jobs to be able to afford food, rent, and medication, and even then, the cost of living continues to rise. Ensuring that graduate students receive a living wage, in accordance with the astronomical cost of living in Blacksburg and the surrounding areas, is a high priority, perhaps the highest set before you today. Please lend credence to this issue: we do not ask out of greed, but out of desperation and necessity. Thank you for your time and dedication to this university; please govern with urgency and compassion.	Student
Katelyn Steide	Any raise in tuition could become detrimental to students like me, who must pay our way through college. I know I made the right decision when I chose Virginia Tech. I have found a supportive and vibrant community in Blacksburg that has allowed me to grow. If tuition increases, my ability to continue taking advantage of opportunities on campus will become severely inhibited. Students like me would be disadvantaged when we begin a career burdened with thousands in loan debt. Please allow all Hokies to thrive by opposing increased tuition.	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Kat M. Gray	As a graduate student, I wish to comment on the hardship that increasing fees represent. I lose thousands of dollars to fees every year, and this reduces my already low wage to the point that I have needed to take out loans for five years to meet cost of living for myself and my partner, who is disabled and can only work part-time. In addition, fees at Virginia Tech don't compare favorably to fees at peer institutions - even among universities that still charge grad student fees, Virginia Tech's are some of the highest I have seen, and they have repeatedly gone up during my time here. Finally, graduate student fees represent a special hardship for international students, who often end up with extra costs as they arrive in the country and are surprised with fees prior to their first paycheck at the university. Graduate students are certainly students first, but our work also provides great value to the university - faculty consider us junior colleagues. These high fees feel like being asked to pay to work here, especially during the last three years, when I have been out of coursework and working on my exams and dissertation project.	Student
Kaustubh Deshmukh	Any increase in the fees should be compensated with an increase in the pay scale. That is only logical. And not just this for this year, but the pay scales should be firstly adjusted according to all the fee hikes that have been done in past few years as well. Graduate stipends are barely a living wage if you don't have any dependents and with any fee hikes, it puts a higher financial strain on the students with assistantship contracts. This will allow all such students to focus all their energy on their duties as an assistant. I hope the BOVs accept the wage increase plea and/or keep the fee hikes in check. Thank you.	Student
Mingang Kim	I really disagree with increasing a fee unless there is decent amount of increase in graduate student salary. There are so many things to spend money such as rent, insurance, gas and food. News about increasing a fee made me so frustrated. I already think fees are expensive.	Student
Louis Genovese	Don't increase tuition	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Mary Byrne	<p>To the Board,</p> <p>I was recently informed of your intention to raise tuition and fees at the university. I am a current student at the veterinary school as well as an employee at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Despite working part-time as much as I can, I already struggle to make ends meet with the maximum amount I am able to borrow from the federal government. I am a non-traditional student, nearly 10 years older than my classmates, and I do not have a spouse or parent to assist me with expenses. I share my small apartment with two other vet students in order to cut costs, as well as frequenting the food pantry at the vet school. Increasing tuition would not only negatively affect my financial status, but also my mental and physical health as I will be forced to choose to pay for either rent or food each month. In a time where inflation has already made graduate student life very financially difficult, I implore you to defer raising tuition until housing and food costs return to some kind of normalcy.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration, Mary Byrne, LVT</p>	Student
Melissa Gomez Villalta	<p>For students who are paying for their education with little to no aid from their families, this would make it even more difficult to find the funds to attend this great institution. I am paying for my education alone with no help from my family and If there is an increase I would have to fight to come up with the money to return the next academic year. I hope this does not go through.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Miles Abernethy	<p>Hi, I'm a current senior and just accepted an offer from our History Department to continue as an M.A. student. An increase in tuition presents additional complications to this personally and I think sends the wrong message to potential undergraduates and postgrad/professionals.</p> <p>Although I've been accepted with an assistantship that covers my postgrad tuition - would this status change with a tuition increase? I believe it would also impact the living costs of postgrads, whose compensation the Board is also considering. I love VT and the History community - but considering my other educational options as well if an increase without due compensation becomes policy.</p> <p>I pride myself on being in the know as a student when it comes to the University's future goals. So when Beyond Boundaries aims for the retention of postgrads and attracting more around the world - and now considers a tuition increase - it seems like the vision and plan are at cross purposes. We just celebrated 150 years of being an institution that lifted economically and racially marginalized communities up, and we should respect that tradition.</p>	Student
Emily H	<p>The university has a lot of fat it could trim before considering tuition and fee increases. Students take on enough debt already, don't burden the next generation because of your financial mismanagement.</p>	Alumnus
nataly lopez	<p>I do not agree with the tuition increase. I come from a low income Hispanic family and I'm already in over \$20,000 in debt from loans because unlike other higher income families, I can't afford to pay off my tuition monthly. This is completely unfair for the minorities here at Tech, especially those who are first generation students from financially struggling families. I see no point in raising the tuition.</p>	Student
