

Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Cornell Graduate and Professional Student University Assembly

Minutes of the September 26, 2016 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

165 McGraw Hall

- I. Call to Order
 - a. N. Rogers called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.
 - b. *Members Present:* A. Loiben, A. Waymack, C. Franklin, E. Winarto, E. Michel, E. Case, I. Smythe, J. Goldberg, J. Maynard, J. Bensur, L. Munguia, M. Munasinghe, M. Jodlowski, M. Milano, S. Hesse, T. Bollu, T. Snider, Y. Tang.
 - c. *Members Absent:* None
 - d. *Also Present:* Hunter H. Rawlings, Alan Mittman
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Minutes for September 12, 2016
 - i. Motion to move discussion to the end, no dissent
 - ii. Motion to **table** approval of the minutes until the next meeting, no dissent
- III. Discussion with Hunter H. Rawlings, Interim President
 - a. H. Rawlings said he was happy about the Student Health Plan Advisory Committee working on the Student Health Plan, particularly making it cheaper for students. H. Rawlings also applauded funds allocated for child care grants, and stated that each family's average amount allocated has doubled. H. Rawlings was also encouraging of the Maplewood development, and said the project is moving through the public approval process. He stressed that public officials need to hear the voices of graduate students about the Maplewood project.
 - b. A. Waymack asked if Cornell will include people on the private side (not the state schools) of Cornell in retirement plans. A. Mittman answered that the NLRB ruling and retirement policies are not linked.
 - c. A. Schofield asked about increased space for CIS. H. Rawlings reiterated support for the program, and acknowledged that Cornell doesn't have a plan right now, but something will have to be done about the space problem.
 - d. H. Rawlings stated that his goal was to try to provide stability and continuity before the new president is appointed, and to keep things on a stable course. But he would like to implement a couple of new things, like the curriculum review for all undergraduate colleges, focused mainly on A&S.



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- e. T. Bollu asked if the university was beginning to shift more focus onto one year masters programs. H. Rawlings answered that a lot of students like the one year masters programs and that some faculty don't like them.
 - f. Asked if the graduate school is focusing on international students H. Rawlings replied that Cornell loves attracting talent from all over the world. But the university also doesn't have enough money to fund everybody.
 - g. A. Burton asked what are the things H. Rawlings wants to accomplish? H. Rawlings replied that he would like to stress the concept of one Cornell. There are 3 campuses in NY state, wants to keep them linked together. And one Cornell in the 7 separate Colleges in Ithaca. Sees Cornell as an upstate and a downstate university, a sort of bridge. Reiterated that he would like to sound some themes, not put in a whole bunch of new programs.
 - h. N. Stetson, regarding the policy 6.4 revisions--sexual misconduct--asked if the university plans to address the concerns the GPSA raised last year. H. Rawlings acknowledged the seriousness of the issue and that it is really bad right now, and that he takes it very seriously.. A Mittman added that it might be helpful for the GPSA to establish a dialogue with the dean of faculty and engage with the faculty senate.
 - i. J. Goldberg, asked how H. Rawlings views graduate student unionization? H. Rawlings responded that the administration has started to work with the group that wants to unionize graduate students, and that they arrived at an agreement on how to proceed with the process of unionization. Explained that the administration, per the agreement, only gets to speak once on this issue, so he was not going to use this opportunity to do so.
- IV. Breakout Session by Division. Each division discussed the Tobacco-Free Campus Initiative and the University Assembly recall process.
- V. New Business
- a. Resolutions
 - i. **Resolution 1: Approving GPSA Bylaws for the 2016-2017 Term**
 1. S. Hesse discussed changes to bylaws in Resolution 1.
 2. Motion to not read the entirety of the resolution, passed unanimously
 3. Motion to **amend** line 588 "voting members of GPSA will elect reps to the university assembly, the number and composition of which



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shall be in accordance with the university assembly charter.” Motion to close discussion on amendment, amendment **adopted** 15-1-2

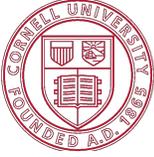
4. Motion to **amend**, strike “voting” from line 589, move to close speakers list, amendment **adopted** 16-0-2
5. Motion to **amend** 4.04 b iii and remove word “formal.” Motion to close speakers list, no dissent. Amendment **adopted** 18-0-0.
6. Motion to **amend** 4.10 (2) to be 4.11. **Adopted** unanimously.
7. Motion to **amend**, making reseating cases immediate, amendment **withdrawn**.
8. Motion to **amend** line 731, section 4.10 A iii, to read ‘...more than two “unexcused or four total”’. Motion to close speaker list, dissent. Motion to vote on amendment, no dissent. Amendment **rejected** 2-13-3
9. Motion to extend meeting by 15 minutes, no dissent.
10. Motion to close speakers list, no dissent, voting on resolution. Resolution **adopted** 14-0-4

ii. **Resolution 3: Revising the GPSAFC funding guidelines**

1. Motion to suspend requirement to read resolution, no dissent
2. T. Bollu: The resolution would provide more freedom for groups, give GPCI (graduate and professional community initiatives) document some teeth. Encourage engagement from non field organizations. Simplify the application and review process.
3. M. Alexander: funding would now be determined by efficiency of fund utilization in the past and the size of the organization. There would now be four tiers of organization funding.
4. Motion to extend meeting by 10 minutes, no dissent
5. Motion to **table** resolution until next meeting, voted to table 11-0-7

iii. **Resolution 4: In Support of the Maplewood Redevelopment Project**

1. Motion to suspend requirement to read resolution in entirety, unanimously passed
2. Resolution states that the GPSA wants this project to move forward.
3. Motion to close speaker list, no dissent.
4. Resolution **adopted** 17-0-1



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iv. Resolution 5: In Support of the Proposed Renaming of Cornell Plantations

1. Motion to suspend requirement to read resolution in entirety, no dissent
2. Motion to amend line 29 from “felt” to “argued,” no dissent, amendment adopted.
3. Motion to extend meeting by 5 minutes, no dissent
4. Motion to amend, strike lines 38-41, no more speakers, amendment rejected 1-12-5
5. Motion to call the question, no dissent.
6. Resolution adopted 15-0-3

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Ferraro
Clerk of the Assembly