

Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies

2024-2025 Members

CHARGE: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Faculty Senate policies and procedures concerning graduate and professional academic matters. Areas for consideration include admissions, academic progress, degree requirements, commencement; registration and scheduling; graduate curricular standards and expectations, advising, and instruction, both of and by graduate students; research involving graduate students; financial assistance including assistantships, scholarships, and fellowships; the graduate and professional honor systems, including approval of changes to the Graduate Honor Codes; and library resources. The commission is also responsible for conducting an annual review of the university academic catalog to ensure that it is in alignment with university policies and is otherwise accurate. Such reviews do not involve or require approval of any senate or University Council. Any policy changes determined to be necessary will be considered through the normal resolution approval process.

Chair elected by the Faculty Senate

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|---------------|-------|------|
| Renée LeClair | Chair | 2025 |
|---------------|-------|------|

Ex Officio (By virtue of position)

| | | |
|------------------|---|------------|
| Aimée Surprenant | Dean for Graduate Education | ex officio |
| Rachel Holloway | Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs | ex officio |
| Tyler Walters | Dean of Libraries | ex officio |

One dean selected by Council of College Deans

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|----------------|---|------|
| Leslie LaConte | Designee of the Dean of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine | 2026 |
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One representative of the off-campus centers appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School

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|------------------------|--|------|
| Veronica van Montfrans | Translational Biology, Medicine and Health Academic Programs | 2027 |
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Two faculty senators elected by the Faculty Senate

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|----------------|--|------|
| Jerald Walz | Agricultural, Leadership and Community Education | 2026 |
| Carolyn Commer | English Department | 2025 |

Faculty representatives from each of the academic colleges elected by the faculty in each college

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|---------------|---|------|
| Renée LeClair | Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine | 2026 |
| Kwok Tsang | Science | 2026 |
| Jacque Pelzer | Veterinary Medicine | 2027 |
| Paul Emmons | Architecture, Arts, and Design | 2025 |
| Sattar Mansi | Business | 2025 |
| Nancy Bradley | Liberal Arts and Human Sciences | 2025 |
| Brian Strahm | Natural Resources and Environment | 2027 |
| Kaylee South | Agriculture and Life Sciences | 2027 |
| Nathan Lau | Engineering | 2025 |

One tenure-track faculty member from the Greater Washington, D.C. Metro Area Campus appointed by the Executive Vice President and Provost

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|--------------|-------------------------|------|
| Kirk Cameron | Research and Engagement | 2027 |
|--------------|-------------------------|------|

One representative from the Library Faculty Association elected by the Library Faculty Association

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|----------------|----------------------|------|
| Lisa Becksford | University Libraries | 2025 |
|----------------|----------------------|------|

One staff senator elected by Staff Senate

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|----------|--------------------------------|------|
| Zai Cook | Architecture, Arts, and Design | 2026 |
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One non-ex officio A/P faculty representative elected by the Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate

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|------------|---|------|
| Aaron Bond | Technology-Enhanced Learning and Online Strategies (TLOS) | 2027 |
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Chair of the Graduate Honor System (By virtue of position)

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|----------------|------------------------------------|------|
| Rose McGroarty | Chair of the Graduate Honor System | 2025 |
|----------------|------------------------------------|------|

Two graduate and professional student senators elected by the Graduate and Professional Student Senate

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|-------------|---------------------|------|
| Kaustuv Ray | Civil Engineering | 2025 |
| Brian Bush | Biological Sciences | 2025 |

One undergraduate student senator elected by the Undergraduate Student Senate

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|--------|--|------|
| Vacant | | 2025 |
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