Ninie Asad	<p>As an RA, I listened to residents come to me scared about how they were going to pay for their dining plans last year when there was an increase in the cost of meal plans last semester. In increasing the cost of tuition even more, it is only further burdening these students as well as creating barriers for first generation students who are already struggling as it is.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Peyton Gentry	Fees for graduate students should not be raised. Having to take out over \$20,000 for three semesters is already a ridiculous amount, and yâ€™all want to raise the price? That is how you will lower admission numbers across the board. EDUCATION SHOULD NOT BE THIS EXPENSIVE	Student
Prescott Vayda	I am a graduate student at Virginia Tech. While I understand that tuitions and fees are necessary for the university to run, increasing fees will only hurt graduate students. I appreciate everything that our fees help pay for. I take advantage of many things like the buses, the rec center, sporting events, and student organizations that would not be possible without the help of student fees. But simply put, graduate students cannot afford an increase in fees with the current stipends. Many graduate students are already making significantly less than the cost of living in Blacksburg. Student fees represent almost \$4000 a year that graduate students have to pay out of their stipend (this could be nearly 20% of their yearly stipend for many students). That is 20% of our taxable income that is immediately taken back by the university. The fees we pay are not tax deductible. Graduate students are already forced to stretch their stipend for the simple necessities like rent and food. Further, graduate students are forced to pay the out of state fees. I have changed my residency to Virginia. I have a Virginia license. I vote in Virginia. I pay Virginia taxes. Yet the university does not consider me a Virginia resident to get reduced fees. Graduate students simply should not be a source of income for the university after all the other services we provide in teaching, research, and outreach. Please consider how a fee increase will negatively impact graduate students.	Student
Rachel Inman	I am going to be a full time grad student next year. I am saving up to pay for tuition and housing. I do not want to sacrifice my education due to high tuition/living costs. Please think about student who do not have help from family, have to work while taking classes, etc.	Student
Md Hasibul Hasan Rahat	Please do not increase. Moreover, please all the fees for graduate students	Student
Md Rejwanur Rahman	I am graduate student and I have to pay insane amount of comprehensive fee each semester.	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Riley DeHority	<p>Dear BOV members and representatives,</p> <p>My name is Riley DeHority, and I gave a public comment at your March 2 meeting. I figured that was probably enough, but then I realized that it was best to take every opportunity to state in unequivocal terms, that I strongly oppose the proposed fee increases. Like I said in my live comment, as a graduate student working in a biotechnology lab, I work every day with ingredients that are more expensive than my annual fee bill, and I believe that the inability to look for creative ways to cover fees for all grad students on assistantships is simply a lack of imagination. I urge the BOV to follow the recommendations in the Graduate Student Assistantship Support Task Force report, and cover fees for all graduate students on assistantships by next fall.</p> <p>Thank you, Riley DeHority</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Shaheer Malik	<p>Respected board members,</p> <p>As an international graduate student, I appreciate the opportunity to share my voice in this forum, and would like to reiterate my pride in VT and my gratefulness for the support and love I have received at this institution.</p> <p>For a community of scholars to thrive, graduate students need to be able to participate in knowledge creation and education without the threat of poverty hanging over them. With inflation at an all time high, and the rent in Blacksburg and nearby localities shooting up to record numbers, graduate students like myself simply cannot continue to serve to the best of our abilities without the elimination of student fees for GTAs, as proposed in the living wage resolution which I hope will be passed this year.</p> <p>I fear that without effective and immediate action to the effect of eliminating fees for GTAs, this community of scholars will not be able to uphold its commitments to the students and communities that we serve, and the prestige of VT as an institution may be severely jeopardized.</p> <p>Thank you for your time. I wish you the very best as you strive to safeguard our precious VT community.</p> <p>Sincerely, Shaheer Malik</p>	Student
Suzzudul Islam Shuvo	<p>Potential grad students often ask me about the cost of living and all the fees and immediately gets discouraged. I hate to discourage prospective students like this but that's unfortunately the truth. I fear that we'll lose more potential students if the fees are increased. We barely have enough to go through the month after paying all the insane amount of fees and rent.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Tyna Gaylor	<p>How in the world does increasing tuition contribute to the goal of "access and affordability"? Affordability is achieved by reducing costs, not increasing costs and raising tuition. Likely there are activities and programs that are unnecessary and costly, like the millions of dollars spent to change the logo.</p> <p>How about eliminating the \$7 million DEI program?</p> <p>How about accepting students who are prepared for college to reduce the costs of remedial education and leave that to community colleges?</p> <p>Many families are struggling with higher costs. Any tuition increase adds further to their burden.</p>	Alumnus
Katie Davenport Davis	<p>As a 2002, 2002, and 2005 graduate of VT, a teacher in Montgomery County, the spouse of a VT employee, and the mom of an incoming member of the Class of 2028, I implore you to refrain from further raising the cost of tuition and fees any further. As it is, the cost is unmanageable for our family living in Montgomery County on a VT Salary and an MCPS salary with 3 children. While the FAFSA calculates our EFC as 50% of my MCPS salary, that is not at all realistic. With direct loans capped at the same \$5500 that was available when I attended VT as an undergrad from 1998-2002. At that time, I was able to live on campus and have a full schedule of 18 credit hours in engineering for a TOTAL of \$4110.50, with the tuition portion being \$1396, yet now the tuition alone is \$6349, and the Direct Loan limit does not even cover a single semester's tuition. At a time when families are already struggling so much, I urge you to look to options other than tuition to increase revenue. If you must increase the tuition by a certain percentage, I certainly hope that my spouse will see that same percentage coming back in wages so that our family can afford for my son to attend as planned in the fall. His job and savings from the last 4 years (since his 14th birthday) at Kroger will only go so far.</p>	Alumnus

