



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

**Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly**

Agenda of the September 25th, 2017 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call (3 minutes)
- III. Approval of the Minutes (2 Minutes)
  - a. Minutes from September 11th, 2017
- IV. Presentations (20 Minutes)
  - a. Black Students United (BSU)
  - b. Black Graduate and Professional Student Association (BGPSA)
  - c. Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
  - d. Black Graduate Business Association (BGBA)
  - e. Cornell Veterinary Students as One in Culture and Ethnicity (VOICE)
- V. Open Forum (5 Minutes)
- VI. New Business
  - a. Introduction to *Resolution 4: Condemning Hate Crimes and Hate Speech, and Supporting Students* (10 Minutes)
  - b. Introduction to *Resolution 5: On the forthcoming Campus Climate Task Force* (10 Minutes)
- VII. Breakout Sessions by Division (10 Minutes)
- VIII. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates (15 Min) (1 Min/Committee)
  - a. Executive Committee
  - b. Operations
  - c. Communications
  - d. Appropriations (5 Minutes)
  - e. Finance
  - f. Student Advocacy
  - g. Diversity and International Students
  - h. Programming
  - i. Faculty Awards
  - j. General Committee

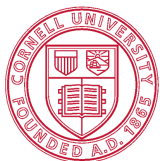
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If you are in need of special accommodations, contact Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 prior to the meeting.



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- k. Graduate School
- IX. Old Business
  - a. Discussion on *Resolution 1: Approval of GPSA Standing Rules* (2 Minutes)
  - b. Discussion on *Resolution 2: Approving Updates to the GPSA Bylaws for the 2017-2018 Term* (3 Minutes)
  - c. Discussion on *Resolution 3: Approval of GPSA's Internal Budget for the 2017-2018 Term* (10 Minutes)
- X. Adjournment



# Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

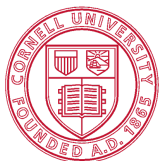
## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Minutes of the August 28, 2017 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
  - a. E. Winarto called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
  - b. **Members Present:** K. Angierski, R. Boylan, C. Cannarozzo, A. Gagnon, J. Goldberg, R. Harrison, J. Hernandez, S. Hesse, M. Jodlowski, C. Little, A. Loiben, T. McCann, E. Michel, D. Moon, A. Schofield, C. Stambuk, E. Winarto.
  - c. **Members Absent:** None (two members not seated yet).
  - d. A motion was made to move several items around on the agenda, and to add the election of a GPCI representative under Nominations and Elections. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
- II. N. Rogers then made a presentation on the role, organization, scope and history of the GPSA.
- III. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates
  - a. Executive: the executive committee is responsible for day to day operations of the GPSA and comprises the president, vice-presidents, and counsel. If you're going to be absent email M. Munasinghe (mam737). The Executive Vice-President makes the agenda. Anyone can ask to speak in front of the assembly. Members can sponsor resolutions (if you are interested in bringing a resolution to the floor, email M. Munasinghe by 5pm Saturday).
  - b. Operations: all of the committees are where the grunt work gets done. Committees write, research, plan things, meet with administrators, allocate funds, etc. All internal committees are open to all graduate and professional students and most external positions are open to all graduate and professional students. For internal committees apply on assembly.cornell.edu. For external committees there is a google form (link on facebook). Email A. Loiben (aml372) with questions.
  - c. Communications: the communications committee maintains strong communication between the GPSA, the various fields and the larger Cornell community. The committee has three goals this year: improve engagement with constituencies,



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increase GPSA transparency, and improve relationship and engagement with professional schools. Anyone can join, email A. Gagnon (amg458).

- d. Appropriations: the appropriations committee manages the annual student activity fee. Appropriations funds very large organizations (BRB, GPSA, Cornell Cinema, and the GPSAFC (which in turn funds smaller student organizations)). On a two year cycle of activity. Email T. McCann (tbn45) with questions.
- e. Finance: finance committee oversees funding of field organizations and clubs.
- f. Student Advocacy: the committee is thinking about organizing an international food festival. Email D. Moon (dm793).
- g. Diversity and International Students: DISC promotes diversity and inclusion within GPSA membership and the wider community. The committee organizes general outreach and education (bringing people together) and targeted initiatives (policy). Email E. Law (ep149) with questions.
- h. Programming: the programming board is a social platform for bridging different graduate and professional communities. PB sponsors mixers and co-sponsors events. Also hosts Grad Ball in May. Email C. Cannarozzo (cjc365) with questions.
- i. Faculty Awards: faculty awards rewards and recognizes faculty members that have done a really good job of supporting graduate and professional students. Faculty awards makes the submission forms and chooses the award winners.
- j. General Committee: the GC is an administrative, judicial and legislative body. It's very influential on graduate and professional student life. Email R. Harrison (rah288) with questions.
- k. Graduate School: the graduate school has received over 600 postcards of gratitude from orientation. Use "Ask a Dean" (on the Graduate School website).

