

**Cornell University**  
**Graduate and Professional**  
**Student Assembly**

**Cornell Graduate and Professional Student Assembly**

Agenda for 24 October 2016  
Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall  
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call: 5 minutes
- III. Approval of the Minutes: 1 minute
  - a. Minutes for October 17, 2016
- IV. Presentations: 35 Minutes
  - a. Barbara Knuth, Senior Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School: 20 minutes
  - b. Jeffrey Bergfalk, Doctoral Candidate, Mathematics and Sarah Brylinsky, Sustainability Communications & Integration Manager, Campus Sustainability Office, for Senior Leader Climate Action Group: 15 minutes
- V. Breakout Session by Division: 10 minutes
- VI. New Business: 20 minutes
  - a. Resolutions: 20 minutes
    - i. Resolution 6: GPSA Finance Commission Guideline Amendments for Ph.D. Students at Cornell Tech (PACT)
- VII. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates: 10 minutes
  - a. Executive Committee
  - b. Operations
  - c. Appropriations
  - d. Communications
  - e. Finance
  - f. Student Advocacy
  - g. Diversity and International Students
  - h. Programming
- VIII. Open Forum: 4 minutes
- IX. Adjournment



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**Cornell Graduate and Professional Student University Assembly**

Minutes of the October 17, 2016 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

G01, Uris Hall

- I. Call to Order
  - a. N. Rogers called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.
  - b. *Members Present:* J. Bensusan, T. Bollu (late arrival), E. Case, C. Franklin, J. Goldberg (late arrival), M. Jodlowski, A. Loiben, J. Maynard, E. Michel, M. Milano, M. Munasinghe, L. Munguia, I. Smythe, T. Snider, Y. Tang (late arrival), A. Waymack, E. Winarto
  - c. *Members Absent:* E. Case, S. Hesse (excused)
  - d. *Also Present:* A. Donovan, L. Gorman, A. Shelepak, J. Thomas, and B. Nkounkou
- II. Approval of the Minutes
  - a. Minutes from September 12, 2016
    - i. A motion was made to amend the minutes to change “C. Case” to “E. Case”, strike “N. Rogers” and “N. Stetson” from the list of members present, and change L. Munguia’s status from “absent” to “late arrival.” The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
    - ii. A motion was made to amend voting tallies to reflect all abstentions, therefore all voting tallies would add up to 18, and the new votes would be included in the abstention column. The amendment was approved by unanimous consent
    - iii. A motion was made to call the question, the minutes were unanimously approved.
  - b. Minutes from September 26, 2016
    - i. A motion was made to amend voting tallies to reflect all abstentions, therefore all voting tallies would add up to 18, and the new votes would be included in the abstention column. Approved by unanimous consent
    - ii. A motion was made to call the question. The minutes were adopted by a unanimous voice vote.
- III. Presentations



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- a. A Motion was made to move the presentation of J. Thomas before that of Anabel's grocery. There was no dissent.
- b. Presentation from J. Thomas, Senior Director, Cornell Real Estate
  - i. J. Thomas thanked the GPSA for its feedback on the Maplewood development and for passing Resolution 4. J. Thomas said it is important for graduate student voices to be represented. J. Thomas said it would be really good for the development if graduate students showed up at the October 18th planning board meeting.
  - ii. I. Smythe asked what the timeline looks like if things go well.
  - iii. J. Thomas replied that they hoped to start demolition in December, and hopefully have occupancy commence in July 2018.
  - iv. A. Loiben asked what the final number of beds would be
  - v. J. Thomas said the final total was at 872 beds. He also said to please get into contact with him if further questions arise, his netID is jt675.
  - vi. N. Rogers said that G. Giambattista was booking a shuttle bus to the planning board meeting and that the bus would meet behind the Big Red Barn.
- c. Presentation from A. Donovan, L. Gorman, and A. Shelepak, Co-Directors of Anabel's Grocery.
  - i. Full access to the space will begin in February. A labor shortage in the summer caused the delay in opening.
  - ii. L. Gorman: the GPSA has allocated \$20,000 a year for the next four years, for subsidies for food insecure students. The \$20,000 for this year is for construction and to get the store operating. Yearly 20,000 will be allocated with consent of the GPSA liaison.
  - iii. A. Donovan: the SA has a liaison that will attend Anabel's Grocery meetings, and they would like a GPSA liaison to come as well.
  - iv. A. Shelepak described cost saving methods Anabel's Grocery will implement, such as hiring federal work study students.
  - v. L. Gorman added that the Grocery will be staffed by volunteers in addition to paid staff.



