

Commission on Research

2024-2025 Members

CHARGE: To study, formulate, and recommend to the Faculty Senate policies and procedures concerning research and research faculty. Areas for consideration include sponsored programs, core programs and interdisciplinary research; intellectual property; animal care and human subjects; indirect costs and returned overhead; research facilities, centers and institutes, and library resources; and liaison with affiliated corporations and institutes. The Commission on Research also conducts reviews of centers and institutes as described in Policy 13005; this function does not involve or require approval of any senate or University Council.

Chair elected by the Faculty Senate

Nicole Pitterson	Chair	2025
------------------	-------	------

Ex Officio (By virtue of position)

Daniel Sui	Senior Vice President and Chief Research and Innovation Officer	ex officio
Randy Heflin	Research and Innovation Senior Associate Vice President	ex officio
Alberto Cano	Associate Vice President for Research Computing	ex officio

One representative from the Office of the Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs

Thomas Archibald	Outreach and International Affairs	2027
------------------	------------------------------------	------

One department or division-level administrative representative appointed by the President

Ella Atkins	Aerospace and Ocean Engineering	2025
-------------	---------------------------------	------

One representative of research-related interdisciplinary programs, groups, or centers appointed by the President

Benjamin Knapp	Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology	2025
----------------	--	------

One dean selected by Council of College Deans

Dan Givens	Veterinary Medicine	2026
------------	---------------------	------

One faculty representative from each of the university's thematic research institutes appointed by the respective institute director

Albert Pan	Fralin Biomedical Research Institute	2026
Andrew Krum	Virginia Tech Transportation Institute	2027
Joseph Gaeddert	Virginia Tech National Security Institute	2027

One faculty representative of the university's research investment institutes appointed by the respective institute directors, collectively

Barry Miller	Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS)	2025
--------------	---	------

One faculty senator elected by the Faculty Senate

Manish Bansal	Mechanical Engineering	2026
---------------	------------------------	------

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

Daniel Pauly	Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine	2026
--------------	---	------

Esra Büyüktaktakin Toy	Engineering	2025
Ryan Stewart	Agriculture and Life Sciences	2025
Corinne Noirot	Liberal Arts and Human Sciences	2026
Karen Schnatterly	Business	2025
Quinn Thomas	Natural Resources and Environment	2026
Michelle Theus	Veterinary Medicine	2027
Ronald Gibbons	Architecture, Arts, and Design	2027
Thomas Bell	Science	2027

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

Jonathan Petters	University Libraries	2025
------------------	----------------------	------

One non-ex officio A/P faculty representative elected by the Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate

Leanna Blevins	Fralin Biomedical Research Institute	2025
----------------	--------------------------------------	------

One representative in the Postdoctoral Associate rank elected by persons in that rank*

Jorge Reyes	Mathematics	2026
-------------	-------------	------

Two faculty representatives working in research faculty appointments as defined in the Virginia Tech Faculty Handbook (excluding Postdoctoral Associates) elected by persons in those ranks*

Gibran Ali	Virginia Tech Transportation Institute	2027
Caitlin Woodson	Biomedical Science	2027

One staff senator elected by Staff Senate

Vacant		2025
--------	--	------

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

Esther Park	Computer Science Application	2025
Elizabeth Sicking	Entomology	2025

One undergraduate student senator elected by the Undergraduate Student Senate

Sophie Thompson	Computational and Systems Neuroscience	2025
-----------------	--	------

***The nomination and election process for these positions will be conducted by the Office of Research, which will report election results to the secretary of university council.**