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Wesley Woo	<p>Dear Board,</p> <p>As a first year PhD student, I am concerned with what the increases in tuition mean to the rest of my Virginia Tech experience. When I decided to move to Blacksburg, I felt that I was taking a risk -- not only was I moving to a new place, but I was saying no to other programs and jobs that offered more financial security. With increases in tuition and fees, I feel worried that an unplanned sickness, injury, or trip to the emergency room might put me in a position of financial hardship. Tuition might be covered by department funding of PhD students, but I find the existing comprehensive students fees unreasonable, especially considering how little student programming is offered to the graduate community. Any increases on top of this existing ~\$350 a month student fee (which is more than I spend on groceries to feed myself each month) would be absolutely ridiculous. The BoV should be working to serve the public by making graduate and doctoral student education more affordable.</p>	Student

Commenter	Comment	Affiliation
Xuxin Tang	<p>Dear Virginia Tech,</p> <p>I am writing to express my deep concern and objection to the proposed increase in tuition and fees for the upcoming academic year. As an international student, I was disheartened to hear this news, as it will have a significant impact on my ability to support myself financially while pursuing my education.</p> <p>While my tuition is covered by a scholarship, the amount of money I receive after deducting taxes, insurance, and other fees is already barely enough to cover my living expenses. The prospect of a further increase in fees makes me anxious about my ability to continue my studies and maintain a decent standard of living.</p> <p>Additionally, I would like to raise the issue of certain mandatory fees, such as the Recreational Sports Fee and Athletic Fee. These fees are included in our tuition without giving us the option to opt out. Other universities, such as MIT, offer their students the choice to pay the athletic fee and recreational sports fee. I believe that giving students the option to choose which fees to pay would be fairer and more transparent.</p> <p>I urge you to reconsider the proposed increase in tuition and fees and explore alternative solutions to address the financial challenges facing the university. As international students, we already face many financial barriers to education, and any increase in fees will only exacerbate these challenges.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>	Student
No filters applied		

Six Year Capital Plan 2024-2030 Update

BOB BROYDEN
Associate Vice President for Campus Planning and Capital Financing

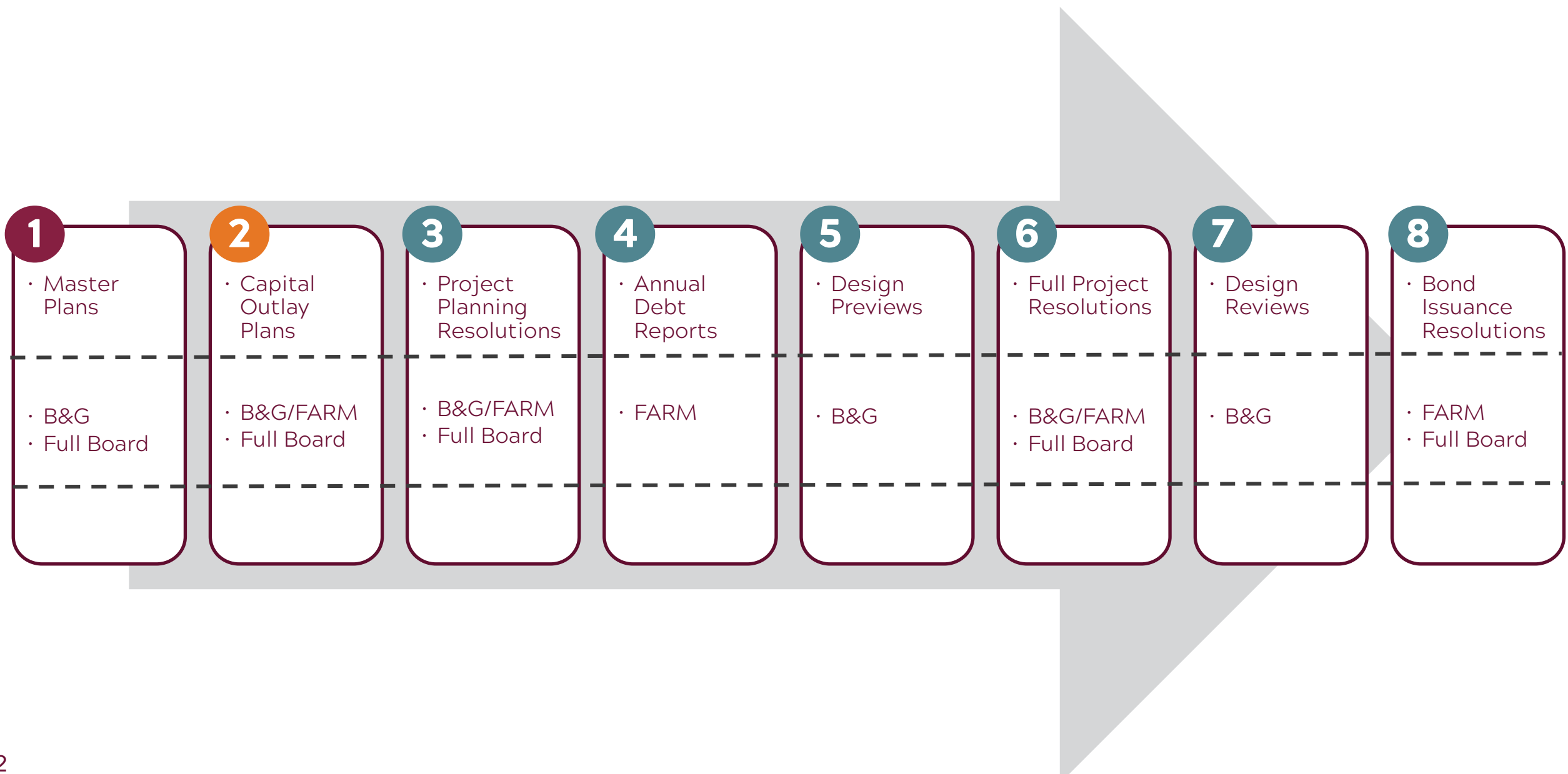
MARCH 20, 2023



VIRGINIA TECH.

