Minutes

Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
Thursday, April 9, 2026
1:00 pm
Zoom

Present – Gabe Petry (presiding), Judy Alford, Lacey Doyle, Brandi Evans, Chelle Ferguson, Rachel Miles, Sophia Minor, James Perkins, Michelle Raines, and Kayla Robertson.

Absent with Notice: Becky Bott-Knutson, Amber Hagan, and Sara Lucy.

Absent: Clay Crumpler, Dwayne Edwards, Nikki Gland-Turpin, and Aqab Zahoor.

Guest: April Myers.

Gabe Petry called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. **Adoption of Agenda**

2. **Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of March 6, 2026.**

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

3. **Discussion**

The CSPA meeting focused on reviewing unfinished business from the work plan goals and discussing new initiatives. The group addressed the status of bereavement leave, where they determined the previous community service leave information was not viable due to lack of proper governance process. Kayla volunteered to draft a resolution for bereavement leave, with Rachel offering assistance. The meeting also covered telework policy concerns, particularly regarding work requirements during university closures, and discussed potential solutions including authorized closing provisions. Additional topics included restoring Veterans Day as a compensatory holiday, establishing a Staff Appreciation Day, and creating performance evaluation points for voluntary service contributions.

4. **Announcements**

- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

5. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1:43 p.m.