



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Cornell Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Minutes of the September 12, 2016 Meeting

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

- I. Call to Order
 - A. N. Rogers called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.
 - B. *Voting Members Present:* J. Bensus (early departure), T. Bollu, E. Case, C. Franklin, J. Goldberg, S. Hesse, M. Jodlowski, A. Loiben, J. Maynard, E. Michel, M. Milano, M. Munasinghe, L. Munguia, T. Snider, A. Waymack, E. Winarto
 - C. *Voting Members Absent:* I. Smythe (excused), Y. Tang
- II. Approval of the August 29, 2016 Meeting Minutes
 - A. The Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
- III. Presentation from Gina Giambattista, Director of the Office of the Assemblies
 - A. The GPSA was created in 1993 out of the Student Assembly because the needs of Graduate and Professional Students are very different from undergraduate students.
 - B. GPSA authorities are delegated authorities (not transfers authorities) and generally are subject to approval of the President.
 - C. The GPSA has jurisdiction over the Graduate and Professional Student Activity Fee, which is allocated by the Appropriations Committee.
 - D. With regard to Resolutions, the more that authors can reach out to those who will be affected so that the impact on them can be predicted, the better.
 - E. The Office of the Assemblies implements and administers the budget as decided by the Assembly. The Office of the Assemblies provides financial and administrative oversight. The Office also serves as the record keeper and the exchequer of the process.
- IV. Breakout Session by Division: Each division caucused to develop questions for Interim President Rawlings, who will attend the next meeting of the Assembly.
- V. New Business
 - A. Election of the Graduate and Professional Student Representative to the University Assembly
 1. J. Frost resigned from her position on the University Assembly.
 2. M. Munasinghe was nominated for the position and confirmed by unanimous consent.
 - B. Liaison to the Student Assembly, Liaison to the Employee Assembly, and Liaison to the Faculty Senate
 1. These positions will be filled by application. Information on how to apply will be forthcoming.
 - C. GPCI Ad Hoc Committee



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1. The Graduate and Professional Community Initiative is a needs assessment and strategic planning document for the Graduate and Professional community. The document has been quite successful and useful in University-wide planning. The ad hoc committee will be created just for this academic year.
2. Jan Allen also noted that the working groups created in response to the last GPCI are still in progress. There is a need for continued members on these working groups. Please contact Jan Allen for more information
3. There was a motion to create an ad hoc committee. By a vote of 14-0-4, the committee was created.

D. Additional GPSA Meeting

1. There is a desire from the executive committee to add an additional meeting to the meeting calendar. N. Stetson said that the executive committee is worried that without an additional, the discussion of certain resolutions will be reduced.
2. There was a discussion of whether October 3, 2016 or October 17 would be more preferable. There was a motion to amend the meeting calendar of the Assembly to include a new meeting of the general body on October 17, 2016 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. The motion was adopted by a vote of 15-0-3.

E. Resolutions

1. **Resolution 1: Approving the GPSA Bylaws for the 2016-2017 Term**
 - a) S. Hesse motioned to suspend the Bylaws of the Assembly. The motion was approved by a vote of 15-0-3. The Bylaws will be presented at a later meeting of the Assembly.
2. **Resolution 2: Approving the GPSA Internal Budget for the 2016-2017 Term**
 - a) M. Alexander presented an overview of the budget.
 - b) The GPSA plans to contribute \$20,000 per year for the next four years to Anabel's Grocery. This was decided by last year's Assembly. N. Rogers asked for clarification about the purpose of the line item, if it was specifically for Anabel's Grocery or addressing food insecurity in general. T. Bollu clarified that it was attributed to food insecurity in general and that the recommended sponsoring Anabel's Grocery so that graduate and professional to have access to the store.
 - c) J. Goldberg said that he recalls the conversation from the previous year being that the money was for food insecurity in this year's Assembly would formally decide where the money was allocated.
 - d) N. Rogers clarified that this is the vote to decide formally that this money would be allocated for Anabel's Grocery. However, it was



clarified that since this is not written as a line transfer, the money would remain in GPSA accounts until formal requests for expenditure or transfer were received and processed.

- e) J. Goldberg motioned to **amend** the resolution attachment to strike all instances of “Anabel’s Grocery” and replace it with “Food Insecurity.”
 - (1) T. Snider said that, to clarify, this amendment would allow the allocation amount to change in the future – up or down.
 - (2) T. Bollu said that he recommends passing the resolution as is. Anabel’s Grocery has been through many review processes and it is unlikely that further investigation by the Assembly is going to yield new information.
 - (3) A member of the audience asked about the Greenstar in Collegetown that just opened and how that might affect this decision. N. Stetson clarified that Greenstar is assisting with the development of Anabel’s Grocery.
 - (4) There was a motion to close the speakers list. The speakers list was closed by unanimous discuss.
 - (5) J. Goldberg **withdrew** his motion to amend.
- f) A member of the audience asked why the rollover amount is so large. M. Alexander clarified that the rollover accrued over a long period of time. T. Bollu said that while rollover is not ideal, it does happen naturally and can be adjusted for over time. The goal is to eliminate the rollover except for a small amount.
- g) Outside of the food insecurity allocation and other standard allocations, there are additional, unallocated funds available for flexibility in the future.
- h) There was a **call to question**. The resolution was **adopted** by a vote of 15-0-0.

F. Committee Updates

- 1. Executive Committee
 - a) Interim President Hunter Rawlings will be in attendance at the next meeting.
 - b) During the leadership breakfast last month, CUPD Chief Kathy Zoner talked about policing at Cornell.
 - c) Please continue to provide field representative information.
- 2. Operations and Staffing
 - a) Information about external committee liaison will be forthcoming in an email.



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3. Student Advocacy Committee
 - a) The Committee met on Thursday. There was a discussion of a tobacco-free campus, introducing a resolution about the Cornell Plantations rebranding.
 4. Programming Board
 - a) There is a mixer on September 29th in the Big Red Barn.
- G. Open Forum
1. Elijah Weber-Han from the Cornell Cinema Advisory Board - Looking for new members of the Advisory Board. Contact ejw98@cornell.edu.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06pm.