Capital Outlay Program & Project Authorization Steps

ATTACHMENT C



Strategic Criteria for Selecting and Prioritizing Projects

University Strategic Goals

- Top 100 Global University
- Facility Asset Management and Renewal
- Student Experience and Success
- Alignment with state funding priorities

Other Selection Criteria

- Dean/Vice President's priority ranking
- Consistency with the Campus Master Plan
- Available sources of Nongeneral fund revenues sufficient to service debt
- Debt capacity

Capital Needs for 2024-2030



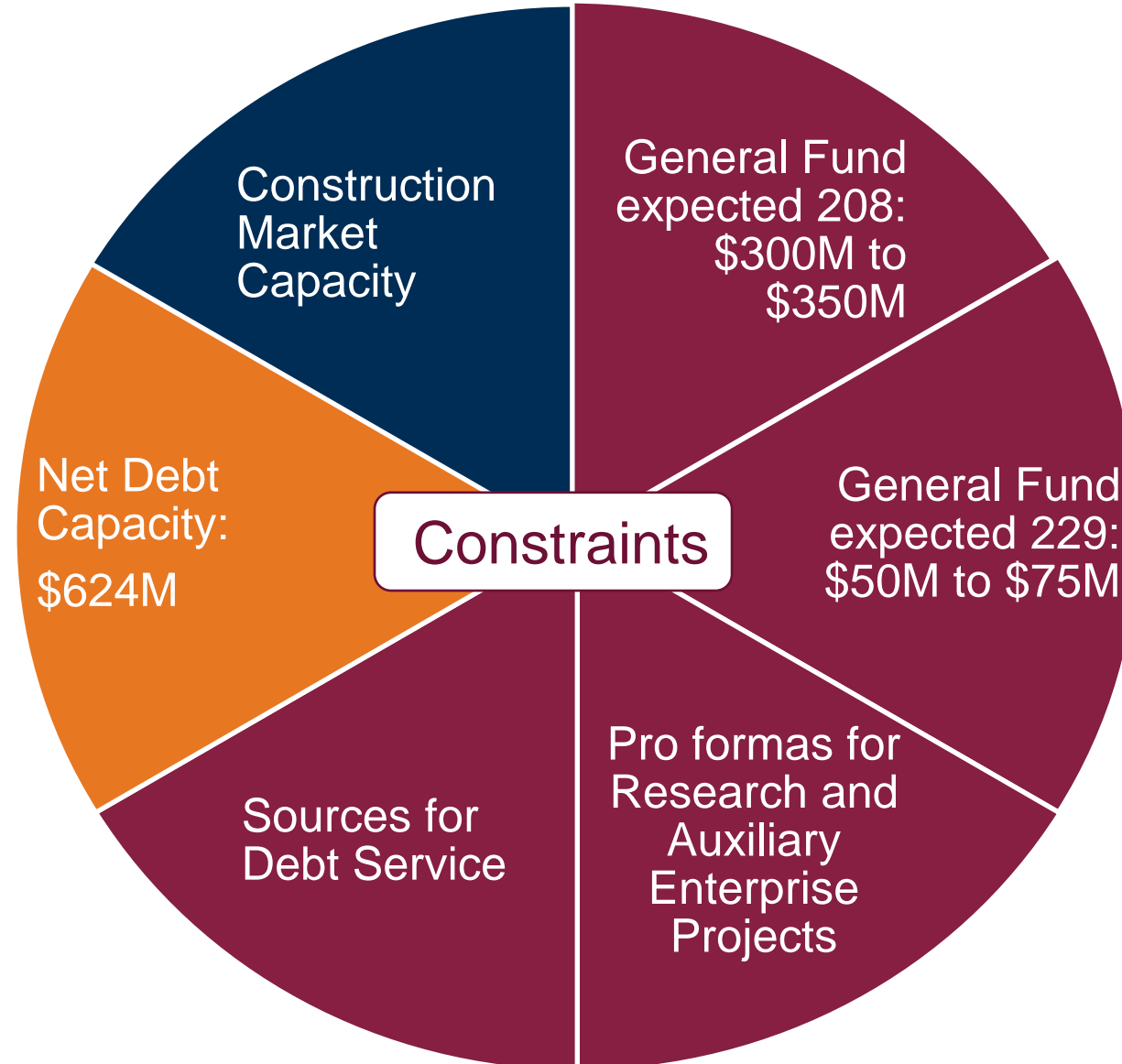
General Fund List

- 7 – Agency 208
- 5 – Agency 229

Nongeneral Fund List

- 8 – Blacksburg/Roanoke Academic
- 10 – Blacksburg Auxiliary Enterprises
- 3 – Greater Washington DC, Metro Area