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- vi. A. Donovan stated that currently the Grocery is operating with a student volunteer team of about 35 people.
- vii. A. Loiben asked how will Anabel's solicit leadership positions.
- viii. L. Gorman said it is very important to them to bring in new leaders. They have been looking at other student operated groceries at Georgetown and the UAmherst to develop a plan.
- ix. M. Munasinghe asked what would happen to food waste.
- x. L. Gorman said that they do not want to contribute to American food waste, and that they are looking at donating to local food pantries.
- xi. A. Shelepak added that cooking lessons will use goods that are close to expiration.
- xii. M. Munasinghe asked if Anabel's is looking to send someone to GPSA meetings or the other way round?
- xiii. A. Donovan responded that the SA liaison will attend Anabel's meetings, and that the GPSA liaison would also if the GPSA desired.
- xiv. I. Smythe asked if staff positions will be open to international students.
- xv. L. Gorman replied that the volunteer positions are, but that they do not know if paid positions will be available yet.
- xvi. N. Stetson asked if Anabel's would be open over breaks.
- xvii. L. Gorman replied not this summer, but the goal is to be open during future breaks. Anabel's will be available for professional students as well as graduate students.
- xviii. L. Gorman said employees will receive a store discount to encourage applicants.
- xix. N. Rogers asked what about the parking situation.
- xx. A. Shelepak responded that there is high foot traffic, a bus stop, a small parking lot and the Sage Hall parking lot. N. Rogers asked if there will be carts or hand baskets. A. Shelepak responded that there will be hand baskets.
- xxi. A. Loiben asked why this method would be more effective than holding food drives.
- xxii. A. Shelepak replied that it's a fixed cost investment and that this will be a much more permanent solution to a constant problem.



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- xxiii. A. Donovan said the goal was to empower people to purchase their own food and increase food literacy.
  - xxiv. R. Walroth asked how long GPSA funding should last for Anabel's.
  - xxv. A. Donovan replied that the money goes into the subsidy fund, and that the fund once it gets going should sustain itself. A lot of alumni and philanthropists are interested as well, so they are confident the fund will not be depleted.
  - d. Presentation from N. Rogers and M. Munasinghe on committee staffing.
    - i. N. Rogers reminded the assembly that the GPSA has obligations through the charter and bylaws to staff university committees. Last year the committees were 75% full. This year there are only 6 applicants, which is a huge problem, and weakens the GPSA when it tries to talk to the Faculty Senate.
    - ii. M. Munasinghe then went through the filled and vacant committee seats.
      - 1. Open committee seats included the Employee Assembly liaison, Faculty Senate liaison, and the Student Assembly liaison. These have to be from the GPSA.
        - a. I. Smythe volunteered for the Faculty Senate.
      - 2. The following University Assembly committees also needed to be staffed: Campus Infrastructure Committee, Campus Welfare Committee, Codes and Judicial Conduct Committee.
        - a. T. Snider volunteered for Campus Infrastructure, S. Taborski volunteered for Campus Welfare, and L. Munguia volunteered for Codes and Judicial Conduct.
      - 3. The various graduate school academic integrity hearing boards were filled.
- IV. Breakout Session by Division
- V. New business
- a. Resolution 3
    - i. N. Rogers pointed out that B. Nkounkou was present from Cornell Tech, and that he (N. Rogers) would like to see more possibilities for funding

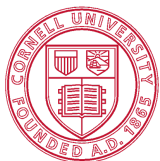


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groups at other campuses. If the guidelines don't allow the GPSA to fund clubs at Cornell Tech, should the GPSA return their funding?

- ii. T. Bollu reminded the GPSA that the guidelines will go into effect next year.
- iii. M. Munasinghe and T. Bollu discussed line 265, and the change from two to one dollars in that line.
- iv. R. Walroth asked if the field funding is in addition to the tier system? The answer is yes, it is.
- v. T. Snider asked how can the GPSAFC encourage attendance.
- vi. T. Bollu said the FC did not want to require mandatory attendance taking, because this would encourage attendance fraud, so the word "encourage" was added.
- vii. A motion was made to table the resolution until the next meeting, there was dissent.
  1. When the speakers list was exhausted, the vote to table Resolution 3 was **rejected** 0-13-5.
- viii. N. Stetson made a motion to extend the meeting by ten minutes, there was no dissent
- ix. R. Walroth made a motion to **call the question**, it was **withdrawn**.
- x. M. Alexander motioned to **amend** line 134 to insert another bullet point (to be number 12) "An individual acting as the representative of a field organization can not concurrently serve as the representative for another organization or field."
  1. J. Goldberg made a motion to close discussion on the amendment, there was dissent.
  2. A motion was made to close the speakers list and **call the question** on the amendment. The amendment was **approved** by 15-0-3.
- xi. T. Snider made a motion to **amend** line 41 to change "Cornell's" to "Cornell", there was no dissent.
- xii. R. Walroth made a motion to **call the question**, there was no dissent. Resolution 3 was **approved** by 16-0-2.
  - b. A motion was made to extend the meeting by ten minutes, there was no dissent.

