Governance Structure Flowchart

Undergraduate Student Senate
- Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs

Graduate and Professional Student Senate
- Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs

Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate
- Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs
- Employee Benefits Committee

Staff Senate
- Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs
- Employee Benefits Committee

Faculty Senate
- Commission on Faculty Affairs
  - Commencement Committee
  - Employee Benefits Committee
  - Faculty Honorifics Committee
- Commission on Research
  - Intellectual Property Committee
  - Library Committee
- Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
  - Academic Support Committee
  - Athletics Committee
  - Library Committee
  - Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for General Education
- Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies
  - Library Committee

Board of Visitors

President

*Office of the Vice President for Policy and Governance (OVPPG) – advises on processes and manages the infrastructure of shared governance. All items flow through the office as a means to University Council, but as a means of facilitation not review.

University Council*
- Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity
- Commission on Outreach and International Affairs

University Council Cabinet
- Budgeting and Planning Committee
- Campus Development Committee
- Climate, Action, Sustainability, & Energy Committee
- Information Technology Systems & Services Committee
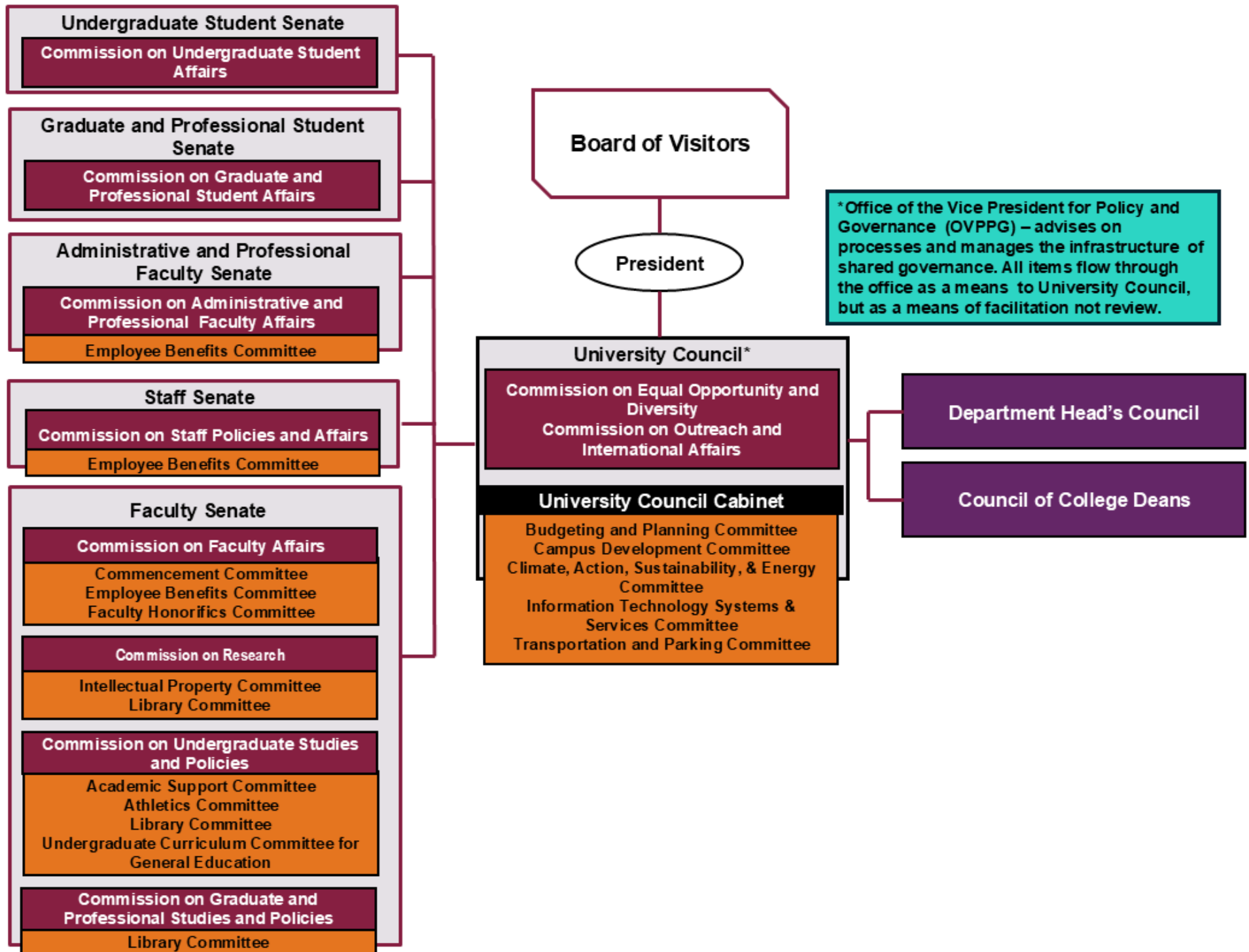- Transportation and Parking Committee