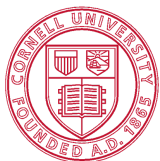
### IV. Open forum

- a. E. Winarto is stepping down as a voting member, which means there is a social sciences voting member seat open (an at large seat).

### V. Breakout Session by Division

### VI. New Business

- a. N. Stetson made a presentation on Robert's Rules of Order.
  - i. See the Robert's Rules cheat sheet in the meeting packet.

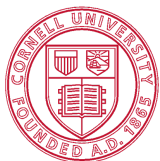


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- ii. N. Stetson emphasized that in the GPSA everybody gets an equal say, but you may have to wait to say what you want to say.
- iii. M. Munasinghe motioned to count N. Stetson's speech as an introduction to Resolution 1, there was no dissent.

### **b. Resolution 1**

- i. M. Munasinghe asked members to read the standing rules before the next meeting.
- ii. E. Law asked for clarification between unanimous consent to make an amendment and a friendly amendment.
- iii. N. Stetson: the friendly amendment skips the chair.
- iv. E. Law: "friendly amendments" are generally frowned upon in parliamentary procedure. The GPSA can instead use unanimous consent to allow for the the unopposed amendment of motions. The difference in the two procedures is minor. Motions belong to the assembly not the individual.
- v. N. Stetson: the assembly can amend the friendly amendment rules in the standing rules back to the original language if it wants to.
- vi. M. Battaglia made a point "about the new procedure for raising a point of order or privilege where you would raise your placard inside out and it was a question of if the change complements or replaces the Roberts Rules provision that you can simply interject with a point of order, privilege, etc. The sponsor responded that they believed the intent was to complement and not abrogate Roberts Rules in this area." [quoted section from email clarification with M. Battaglia].
- vii. R. Boylan asked to take out the trap language.
- viii. A question was raised if, in section 3.02, "any member" refers to both field and voting members.
- ix. N. Stetson: our practice has been that voting, field, and ex-officio are members. The charter is confusing on this and doesn't clarify.
- x. T. McCann motioned to close QA, there was no dissent.
- xi. A. Loiben motioned to table discussion of Resolution 1 until the next meeting. The motion passed 10-0-7.

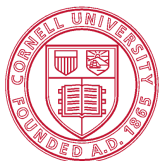


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- xii. N. Rogers **motioned** to establish the GPCI and SLS ad hoc committees. The motion **passed** 12-0-5.
- c. Nominations and Elections
  - i. J. Goldberg **motioned** to hold elections at the next meeting. There was no dissent and the elections were postponed.
  - ii. N. Rogers moved to adjourn, there was no dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew Ferraro  
Clerk of the Assembly



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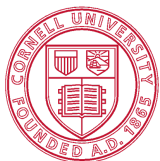
**Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly**

Minutes of the September 11, 2017 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

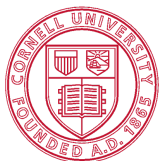
- I. Call to Order
  - a. E. Winarto called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
  - b. *Members Present:* K. Angierski, R. Boylan, C. Cannarozzo, A. Gagnon, J. Goldberg, R. Harrison, J. Hernandez, S. Hesse, M. Jodlowski, C. Little, A. Loiben, T. McCann, E. Michel, D. Moon, A. Schofield, C. Stambuk.
  - c. *Members Absent:* None.
- II. Approval of the minutes
  - a. **Tabled** until the September 25th meeting by unanimous consent.
- III. Elections
  - a. 2 Master's Students Voting Members (1 M. Eng and 1 Non-M. Eng)
    - i. Ranissa Adityavarman was elected as Non-M. Eng Voting Member.
    - ii. Only the Non-M. Eng was elected as there were no M. Eng students present.
  - b. At-large Voting Member (replacing E. Winarto in Social Sciences)
    - i. Wendy Zhang was elected the new social sciences voting member.
- IV. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates
  - a. Voting (and vote counting) was held during reports and updates.
  - b. Executive: nothing to report.
  - c. Operations: applications are still open for internal and external committees. Email A. Loiben (aml372) if interested.
  - d. Communications: added more posts to the GPSA facebook about open committee positions. Follow @CornellGPSA. Communications is excited to start a new series to promote GPSA funded organizations.
  - e. Appropriations: meeting in Plant Science 336 this Friday (9/15) 3:30pm to 5pm.
  - f. Finance: finance distributes funding to student groups. Email T. Bollu (tb387) if you're interested in helping out or have questions.



