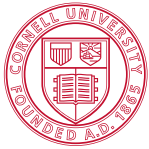


Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 29, 2016 5:30pm-7:00pm
Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. The meeting was called to order by N. Rogers at 5:30pm
 - b. In place of a roll call, each voting and ex-officio member introduced themselves.
- II. **Approval from the May 2, 2016 Meeting Minutes**
 - a. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
- III. **Cornell Graduate Students United – J. Goldberg and J. Frost**
 - a. J. Goldberg and J. Frost said that the National Labor Relations Board announced that graduate students at private universities have the option to form a union and seek collective bargaining. All graduate students who do any kind of paid work for the University – teaching or research – can be part of a collective bargaining unit.
 - b. CSGU is working to organize graduate students to work with the Administration. The CSGU would represent graduate students in the event of a vote in favor of unionization on matters like pay, benefits, etc.
 - c. This semester holds plans for a campaign for an election.
 - d. The GPSA and the CGSU are different entities and would cover different domains – the GPSA would not go away should graduate students choose to unionize.
- IV. **Introduction to the GPSA – R. Walroth**
 - a. Cornell has five campuses in four cities and two countries, the GPSA is directly concerned with graduate and professional students on the Ithaca, Geneva, and NYC Tech campuses. The GPSA does not cover graduate or professional students on the NYC Weill or Qatar campuses.
 - b. Membership:
 - i. 88+ Field Representatives (1 from each field, 2 for fields with more than 100 students) – they elect the voting members, officers, and committee chairs
 - ii. 19 Voting Members
 - iii. 4 Officers: President, Executive Vice President, Vice President for Operations, Vice President for Communications
 - c. There are 9 committees: executive, communications, operations and staffing, appropriations, finance commission, advocacy, faculty awards, diversity and international, and the programming board
 - d. R. Walroth covered the basics of parliamentary procedure.
 - e. The GPSA has authority to examine University policies that impact graduate and professional students, make recommendations to the appropriate bodies concerning these matters, and to review modifications and developments of academic policies. In addition, the GPSA is responsible for proposing the Graduate and Professional Student Activity Fee to the President and Board of Trustees.
- V. **Office of the Assemblies – B. Murphy**
 - a. The Office of the Assemblies provides administrative support, financial oversight, and general assistance to the four Assemblies (Student Assembly, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Employee Assembly, University Assembly).



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- b. The Assemblies Dashboard is the web platform for all data/information/documents related to the Assemblies. www.assembly.cornell.edu/dash has all information on committees, resolutions, meetings, and members.
 - c. The Office of the Assemblies also manages funds related to the Graduate and Professional Student Activity fee, especially as it relates to the GPSA. Contact the Office if you need to spend money on behalf of the GPSA.
- VI. **Breakout Session by Division**
- VII. **Jan Allen, Associate Dean of the Graduate School**
 - a. There is currently a need for two social sciences graduate students for a grievance review board. There are also two positions on the Academic Integrity Hearing Board. Members interested in these positions should contact Sarah Hesse. Contact Jan Allen at jan.allen@cornell.edu.
- VIII. **Election of the Masters Students**
 - a. Engineering Student – There was one candidate present: Johnathan Maynard (jam945). J. Maynard was elected by unanimous consent.
 - b. Non-Engineering Student – There was one candidate present: Rachel (Yadi) Tang (yt472). R. Tang was elected by unanimous consent.
- IX. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Executive Committee – N. Stetson
 - i. Working to establish strategic vision for the year and looking at some resolutions from the last academic year. Also working to ensure membership lists are up to date. Looking to partner more with the other Assemblies.
 - b. Operations Committee – S. Hesse
 - i. Looking to staff all internal and external committee seats next week.
 - c. Appropriations Committee – M. Alexander
 - i. Responsible for distributing the Graduate and Professional Student Activity Fee. The sub-committee on reforming the funding guidelines has finished its draft on the new funding guidelines.
 - d. Communications Committee – M. Munasinghe
 - e. Student Advocacy Committee – A. Loiben
 - i. Getting ready to schedule first meeting. Topics include the Graduate Student Union among others.
 - f. Diversity and International Students Committee – M. Srivastava
 - i. Working on membership and meeting times.
 - g. Programming Board – A. Molitarus
 - i. Responsible for planning social events and programming for the graduate and professional community.
 - ii. Looking for more information about what type of events
 - h. Dara Brown, Graduate and Professional Student Trustee, introduced herself and briefly discussed her role.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44pm.