Planning Constraints for 2024-2030



General Fund List for 2024-2030

		Dollars in Thousands			
		General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Debt	Total
University Division					
1	Virginia Tech-Carilion School of Medicine and Fralin Biomedical Research Institute Expansion	\$ 135,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 160,000
2	Hahn Hall South Renovation and Expansion	91,800	-	36,200	128,000
3	Derring Hall Renovation	117,500	9,500	-	127,000
4	Newman Library Renovation	92,000	-	-	92,000
5	Robeson Hall Renovation	46,800	9,200	-	56,000
6	Classroom Renovations	25,000	-	-	25,000
7	Life, Health, Safety, Code Compliance Package	8,000	-	-	8,000
Total University Division Projects		<u>\$ 516,100</u>	<u>\$ 18,700</u>	<u>\$ 61,200</u>	<u>\$ 596,000</u>
Cooperative Extension / Agriculture Experiment Station Division (CE/AES)					
1	Center Woods Complex Improvements	\$ 17,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,000
2	System-wide Agricultural Research and Extension Centers Improvements, Phase I	30,000	-	-	30,000
3	Replace Animal-Based Facilities at Glade Road	41,000	-	-	41,000
4	Plant and Environmental Sciences Research Facility (HABB-II)	91,000	-	-	91,000
5	Renew Animal and Livestock Facilities	34,000	-	-	34,000
Total CE/AES Division Projects		<u>\$ 213,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 213,000</u>
Total General Fund Capital Plan for 2024-2030		<u>\$ 729,100</u>	<u>\$ 18,700</u>	<u>\$ 61,200</u>	<u>\$ 809,000</u>

Nongeneral Fund Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan for 2024-2030