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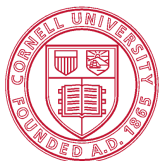
- g. Student Advocacy: SAC will meet at 4:30 pm on the days the GPSA has meetings (the next one is September 25th). Meetings will be in the Martha Van Rensselaer (MVR) courtyard (until it gets too cold). This term the committee will be discussing a Town Hall (to hear from the community), what action the GPSA should take about the recent DACA decision, and the Consensual Relationships policy debate from last term. If interested in joining SAC, email D. Moon (dm793).
  - h. Diversity and International Students: the Graduate School has acquired membership to the New York Academy of Sciences for all graduate students. Email E. Law (epl49) if you want to know more.
  - i. Programming: email C. Cannarozzo if you're part of programming board and you haven't heard from her (to make sure you're on the listserv). The first meeting should be by the end of the month.
  - j. Faculty Awards: email A. De Micheli (ad689) if interested. The first meeting will probably be in October.
  - k. General Committee: at later GPSA meetings R. Harrison and A. Natarajan will explain what GC is and what the Code of Legislation is.
  - l. Graduate School: the Graduate School is beginning to plan orientation for fall 2018. J. Allen wants to hear from you about your experiences with orientation to get a feel for what can be done to improve it. Fellowship writing workshops start this week.
- V. Open Forum
- a. A Cornell Tech representative introduced himself.
- VI. Breakout Session by Division
- a. Voting (and vote counting) was held during division breakouts as well.
- VII. New Business
- a. Introduction of **Resolution 2**, A. Loiben. QA to follow.
    - i. Bylaws give structure to the assembly. They specify what committees the GPSA has and what they do. A number of things are being considered that aren't in the bylaws attached. The amendments we are focusing on in this resolution are relatively minor (see meeting packet). Reach out if you have ideas about how to make the bylaws or the voting structure better.
    - ii. T. Bollu asked for clarification on section 3.10.d.vi.





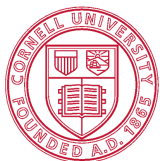
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- iii. A. Loiben: at the request of the current chair, the budget should include funds for publicizing nominations.
  - iv. A. de Micheli: asked if budget goes into the gifts for faculty awards. It does.
  - v. J. Goldberg: asked for clarification on voting member structure changes.
  - vi. T. Bollu: the GPSA added T3 and T4 groups to meetings (as field representatives). Maybe we should give them a voting voice too.
  - vii. J. Goldberg asked if someone could send that out as a formalized prompt so people are prepared to discuss this next meeting.
  - viii. A. Loiben responded yes (someone can send that out), and that this resolution does not address voting structure.
- b. Introduction of **Resolution 3**.
- i. Presentation by the Director of Anabel's Grocery. Anabel's Grocery is located in Anabel Taylor Hall (by the Law School). Website: [anabelsgrocery](http://anabelsgrocery.com)
    - 1. Anabel's had a soft launch in May and reopened last Tuesday. Anabel's focuses on providing affordable, nutritious food to undergraduate, graduate and professional students. Focused on fighting food insecurity on campus. 99% of their team is composed of undergraduates, they would like graduate/professional student input. Email kjm288 if interested.
    - 2. M. Battaglia asked if graduate students are using Anabel's.
    - 3. There were no hard stats to give as the store has only been open for six days, but they hope to have numbers after this semester.
    - 4. A. Gagnon asked if Anabel's has a site that displays what they sell.
    - 5. The site doesn't explain line by line what they sell, but it does explain what they sell in general. They don't sell local really; they focus on affordable nutrition.
    - 6. Anabel's sells groceries at a 15% markup, compared to Wegmans' 30-35%.
    - 7. Hours are on the website.
    - 8. A. Gagnon asked when GPSA support ends in 4 years will graduate/professional students still be able to go.
    - 9. Anabel's can't answer that question right now, they don't know.