Department Head's Council

Council of College Deans

The Structure of Shared Governance

The structure of Virginia Tech's governance system consists of 13 committees, 10 commissions, five senates, University Council and University Council Cabinet, the President, and the Board of Visitors. Also included on the structure flowchart are the Department Heads Council, the Council of College Deans, and the Office of the Vice President for Policy and Governance. However, these three bodies are not part of the legislative (i.e., policy approval) process and are only responsible for consulting the legislative bodies at or below the university council level on policy considerations, or, in the case of the VP's office, facilitating the governance infrastructure.

The reporting structure, starting from the highest legislative body and working the way down, is as follows:

1. **Board of Visitors (BOV)** – overall governing authority of the university

2. **President of the University –** delegated final authority on some matters by BOV

3. **University Council** – advisory to the president

   - **University Council Cabinet** – small-scale discussion forum responsible for setting and administering council business and ensuring resolutions are coming from the correct commissions based on the commission's charge

4. **Senates** – representative bodies for the constituencies of the campus community

   - **Faculty Senate**
   - **Administrative and Professional (A/P) Senate**
   - **Staff Senate**
   - **Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS)**
   - **Undergraduate Student Senate (USS)**

5. **Commissions** – policy-recommending small groups that focus on policies related to their associated areas of expertise

   - Senate Commissions (report to a senate)
     1. **Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty (CAPFA**) – reports to A/P Senate
     2. **Commission on Faculty Affairs (CFA) – reports to Faculty Senate**
     3. **Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs (CGPSA)** – reports to GPSS
     4. **Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies (CGPSP)** – reports to Faculty Senate
     5. **Commission on Research (COR)** – Reports to Faculty Senate
     6. **Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs (CSPA)** – reports to Staff Senate
     7. **Commission on Undergraduate Student Affairs (CUSA)** – reports to USS
     8. **Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies (CUSP)** – reports to Faculty Senate

   - University Council Commissions (report to University Council)
     1. **Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity (CEOD)**
     2. **Commission on Outreach and International Affairs (COIA)**

6. **Committees** – standing or appointed small groups that focus on matters of university wide interest

   - Commission Committees – report to a commission
     1. **Academic Support Committee** – reports CUSP

2. **Athletics Committee** – reports to CUSP
3. **Commencement Committee** – reports to CFA
4. **Employee Benefits Committee** - reports to CAPFA, CFA, and CSPA
5. **Faculty Honorifics Committee** - reports to CFA
6. **Intellectual Property Committee** - reports to COR
7. **Library Committee** - reports to CGPSP, COR, and CUSP

- University Council Cabinet Committees – report to University Council Cabinet
    1. **Budgeting and Planning Committee**
    2. **Campus Development Committee**
    3. **Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy Committee**
    4. **Information Technology Systems and Services Committee**
    5. **Transportation and Parking Committee**