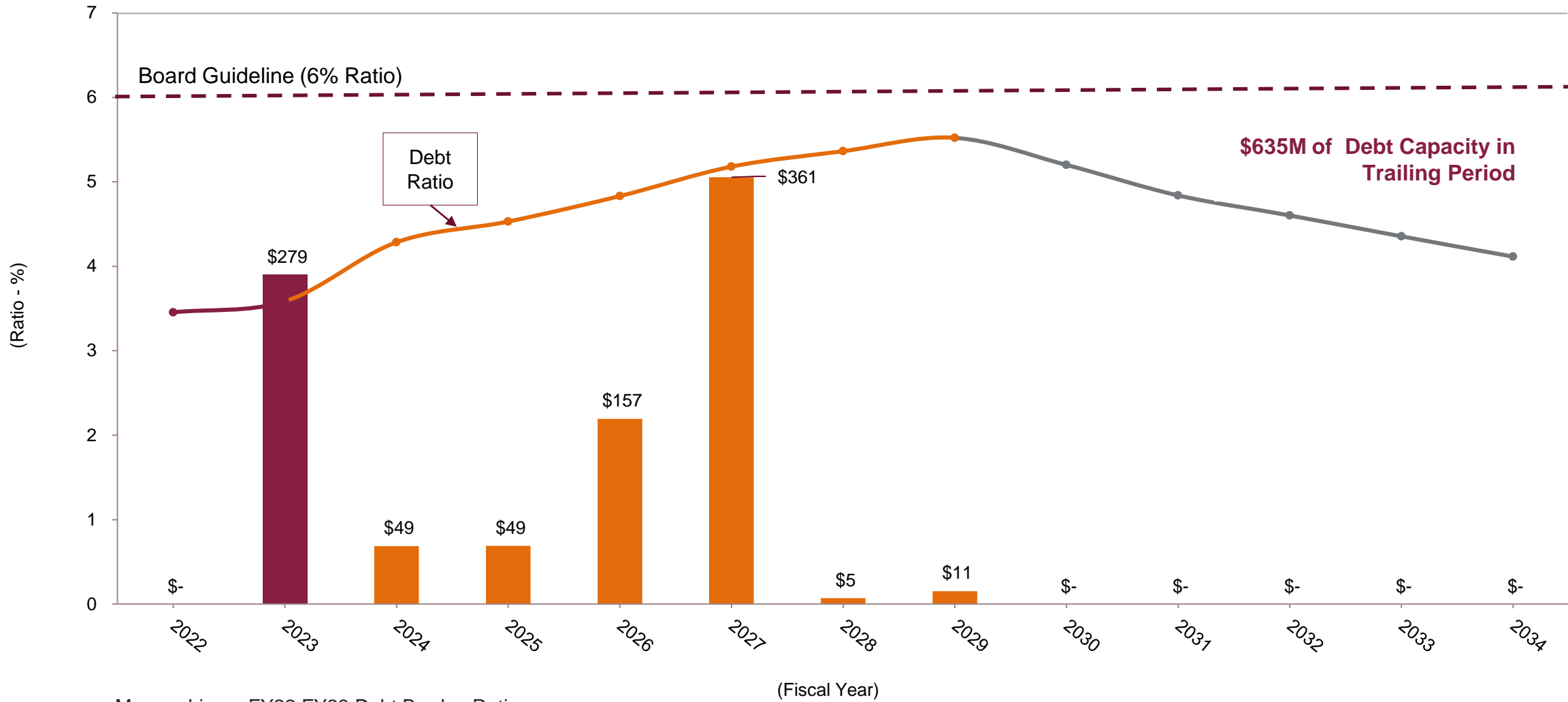
ATTACHMENT C

Dollars in Thousands

	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Debt	Total
Blacksburg and Roanoke Academic				
Architecture, Arts, & Design Renovations				
Renovate Architecture Annex	\$ -	\$ 5,200	\$ -	\$ 5,200
Renovate Media Building	-	4,400	-	4,400
Renovate Squires Performance Spaces	-	3,800	-	3,800
Expand Vivarium Spaces	-	-	54,000	54,000
FBRI Cancer Research Facility	-	112,000	-	112,000
Pamplin College of Business	-	28,100	52,700	80,800
Renovate G. Burke Johnston Student Center	-	5,000	5,000	10,000
Veterinary Teaching Hospital Expansion	-	29,000	20,000	49,000
	-	187,500	131,700	319,200
Blacksburg Auxiliaries and Campus Services				
Food Processing Center and Warehouse	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Football Locker Room Renovation	-	5,000	-	5,000
Mail Services Facility	-	3,000	-	3,000
Parking Garage	-	9,700	26,300	36,000
Replace Kmart Lease	-	-	11,000	11,000
Rescue Squad Facility	-	6,000	-	6,000
Student Life Village Phase I:				
Dining Component	-	-	40,000	40,000
Recreation Component	-	-	10,000	10,000
Residential Component	-	20,000	230,000	250,000
Utilities and Infrastructure	-	-	50,000	50,000
	-	43,700	382,300	426,000
Greater Washington D.C., Metro Area				
Children's National Lease Expansion II	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Research Space Reconfiguration at VTRC-A	-	-	5,000	5,000
Upfit Floor 6 of Innovation Campus Academic Building I	-	9,000	-	9,000
	-	9,000	11,000	20,000
Total Nongeneral Fund Capital Plan for 2024-2030	\$ -	\$ 240,200	\$ 525,000	\$ 765,200
GRAND TOTAL SIX-YEAR CAPITAL OUTLAY PLAN	\$ 729,100	\$ 258,900	\$ 586,200	\$ 1,574,200

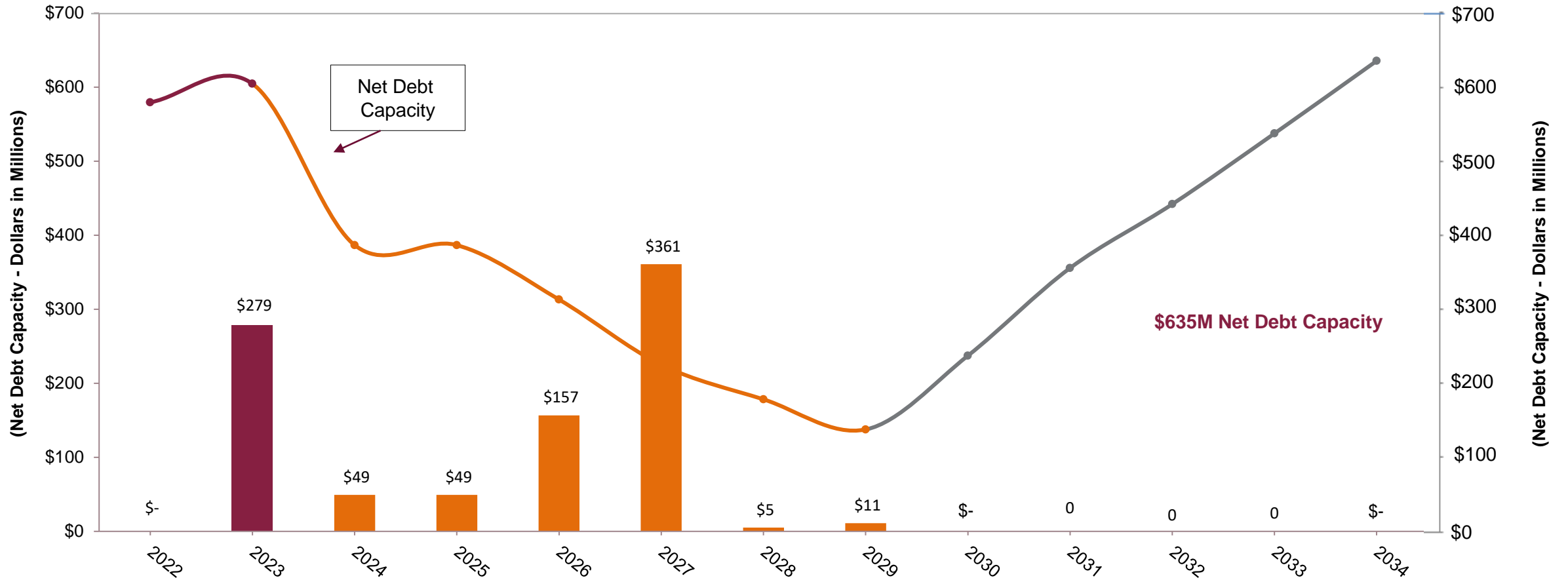
Nongeneral Fund List for 2024-2030

Debt Ratio Over Time



Maroon Line = FY22 FY23 Debt Burden Ratio
Maroon Bar = FY23 Issuances
Orange Line = Debt Burden Ratio for the Planning Period
Orange Bars = Issuances for the Planning Period
Gray Line = Debt Burden Ratio for the Trailing Period

Debt Capacity Over Time



Maroon Line = FY23 Net Debt Capacity
 Orange Line = Planning Period Net Debt Capacity
 Gray Line = Trailing Period Net Debt Capacity
 Maroon Bar = Actual Issuances
 Orange Bar = Projected Issuances

(Fiscal Year)

Approval of the 2024-2030 Capital Plan ATTACHMENT C

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Capital Outlay Plan for 2024-2030 as shown in Attachments A and B, be approved and for the university to submit the items in Attachment A in the state's capital budget process in accordance with future instructions and guidance from the state.