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10. Email Director, or write website comments, or use in store comment cards if you'd like to get in touch. (Director email: kjm288).
- ii. Presentation by T. McCann
  1. T. McCann gave a presentation on last year's spending. Appropriations wants to decrease roll over funds. Last year rollover funds paid for ASAP's buses to the March for Science, and the BRB's 25th anniversary improvements.
  2. Historically, rollover has been a buffer for unexpected expenses of committees or to support the graduate/professional community through events. In 2016, the GPSA decided to support Anabel's for four years, with \$20,000 a year (50% to depreciation 50% to subsidy fund).
  3. The budget for this year is \$42,529.94.
  4. The breakdown of expected spending by committees was shown. Total expenses are estimated to be \$36,100.
  5. D. Geisler: income was greater than expenses, will it just go into rollover. Why is rollover lower?
  6. T. McCann: the bulk of the rollover was spent on ASAP buses and the BRB. He is not concerned about the imbalance for now (because we want to bring down the rollover), but in the long term yes.
  7. S. Bossert asked if there was a piano before the renovations.
  8. Yes, there was a piano.
  9. E. Michel: the cost of moving and refurbishing the piano was greater than getting a new piano.
  10. M. Battaglia: is it possible that we could get a contract with Anabel's to say we can decrease our amount but they can't get rid of graduate/professional student access?
  11. T. McCann: no reason why we couldn't pass a resolution about this.
  12. C. Rose: will we get an estimated itemized breakdown of committee spending?



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13. T. McCann: that was discussed within the committee. If anyone is interested in those numbers now, they can ask committee chairs, or they can ask him.
14. D. Geisler asked for clarification on the travel budget.
15. N. Rogers: we're told by the host school (Ivy Summit) how many delegates we can send. We usually send executive committee members based on items on the conference agenda. The new travel category in the budget would be good leadership development for other members.

### VIII. Old Business

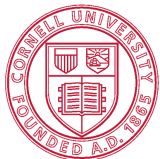
#### a. **Resolution 1**

- i. An organization's constitution is its permanent identity, its bylaws are part of its identity but not permanent, and its standing rules are its procedural quirks that are different from other institutions.
- ii. J. Goldberg **motioned to amend** by removing the joke clause (section 3.01.ii part A) and to amend section 3.04.b by adding a third option to "raise a fist" because standing is not available to all people. **Passed** by unanimous consent.
- iii. P. Vaghela asked what happens if there are conflicts between the bylaws and the standing rules.
- iv. The bylaws supersede the standing rules.
- v. N. Rogers **motioned to amend** by adding the word "seated" to various parts in sections 4 and 5 (highlighted in 11th Sep. 2017 meeting packet).
  1. There are a fixed number of voting member seats, and "seated" simply means that these seats are currently filled by actual people.
  2. T. Bollu: if you have quorum does it make sense to have super majorities of members present vs. seated?
  3. N. Stetson noted that that is not how it works for the GPSA currently.
  4. E. Cecchetti: a supermajority of seated members is important for big changes to governing documents.



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5. A motion was made to call the question on N. Rogers' amendment, there was no dissent to calling the question. The amendment passed 12-0-6.
- vi. E. Law motioned to amend by striking section 3.03 (friendly amendments) from the standing rules.
  1. A. Waymack noted the GPSA is under no obligation to follow Robert's Rules here.
  2. N. Stetson: I think we have given enough remedies in case people object to friendly amendments.
  3. E. Law: it takes the same amount of time to do unanimous consent. Motions belong to the assembly, not the individual.
  4. E. Cecchetti: structurally this is very close to unanimous consent. However, friendly amendments put the onus on objecting on the individual, instead of asking if anyone objects like under unanimous consent.
  5. A motion was made to call the question on E. Law's amendment, there was no dissent. The amendment failed 1-8-9.
- vii. N. Rogers motioned to amend by adding a sponsored line and N. Stetson's title to the resolution document.
  1. A motion was made to extend the meeting by 5 minutes, no dissent.
  2. A motion was made to call the question on N. Rogers' amendment, there was no dissent. The amendment passed 12-0-6.
- viii. N. Rogers motioned to call the question on the resolution but the motion was withdrawn.
- ix. E. Law motioned to amend section 4.1.b.ii to strike the language after the comma, and add "each member will be given a maximum of three opportunities to speak during debate."
  1. A motion was made to call the question on the amendment, there was no dissent. The amendment failed 8-0-10.
- x. A motion was made to extend the meeting by 5 minutes, no dissent.

