I. Call to Order

II. Committee Reports
   a. Executive Committee (Tim McConnochie)
      T. McConnochie reported that the Board of Trustees invited the executives of the Assembly to
      speak at the January meeting of their Student Life Committee. Tim, Anne Beggs, and Yu Yu
      gave brief presentations. T. McConnochie also said he is going to present a report to the
      Board in their March meeting.
   b. Trustee Nominating Committee (Doug Mitarotonda)
      D. Mitarotonda described what the nomination committee is doing. He announced that
      election packets are available if somebody is interested in running.
      D. Mitarotonda said a lot of rules are changing to make elections a little more fair. He said
      that forms are not available online, and that you must go to office of assemblies to sign out an
      election packet.
   c. Events Committee (Janet Vertesi)
      J. Vertesi said that she will be trying to get the ball for April 22nd and that there may be a
      change of date. The EC is also trying to organize student run bar nights where students can
      bartend at bars.
   d. UA Update (Janet)
      J. Vertesi said in 2 weeks, on Jan. 25, executives from the SA and GPSA and other external
      committees will have a meeting to discuss the framing of the Transportation/Parking
      referendum that was mandated as part of the 2005 Redbud Woods/University Ave. Parking
      Lot Agreement.
   e. Student Insurance Advisory Committee (Anne for Zuoming)
      A. Beggs said that Z. Wang compiled a lot of data from graduate students and shared her
      information with the advisory committee. She has lobbied for a greater prescription benefit
      and adjusted “lifetime visit caps” as the committee reviews bids from insurance providers.
      She has also lobbied for the needs of Geneva graduate students.
      A. Beggs said that there is already somebody interested in keeping up with Z. Wang’s work
      while she is gone. He will continue lobbying for graduate student needs as the SIAC decides
      upon the insurance provider.

III. Elections: 4 At-Large Assembly Seats
   A. Beggs opened the floor for nominations. S. Boutin was nominated and accepted the nomination.
   G. Curtis moved to unanimously accept 1 nomination and electing S. Boutin as member of the assembly.
      M. Bhaduria second it.
   S. Boutin was elected to an At-Large Seat on the Assembly by majority vote.
   A. Beggs said that nominations and elections for the remaining three At-Large seats will take place at the
      next Council meeting.
IV. Call for nominations (both positions will be voted upon at the next business meeting, on Feb. 27)
   a. Chair, Pay and Benefits Committee
      There were no nominations, T. McConnochie said nomination will also be taken at the Feb. 27 business meeting, although there is already someone interested in the position, who was not able to be present at the Feb. 13 Council meeting.

   b. Secretary, GPSA
      A. Beggs described what the position does.

      G. Curtis nominated M. Walsh, and M. Walsh accepted.

V. Hasbrouck Apartments and graduate student housing (Phil McPheron)

   P. McPheron reported that Campus Life has opened up 10 apartments in the Hasbrouck complex for 30 undergraduates. He said that this decision was partially made due to Hasbrouck’s high vacancy rate, and the fact that it is close to campus. There is currently a shortage of beds for undergraduate students. P. McPheron reports that this is due to construction in West Campus. By agreement with the Town of Ithaca, Maplewood Apartments cannot house undergraduates, but Hasbrouck can.

   An assembly member asked if there was a party thrown, or if they were being disturbed or disrupted, how it would be handled. P. McPheron said that it will be handled on a case-to-case basis, as it would be dealt with at the other residential complexes. He said that the staff has a lot of training so they would have the skills to deal with it.

   A. Fatale asked about loss of beds in Hughes Hall. P. McPheron said that wasn’t considered in making the decision.

   T. McConnochie asked what has changed to have vacancies in graduate housing. P. McPheron said there are many possible reasons. He said that there’s a national trend which indicates that fewer graduate students are using university housing because of family situations. P. McPheron also said that the housing market has also expanded so there are more housing choices for people.

VI. Report from SA and Slope Day Steering Committee (Calvin Selth; Mike Walsh)

   M. Walsh said that the Student Assembly came to the conclusion that they cannot restrict graduate students from the Slope Day activities. However, they really want graduate students to be involved in a positive capacity and to take a leadership role.

   C. Selth is VP of internal operations for the SA. He talked about history of Slope Day. C. Selth wants the GPSA to re-approach the way we view Slope Day. C. Selth reported that there are other events occurring rather than the drunken debauchery on the slope. He talked about slope fest (on west campus) and the stroll exhibition on Ho Plaza. C. Selth said that the student assembly is requesting no funding from graduate students, and can issue no restrictions. C. Selth is hoping for a graduate student satellite event, an event on another part of campus to represent graduate students. Selth also reported that a detailed survey of graduate student attendance would be included in the Slope Day survey conducted by Gannett.

VII. Open Forum

   M. Bhadauria announced the presentation of a resolution regarding off campus housing advising services (on behalf of Z. Wang). He read the resolution to the assembly. The resolution will be posted on-line for comments.

   A. Beggs reminded the Council that Resolutions are voted on during business meeting. T. McConnochie advised that it was good that the resolution was brought up now so people can make changes if applicable. Once a Resolution is presented to the Assembly at a business meeting, it can only be changed by parliamentary procedure.
G. Curtis read an e-mail from her colleague that questions the point of an Activity Fee. G. Curtis raised the issue of a lack of feedback from the grad/prof student body with regards to the appropriateness of the SAF, and suggested that she would be interested in conducting a referendum in the next academic year to gauge the student body’s support of a mandatory activity fee in a democratic manner.

VIII. Mann Library renovation project and University Library systems: “Library systems and facilities for graduate students: what can they be doing, doing more of, doing better?” (Kathy Chiang)
K. Chiang is the head of public service at Mann Library. She asked the assembly members to say what they liked/disliked about the library services so they can make changes to meet the graduate students’ needs. K. Chiang and Jim LeBlanc of the library system fielded suggestions and comments from the Council regarding library services.

K. Chiang then presented a map of the potential renovations to the old Mann Library and described the changes that would be made. K. Chiang solicited feedback on Mann Library’s services and facilities and what graduate students would find useful.

IX. Adjournment
A. Beggs adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

YuhLi Tsuei
Office of the Assemblies