MARCH 20, 2023

Freedom of Expression and Inquiry

Robin Queen, PhD, FACSM, FIOR, FASB, FAIMBE

Kevin P. Granata Faculty Fellow

Professor: Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics

Professor: Orthopaedic Surgery

Director: Kevin Granata Biomechanics / Granata Treadmill Lab

Virginia Tech Faculty Senate, Vice President



CHARGE

Draft a statement affirming Virginia Tech's commitments to academic freedom and the constitutional right of free speech. The statement should acknowledge existing statements and policies and bring them together in the context of the university's academic mission. If appropriate, the new statement could replace existing statements to establish a coherent and unified expression of the university's commitments.

Develop recommendations for exercising and demonstrating these commitments in a manner that exemplifies Virginia Tech's Principles of Community.





TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Chair

Robin Queen, PhD (BEAM, CFA, Faculty Senate)

Faculty

Jim Hawdon, PhD (Sociology)

Khadijah Queen, PhD (English)

Ali Mehrizi-Sani, PhD (Elec & Comp. Engineering)

Jerald Walz, PhD (Ag, Leadership, and Comm Ed)

Vivica Kraak, PhD, RDN (Human Nut., Food & Ex.)

Staff

Tasia Persson (Executive Assistant to the Dean)

A/P faculty

Janice Austin, PhD (Assistant Dean – Graduate School)

Undergraduate students

Caroline Lohr (President USS)

Ainsley Cragin (VP for Policy and Issues USS)

Graduate students

Ben Beiter (President GPSS)

Chloe Robertson (VP GPSS)



TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

BOV

Anna James

Jeff Veatch

Content Experts

Kara Latopolski – Academic Freedom expert

Kay Heidbreder – University Legal Counsel

Harrison Blythe – Director of Compliance and Conflict Resolution

Gabby McCollum - Past Chair of CEOD

Laura Belmonte, Ph.D. - Dean CLAHS

Chris Yianilos - VP for Government and Community Relations

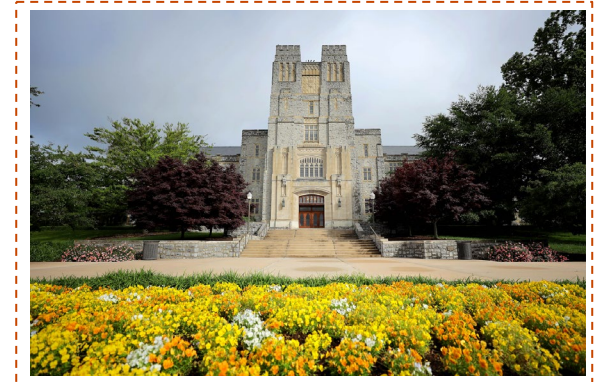
Mark Owczarski - Associate VP for University Relations





FREE SPEECH

First Amendment constitutional law expert, Stan Barnhill - VT alumni



ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Comprehensive Review of Academic Freedom in the United States by Dr. Kara Latopolski

PEER BENCHMARKS

Reviewed 60 statements from across the United States

Focus on 6 statements from VT Peers



Virginia Tech unequivocally commits to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom. ATTACHMENT C

Virginia Tech affirms the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, including the right to freedom of speech. The First Amendment requires the university to protect the expression of ideas and opinions, including those that people may find controversial, disagreeable, or offensive. Freedom of speech, like all rights in the Constitution, is not absolute. While most speech is protected by the First Amendment, it does not protect speech or actions that violate the law, such as incitement, defamation, threats, privacy violation, or intellectual property infringement, nor does it protect against unlawful harassment or discrimination. In addition, the First Amendment allows the university to regulate the time, place, and manner of expression. At Virginia Tech, freedom of speech should be exercised in a manner that ensures a learning environment that supports and promotes civil debate and mutual respect across differences.

Academic freedom, free expression, and open inquiry are core principles of higher education. Academic freedom enables scholars to conduct research, teach, speak, and publish within an area of expertise without interference or penalty. Academic freedom is essential to create and disseminate knowledge with the mission of improving the quality of life and the human condition within the Commonwealth of Virginia and throughout the world. Virginia Tech must ensure that all members of the university community can ask questions, listen to others, and learn through exposure to a range of ideas from a diverse community of scholars. Virginia Tech is committed to defending academic freedom and freedom of speech while providing a diverse and inclusive learning and work environment.

RECOMMENDATIONS



POLICY



PROCEDURES/
BEST PRACTICES



EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES



Statement on Academic Freedom and Free Speech
from the Task Force on Freedom of Expression and Inquiry

December 2022

Virginia Tech unequivocally commits to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom. Virginia Tech affirms the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, including the right to freedom of speech. The First Amendment requires the university to protect the expression of ideas and opinions, including those that people may find controversial, disagreeable, or offensive. Freedom of speech, like all rights in the Constitution, is not absolute. While most speech is protected by the First Amendment, it does not protect speech or actions that violate the law, such as incitement, defamation, threats, privacy violation, or intellectual property infringement, nor does it protect against unlawful harassment or discrimination. In addition, the First Amendment allows the university to regulate the time, place, and manner of expression. At Virginia Tech, freedom of speech should be exercised in a manner that ensures a learning environment that supports and promotes civil debate and mutual respect across differences.