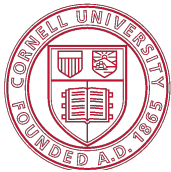


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- xi. E. Law **motioned to amend** section 3.04 by adding a section c: “non voting members of the assembly have the same right to debate as voting members unless otherwise limited by the charter, bylaws, or standing rules.”
  - 1. A motion was made to extend the meeting by 5 minutes, however there was dissent. By 9-1-8, the meeting was NOT extended.
  - 2. A **motion** was made to **table** the resolution until the next meeting, there was no dissent.
  - 3. [Because the Resolution was tabled, the amendment **failed**.]
- xii. Time expired at 7:10pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew Ferraro  
Clerk of the Assembly



**Cornell University**  
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**GPSA Resolution 1: Adopting Standing Rules**

Sponsored by: Manisha Munasinghe, Executive Vice President, on behalf of the Executive Committee

*Whereas* the GPSA has modified the rules of parliamentary procedure in many ways to aid the smooth operation of the Assembly; and

*Whereas* inconsistent application of parliamentary procedure can impair members' opportunity to be heard; and

*Whereas* codifying the modifications as Standing Rules will resolve inconsistencies; and

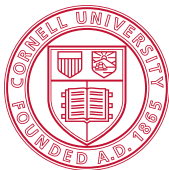
*Be it therefore resolved*, that the GPSA adopts the attached Standing Rules.

Respectfully submitted,

Manisha Munasinghe  
Executive Vice President

Alex Loiben  
Vice President for Operations  
Chair, Operations and Staffing

Nathaniel Stetson  
Executive Vice President, 2016-2017



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**GPSA Resolution #2: Approving Updates to the GPSA Bylaws for the  
2017-2018 Term**

Sponsored by: Alex Loiben, Voting Member, Physical Sciences

**WHEREAS**, the GPSA Bylaws require that the Operations and Staffing Committee recommend changes to the GPSA Bylaws in the form of a resolution by the second general meeting of the GPSA, per section 3.03.D.viii;

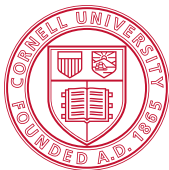
**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the GPSA adopts the changes to the GPSA Bylaws as presented in the attached document.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Alex Loiben

*GPSA Vice President of Operations and Staffing*

2017-09-11



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**GPSA Resolution 3:**

**Resolution Approving the GPSA Internal Budget**

**for the 2017-2018 Term**

Sponsored by: Tyler McCann, on behalf of the GPSA Appropriations Committee.

**WHEREAS**, The GPSA Bylaws require that the Appropriations Committee recommend an internal budget in the form of a resolution (3.05(D)(vii); and

**WHEREAS**, The GPSA decided in 2015 to financially support the subsidized student-run and operated Anabel's Grocery<sup>1</sup> through an annual contribution of \$20,000 for a maximum of four years (totaling \$80,000)<sup>2</sup> in exchange for the ability of graduate and professional students to shop at the store; and

**WHEREAS**, This short-term contribution was decided at that time to come through the GPSA directly as a line item in the internal budget at the time of this decision; and

**WHEREAS**, The chair of the GPSA Finance Commission and chair of the GPSA Appropriations Committee met with the executive team of Anabel's Grocery in spring 2017 to formalize this relationship; and

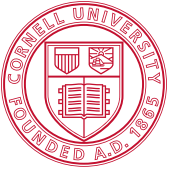
**WHEREAS**, This discussion resulted in the formal agreement among all parties that 50% of the GPSA's contribution to Anabel's Grocery would be used for capital depreciation, and the remaining 50% be added to the subsidy fund; and

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<sup>1</sup> <http://anabelsgrocery.org/>

<sup>2</sup> GPSA Resolution 3 in 2015-16 Supporting Document





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**WHEREAS,** The subsidy fund is an account used by Anabel's Grocery to subsidize the cost of food items to customers with demonstrated financial need; and

**WHEREAS,** The first \$20,000 contribution of the GPSA was contributed to Anabel's Grocery in late spring 2017 and 100% was used for capital depreciation in consideration to the store's soft opening in late spring 2017;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,** that the GPSA will contribute \$20,000 for the 2017-2018 academic year to Anabel's Grocery, of which 100% will be put towards the subsidy fund;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that remaining years' contributions by the GPSA to Anabel's Grocery will be used by Anabel's Grocery in a ratio of 50% towards capital depreciation and 50% towards the subsidy fund;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** the current and remaining contributions of the original \$80,000 decided on by the GPSA to Anabel's Grocery will be designated as line items in the GPSA internal budget;

