

R. 5 - Creation of an Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee

Whereas, the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly last year passed a resolution calling on Cornell's goal of achieving carbon neutrality be moved up to 2035 from 2050 in addition to calling on Cornell to divest from fossil fuels;

Whereas, research laboratories represent one of the largest portions of Cornell's carbon footprint, and graduate students are among the primary users of laboratory space;

Whereas, the Cornell Office of Sustainability has established programs to aid offices and laboratories to become more environmentally sustainable;

Whereas, sustainability efforts among graduate students requires focused leadership not adequately provided by existing committees, therefore

Be it resolved, that the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly form an ad hoc committee to further Cornell's sustainability goals by

- a) Striving to increase the number of labs and offices receiving the Green Lab or Green Office certification from the Office of Sustainability,
- b) Organizing networking events for graduate and professional students to learn more about sustainability efforts on Cornell's campus,
- c) Interfacing with the Office of Sustainability upon other initiatives which graduate and professional students may have a profound impact;

Be it further resolved, that it is recommended that the committee be renewed at the first Graduate and Professional Student Assembly meeting of the year for academic year 2015-2016 and academic year 2016-2017, with continuing renewal based on progress and continued student interest;

Be it further resolved, that this resolution be sent to David Skorton, President; Kent Hubbell, Dean of Students; Dan Roth, Director of the Office of Sustainability; and Barbara Knuth, Dean of the Graduate School.

Respectfully submitted,

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President, GPSA
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