### VI. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates.



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- a. Executive Committee: N. Stetson went to the IVY Plus debate about the University of Chicago joining IVY Plus. If questions arise, talk to N. Stetson.
- b. Operations: nothing to report.
- c. Appropriations: nothing to report.
- d. Finance: H. Nguyen said the budget was \$70,000 for the year, and that the GPSA had \$50,000 left for the year. He also asked for more applications to the Finance Committee.
- e. Student Advocacy: If a student is in the grievance process the committee discussed having someone to accompany them to their hearing and that there is an online submission form.
- f. Diversity and International Students: The date of the Renaissance Ball is November 5th, in the Hilton Garden Inn from 7:30pm-11pm. The Let's Talk Diversity dinner is on November 17th from 5pm-7pm in 148 Stocking Hall (Dairy Bar building).
- g. Programming: Dates will be sent out for meetings, they are looking for people to join the committee, and in the email survey about grad ball (location, etc.), they are looking for more events to cosponsor in the spring.
- h. Faculty: nothing to report.
- i. The Graduate School: in regards to the grievance policy, some people are finding it not to be transparent. It is a four step process, the Graduate School is trying to show the process. Everything is confidential unless it is illegal. The student can always release information, the dean will never do that.

### VII. Open forum

- a. N. Rogers brought up Cornell Tech. He said there is a critical mass of PhD students at Cornell Tech who do a back and forth and they are seeking representation (their representative body is called PACT). Current funding guidelines don't allow the GPSA to fund them, however a resolution will be introduced to change the rules so that the GPSA can fund them.
- b. The GPSA was urged to read the GPSAFC's opinion paper included in this meeting's packet.
- c. The time for the meeting expired, the Assembly was adjourned automatically.

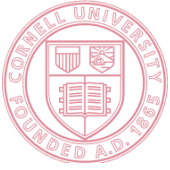


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The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew Ferraro  
Clerk of the Assembly





## **GPSA Resolution #: GPSA Finance Commission Guideline Amendments for Ph.D. Students at Cornell Tech (PACT)**

Abstract: Ph.D. Students at Cornell Tech (PACT) is seeking establishment as a representative organization for all Ph.D. Students studying at the Cornell Tech campus in New York City. Due to the Ithaca-centric nature of the current guidelines, some parts of the guidelines need to be clarified or amended for PACT to operate. These changes apply to PACT only and do not alter the GPSAFC Guidelines for organizations in general.

Sponsored by: Nate Rogers, GPSA President

**Whereas,** The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GPSA) represents graduate and professional students at the Ithaca, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station (Geneva), and Cornell NYC Tech campuses;

**Whereas,** Ph.D. Students studying at the Cornell Tech campus in New York City seek to form a graduate student organization, Ph.D. Students at Cornell Tech (PACT);

**Whereas,** PACT is intended to serve the purpose of a field organization for the Ph.D. students studying at the Cornell Tech Campus, and no such other organization that can serve this purpose exists;

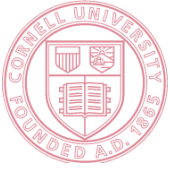
**Whereas,** Ph.D. students at Cornell Tech pay the Student Activity Fee, yet currently would be unable to use any funds they obtain through the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Finance Commission (GPSAFC) in New York City without explicit written approval for each event;

**Whereas,** the GPSA would like to encourage the formation of PACT to serve the function of a field organization for all of the Ph.D. students studying at Cornell Tech without any special burdens specific to their location away from the Ithaca campus;

**Be it therefore resolved,** that when interpreting Section II, Item 8 in the GPSAFC Guidelines with regards to PACT, the language implies the Cornell Tech campus when it refers to the “Cornell campus.”

**Be it further resolved,** that Section II, Item 9 in the GPSAFC Guidelines includes New York City with Tompkins County and Geneva Station as a location that does not require a compelling reason or special approval to host a field, social, or club sport event.

**Be it further resolved,** that PACT is recognized as the only “field” organization for students studying at Cornell Tech campus, and it is therefore eligible for field funding based off of the total number Ph.D. students studying on that campus at the beginning of the semester



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in which PACT's annual budget is reviewed.

**Be it further resolved,** that PACT will receive a one-time increase of \$300 in its maximum funding allowance as a first-time applicant to the GPSAFC to account for a lack of access to free resources otherwise available to first-time applicants located at the Ithaca Campus.

**Be it finally resolved,** that these accommodations made for PACT are meant as a temporary measure until such a time as the GPSAFC Guidelines are revised to account for the possibility of graduate and professional student organizations located at the Cornell Tech campus in general.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nate Rogers  
*President, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly*  
*October, 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016*