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that the GPSA adopts the "Recommended Allocation" in the attached budget;

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**TYLER MCCANN**

GPSA Appropriations Committee Chair

**KERRY MULLINS**

Anabel's Grocery Co-Director

**FY 2018 Graduate & Professional Student Assembly Operating Budget  
G943704**

**Income/Expense**

<b>Summary</b>	
Total Income	\$42,529.94
Total Expenses	\$258.28
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$42,271.66</b>

**Income Categories**

FY2017 "True Up"	\$188.31
Beginning Cash Balance (rollover)	\$8,398.13
Transfers	\$0.00
Income from GPSAF (\$4.50/student)	\$33,943.50
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>\$42,529.94</b>

**FY 2018**

<b>Expense Categories</b>	<b>2017 -18Budget</b>	<b>% of Total Budget</b>
10000Administrative	\$6,000.00	16.62%
10001Executive	\$0.00	0.00%
10002Communications	\$900.00	2.49%
10003Operations & Staffing	\$500.00	1.39%
10004Appropriations	\$900.00	2.49%
10005Finance Commission	\$1,200.00	3.32%
20001Student Advocacy	\$1,200.00	3.32%
30001Ivy Summit*	\$1,000.00	2.77%
30002NAGPS*	\$1,000.00	2.77%
30003Faculty Awards	\$600.00	1.66%
30004Diversity Committee	\$2,300.00	6.37%
Travel	\$500.00	1.39%
Anabel's Grocery	\$20,000.00	55.40%
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>\$36,100.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

\* Must include opportunity for one non-executive member of the Assembly to join.

## **Breakdown of GPSA Spending Categories**

**Administrative** – Cost of GPSA meetings, incl. food and printed materials.

**Executive** – Cost to fulfill obligations of the committee as defined in the GPSA Bylaws.

**Communications** – Cost to fulfill obligations of the committee as defined in the GPSA Bylaws.

**Operations and Staffing** – Cost to fulfill obligations of the committee as defined in the GPSA Bylaws.

**Appropriations** – Cost to fulfill obligations of the committee as defined in the GPSA Bylaws.

**Finance Commission** – Cost to fulfill obligations of the committee as defined in the GPSA Bylaws.

**Student Advocacy** – Cost to fulfill obligations of the committee as defined in the GPSA Bylaws.

**Ivy Summit** – Cost of accommodations to attend annual Ivy Summit conference

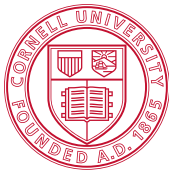
**NAGPS** – Cost of travel to two conferences (Fall/Spring) of the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students

**Faculty Awards** – Cost to fulfill obligations of the committee as defined in the GPSA Bylaws.

**Diversity Committee** – Cost to fulfill obligations of DISC as defined in the GPSA Bylaws.

**Travel** – New category that covers the cost of travel for non-executive members to conferences, and trips to Cornell Tech.

**Anabel's Grocery** – Cost of annual financial support to Anabel's Grocery



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**Resolution #4**

**Condemning Hate Crimes and Hate Speech, and Supporting Students**

**ABSTRACT:** This resolution affirms the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly's solidarity with the Cornell community and requests the appropriate considerations and additions to the Campus Code of Conduct through the University Assembly Codes and Judicial Committee.

**Sponsored by: Jesse Goldberg, GPSA Arts & Humanities Voting Member**

**Whereas**, over the past year there has been an increase in hate-based incidents on college campuses across the country;<sup>1</sup> and

**Whereas**, on September 6, 2017 one or more Zeta Psi member(s) shouted “build a wall around the LLC” at the Latino Living Center; and

**Whereas**, on September 15, 2017 multiple alleged Psi Upsilon members, a fraternity no longer affiliated with Cornell University, used racist slurs against a Black Cornell student and violently assaulted him and other members of his fraternity on their own property; and

**Whereas**, later the same day on September 15, 2017, two or more Cornell students were captured on video using racial slurs against another student; and

**Whereas**, all of these incidents appear to be clear violations of the Campus Code of Conduct, should the allegations prove true, as it is a violation of the Campus Code of Conduct to:

- “harass another person...by acting toward that person in a manner that is by objective measure threatening, abusive, or severely annoying and that is beyond the scope of free speech,” or
- “assault or cause any physical injury to another person on the basis of disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation or affectional preference;”<sup>2</sup> and

**Whereas**, the Ithaca Police have arrested John P.A. Greenwood and charged him with one count of assault in the third degree; and