Academic freedom, free expression, and open inquiry are core principles of higher education. Academic freedom enables scholars to conduct research, teach, speak, and publish within an area of expertise without interference or penalty. Academic freedom is essential to create and disseminate knowledge with the mission of improving the quality of life and the human condition within the Commonwealth of Virginia and throughout the world. Virginia Tech must ensure that all members of the university community can ask questions, listen to others, and learn through exposure to a range of ideas from a diverse community of scholars. Virginia Tech is committed to defending academic freedom and freedom of speech while providing a diverse and inclusive learning and work environment.

Task Force on Freedom of Expression and Inquiry – Executive Summary

The freedom of expression and inquiry task force received its official charge on July 22, 2022 from Provost Clarke and Dr. Robert Weiss (detailed list on page 2). The Task Force included individuals from across campus with a focus on recruiting a diverse group who could develop a statement on freedom of expression and inquiry as well as think about areas for engagement across the Virginia Tech campuses. Over the course of the fall semester, the task force met in hybrid format on eight occasions. Two different subgroups met five times in addition to the meetings of the entire group. The two subgroups drafted the statement on freedom of expression and inquiry and organized the recommendations for engagement across the Virginia Tech campuses.

During the first five meetings of the full group, members of the task force reviewed 60 academic freedom and freedom of speech statements from universities across the United States. In addition, the group reviewed a list of colleges/universities who had adopted the Chicago Principles to better understand who was signing onto these statements (details begin on page 3). As the group began the writing process, it primarily focused on six statements from institutions similar to Virginia Tech. To ensure the group was well informed about and understood the nuances of Academic Freedom and the First Amendment's guaranteed right to freedom of speech, the group heard from an expert in each area of scholarship. Dr. Kara Latopolski presented a comprehensive review of Academic Freedom in the United States and Stan Barnhill, Virginia Tech alumni and an expert in First Amendment constitutional law, provided detailed information about the First Amendment. Armed with the information provided by these experts and the other university statements, the group drafted an initial statement. Approximately five drafts were reviewed before the group reached consensus on a statement they felt comfortable sharing. The task force wanted to receive broad feedback regarding the statement. To obtain this feedback, an online survey was created and shared with each member of the task force so they could distribute it to their constituents. Given the membership of the task force, the draft statement was shared through the five senates with undergraduate students, graduate and professional students, staff members, Administrative and Professional (A/P) Faculty, and the Teaching and Research Faculty. The draft was shared on October 25, 2022. The task force received 342 responses to the survey with the following distribution: Undergraduate Students (1.8%), Graduate and Professional Students (9.9%), Staff (6.4%), A/P Faculty (16.4%), Faculty (63.7%), and preferred to not respond (1.8%). While this was a limited sample of all who were eligible to respond to the survey, the group felt the comments, concerns and suggestions were important and spent one meeting reviewing all the comments to determine how best to address them. Based on the community comments, the task force revised the statement until the group agreed the new statement both appropriately addressed the charge and was responsive to the comments that were received. The draft statement was sent to Provost Clarke and Dr. Weiss on November 11, 2022, and that statement can be found on Page 4.

After the development of the statement, the task force worked across four additional meetings to discuss university policies and procedures related to the drafted statement and identify areas for growth and engagement on campus. The summary of these suggestions can be found starting on page 5 of the document. This list was organized based on the area of impact: Policy, Procedures/Best Practices, and Educational Opportunities. The group discussed what campus groups may be positioned to help with this work as well as how to possibly engage members of the campus community broadly. We hope that the work of the task force can be utilized to improve campus culture and allow all members of the community to engage in civil debate across difference with a mind towards learning and growing as a community.

Freedom of Expression and Inquiry

Sponsors: Provost Cyril Clarke and Dr. Robert Weiss

Deadline: January 1, 2023

Charge:

- Draft a statement affirming Virginia Tech’s commitments to academic freedom and the constitutional right of free speech. The statement should acknowledge existing statements and policies and bring them together in the context of the university’s academic mission. If appropriate, the new statement could replace existing statements to establish a coherent and unified expression of the university’s commitments.
- Develop recommendations for exercising and demonstrating these commitments in a manner that exemplifies Virginia Tech’s Principles of Community.

Membership:

Chair

Robin Queen, PhD (Biomedical Engineering) VP of the Faculty Senate & Chair Commission on Faculty Affairs

Faculty

Jim Hawdon, PhD (Sociology)
Khadijah Queen, PhD (English)
Ali Mehrizi-Sani, PhD (Elec & Comp. Engineering)
Jerald Walz, PhD (Ag, Leadership, and Comm Ed)
Vivica Kraak, PhD, RDN (Human Nut., Food & Ex.)

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BOV

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Content experts

Kara Latopolski – Academic Freedom expert
Kay Heidbreder – University Legal Counsel
Harrison Blythe – Director of Compliance and Conflict Resolution
Gabby McCollum - Past Chair of CEOD
Laura Belmonte, Ph.D. - Dean CLAHS
Chris Yianilos - VP for Government and Community Relations
Mark Owczarski - Associate VP for University Relations

Special thanks to Evan Lavender-Smith who assisted in the development of the statement and Charity Boyette for all her help with organizing the group and being an invaluable resource to make sure the group was able to complete its work efficiently.