What is the Board of Visitors?
The Board of Visitors (BOV) is the governing authority of Virginia Tech and is comprised of 14 members, 13 of whom are appointed by the Governor of Virginia, subject to confirmation by the state Senate. The 14th member is the president of the Virginia Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The term of office is four years. In addition to statutes in the Code of Virginia, the board is governed by its own bylaws. Some of the board’s responsibilities include appointment of the president of the university; establishment of fees, tuition, and other charges paid by students; and the review of university policies including those related to student life. The BOV meets four times during the academic year, typically in August/September, November, March/April, and June.

There are also four non-voting representatives serving on the BOV as follows:
- Faculty Representative
- Staff Representative
- Undergraduate Student Representative
- Graduate Student Representative

You can learn more about the Board of Visitors at www.bov.vt.edu. For a diagram of the governance structure at Virginia Tech, follow this link: www.governance.vt.edu/governance_instructions/structure.html.

Student Representative Responsibilities
What is the student representative’s role on the Board of Visitors?
The student representative gives voice to student concerns, perspectives, and ideas as a non-voting member of the BOV. The student is appointed to serve on one of the board’s standing committees. In addition, at each of the four general board meetings, the representative delivers a constituency report to apprise the BOV of student issues.

What types of issues does the student representative address?
The representative acts as a facilitator and a champion for issues faced by his or her constituency. Issues that cannot be solved at the SGA and GSA levels or by other commissions, and issues that need official sanction from BOV will be the representative’s niche. Additionally, the representative works with the administration, various departments, constituencies, and the community to enhance academic and student life experiences at Virginia Tech.

Where does the student representative to the Board of Visitors fit in university governance?
The student representative to the Board of Visitors is an independent position, but the representative often works closely with the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education, the Student Government Association, the Graduate Student Assembly, and the Commission on Student Affairs. The representative is also invited to various committees and task forces. The representative gives frequent updates on their activities and meets with administrators at all levels of the university to address student concerns.

What opportunities are afforded by the position?
The student representatives to the BOV have a unique opportunity to give students a voice at the highest level of governance at Virginia Tech. These are coveted positions and are of great benefit to those students who are interested in learning more about university governance.
Student Representative to the Board of Visitors Application Process Timeline

- **February 10 at 5:00 P.M.** – Application submission deadline

- **February 10 – 16** – Applicant submission review process

- **February 16 – 19** – Selection committee determines six semi-finalist candidates

- **Week of February 27** – Undergraduate and graduate semi-finalists interview with selection committee

- **March 6** – Finalists notified of advancement as candidate for student representative position

- **Week of March 13** – Finalists meet with Chief of Staff for the Division of Student Affairs, Dr. Lee Hawthorne, for briefing about March Board of Visitors meeting and selection process (Times TBD)

- **March 23 from 3:30–5:00 P.M.** – Finalists are introduced and make brief remarks at the Commission on Student Affairs meeting

- **April 2** – Finalists make presentations and interview with the Board of Visitors selection committee, and attend Sunday afternoon Open Session meeting

- **April 3** – Finalists participate in morning sub-committee meetings alongside current student representatives and attend Monday afternoon Open Session meeting where 2017-2018 student representatives will be announced

- **Following April 3** – 2017-2018 student representatives will participate in an interview and photo shoot with the Division of Student Affairs Communications and Innovative Technologies staff for VT News and the Student Weekly News to announce selection

- **April/May** – Future planning and visioning meeting with Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Patty Perillo, before semester’s end

- **June 4 – 5** – 2017-2018 student representatives shadow 2016-2017 student representatives at final Board of Visitors meeting

- **September 10 – 11** – Board of Visitors meeting

- **November 5 – 6** – Board of Visitors meeting

- **2018 Board of Visitor meeting dates remain to be determined**