**Whereas**, the Ithaca police are investigating the events of September 15 as a possible hate crime;<sup>3</sup> and

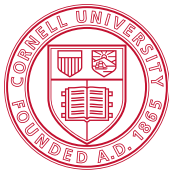
**Whereas**, pursuant to New York State Penal Law Article 485, hate crimes “do more than threaten the safety and welfare of all citizens” because they “inflict on victims incalculable physical and emotional damage and tear at the very fabric of free society,” “send a powerful

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/01/opinion/hate-crime-lebron-james-college-park-murder.html?mcubz=0>

<sup>2</sup> Cornell Campus Code of Conduct, II.A.1.c-d: <https://www.dfa.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/policy/CCC.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://ithacavoice.com/2017/09/ithaca-police-investigate-possible-racially-motivated-assault-collegetown/>



## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

message of intolerance and discrimination” and “disrupt entire communities and vitiate the civility that is essential to healthy democratic processes;”<sup>4</sup> and

**Whereas**, bias, discrimination, and hate crimes, by their nature, affect the fabric of the Cornell community, prevent the fulfillment of and are deeply antithetical to Cornell’s motto “I would found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study;” and

**Whereas**, these recent events place the onus on Cornell University to establish and justify its members’ trust in our community; and

**Whereas**, we, the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, acknowledge that violence is not merely interpersonal, but also institutional and historic; and

**Whereas**, on Thursday September 21, the Student Assembly passed Resolution 8;<sup>5</sup>

**Be it therefore resolved**, that the GPSA unequivocally condemns all forms of structural oppression of which these racist actions are manifestations; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA joins the SA in calling on all members of the Cornell community to join us in this condemnation; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA joins the Student Assembly in charging all members of the Cornell community to consider how best to heal these harms, and how best to accord all members of our community the equal dignity and respect due to them as our peers; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA unequivocally supports all of the demands brought to the university administration by Black Students United<sup>6</sup> and La Asociación Latina<sup>7</sup>; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA calls on the University Assembly Codes and Judicial Committee to expedite consideration of Campus Code of Conduct changes requested by Black Students United and La Asociación Latina by the end of the Fall 2017 semester; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA calls on Cornell University to support its students by committing to never again recognizing a chapter of Psi Upsilon on campus; and

**Be it finally resolved**, that the GPSA calls on the University Assembly Codes and Judicial Committee to add “documentation status” to the Code of Conduct Title III, Article II, Section A.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

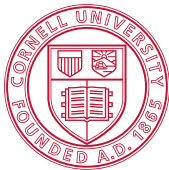
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<sup>4</sup> <http://ypdcrime.com/penal.law/article485.htm>

<sup>5</sup> CITATION OF SA RES

<sup>6</sup> <http://cornellsun.com/2017/09/20/hundreds-of-cornell-students-occupy-willard-straight-hall-after-delivering-demands-to-university/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://thetab.com/us/cornell/2017/09/07/build-the-wall-comments-heard-outside-cornells-latino-living-center-5480>



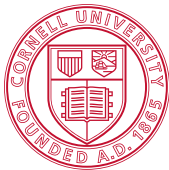
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**Student Assembly**

Jesse Goldberg  
GPSA Voting Member, Arts & Humanities

Mayra Valadez  
SA Undesignated at-Large Representative  
President, First Generation Student Union

Alec Martinez  
SA Architecture, Art, and Planning Representative  
UA Undergraduate Representative

Tristan Magloire  
SA Minority Liaison at-Large Representative



**Cornell University**  
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**Student Assembly**

**Resolution 5**  
**On the forthcoming campus climate Task Force**

**Sponsored by: Jesse Goldberg, GPSA Arts & Humanities Voting Member;  
GPSA Diversity and International Students Committee**

**Whereas,** President Martha Pollack sent a letter to the entire Cornell community on September 17<sup>th</sup> via an email titled “Message to the Cornell Community,” in which one of the plans she articulates is, “I will convene a Presidential Task Force charged with examining and addressing persistent problems of bigotry and intolerance at Cornell. The task force will identify the problems that are preventing us from being a fully welcoming and inclusive community and make specific recommendations about how our community can move forward with greater respect, understanding and inclusivity. This week I will meet with student, faculty and staff leaders to refine the task force’s charge and to discuss membership;”<sup>1</sup> and

**Whereas,** on Thursday September 21, the Student Assembly passed Resolution 8;<sup>2</sup> and

**Whereas,** on Monday September 25 the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly [introduced/passed Resolution 4] in support of that SA Resolution; and

**Whereas,** we stand behind the clauses of those documents within this present Resolution; and

**Whereas,** the problems of racism, xenophobia, sexism, queerantagonism, ableism, classism, settler colonialism, and other forms of marginalization against historically oppressed or disenfranchised peoples are irreducible to problems of individual psychology or feeling such as personal bigotry or intolerance; and

**Whereas,** decades of research in the humanities and social sciences have demonstrated that solving problems of violence (understood broadly to encompass more than only physical attacks) across human difference requires attention to systems of power and oppression in which individuals are embedded, as well as the mindsets of individuals themselves; and

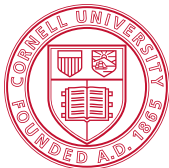
**Whereas,** Cornell’s Graduate and Professional Student community values diversity of all forms, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, nationality, religion or creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical, mental, and psychological ability, and socioeconomic status or background; and

**Whereas,** we believe that any meaningful, persistent change will require building an inclusive community that is based in equity, dignity, and mutual respect for the ways in which individuals’ social identities are impacted by interesting forces and factors,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://news.cornell.edu/stories/2017/09/president-issues-statement-recent-racial-incidents>

<sup>2</sup> <https://assembly.cornell.edu/resolutions/sa-r8-condemning-hate-crimes-and-hate-speech-and-support-students>



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**Be it therefore resolved**, that the GPSA formally acknowledges its support of President Martha Pollack's letter to the community and thanks her for leadership in crafting a prompt response; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA also acknowledges that many of the ideas expressed in "Message to the Cornell Community" have been articulated both formally and informally by groups of marginalized students – undergraduate, graduate, and professional – across campus over the past few years;<sup>3</sup> and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA advocates for the creation of an Underrepresented Communities Representative at-Large Voting Member seat on the University Assembly; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA calls on President Pollack to include *structural and systemic oppression and inequity* alongside the more interpersonal terms "bigotry and intolerance" in the official charge of the Task Force she will form, and

**Be it further resolved**, that in the spirit of attending to structural and systemic oppression and inequality, the Task Force be charged with grounding its analysis of diversity and inclusion in analyses of historical imbalances of material power, such that focus remains on modes of human difference mediated by such power imbalances rather than the simple fact of difference; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the Task Force be explicitly tasked with thinking through an intersectional framework of analysis, where intersectionality is understood in its robust sense as a theory of power and forces of violence and discrimination rather than thinly as an idea of additive identity;<sup>4</sup> and

**Be it further resolved**, that the GPSA calls on President Pollack to form a Task Force that is representative of marginalized voices on campus, where we understand that such a task force cannot, for example, be comprised of a majority of male-identifying or white individuals; and

Be it further resolved, that said Task Force be of an adequate size as to include both graduate and professional students from multiple target identity affinity groups; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the Task Force be directed to hold regular public meetings/forums during which community members can be informed on the progress of the Task Force and provide feedback; and

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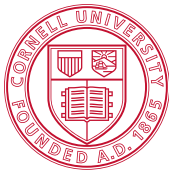
<sup>3</sup> For just one wide-scope compilation of previous iterations of the ideas expressed in Pollack's email, as well as many other useful qualitative data sets and concrete recommendations, see "The Climate for Diversity at Cornell University: Student Experiences" full report from 2014:

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/d4ca/5d597841e22def390f2f9fab2b7ca3fdb754.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> See essays by Kimberle Crenshaw, including "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory, and Antiracist Politics" (*Feminist Legal Theory: Readings in Law and Gender*, edited by Katherine T. Bartlett and Rosanne Kennedy, Westview Press, 1991, pgs. 57-80); and "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence Against Women of Color" (*Stanford Law Review* Vol 43, 1993, pgs. 1241-1249). For a shorter, but still rigorous and lucid elaboration, see "'We're all just different!' How Intersectionality is Being Colonized by White People":

<https://thinkingraceblog.wordpress.com/2017/04/24/were-all-just-different-how-intersectionality-is-being-colonized-by-white-people/>





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**Be it finally resolved**, that efforts to consciously reject and deconstruct systemic oppression within the Cornell community be a consistent and ongoing priority of the administration, not to be limited by the timeline of any Task Force charged with these issues, or by the recommendations made by such a Task Force.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Jesse Goldberg  
GPSA Voting Member, Arts & Humanities

Eugene Law  
Chair, GPSA Diversity and International Students Committee