



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Minutes of the October 16th, 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 5:30pm.
 - b. *Members Present:* R. Adityavarman, K. Angierski, R. Boylan, A. Gagnon, J. Goldberg, R. Harrison, M. Jodlowski, A. Loiben, T. McCann, E. Michel, D. Moon, A. Schofield, C. Stambuk, W. Zhang.
 - c. *Members Absent:* S. Hesse, J. Hernandez, C. Cannarozzo, and C. Little.
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. The minutes from September 25th, 2017 were approved by unanimous consent.
- III. Presentations
 - a. Gina Giambattista, Director, Office of the Assemblies, then made her presentation on the history of the assemblies and demonstrated the new office website.
 - b. T. McCann then made his presentation on the Appropriations Committee's initial Student Activity Fee Recommendations.
 - i. Anyone can meet with members of the appropriations committee during certain times this week (there is a schedule in T. McCann's email).
 - ii. The Activity Fee changes every two years. Appropriations is trying to make the process more collaborative with Byline Organizations.
 - iii. Here are the recommendations:
 1. Athletics and PE: \$56,283.88 total.
 2. Big Red Barn: \$84,210.52 total.
 3. Cornell Cinema.: \$11/student or \$81,037.00 total.
 4. Cornell Concert Commission: \$5.76/student or \$42,433.92 total.
 5. CUEMS: \$1.8/student or \$13,260.60 total.
 6. Cornell University Programming Board: \$2.46/student or \$18,122.82 total.
 7. GPSA: \$4.90/student or \$36,098.30 total.
 8. GPSA Programming Board: \$2.22/student or \$16,354.74 total.



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9. International Students Union: \$1.46/student or \$10,755.82 total.
 10. Orientation - Graduate School: no funding.
 11. Risk Management: Club Insurance: \$5.50/student or \$40,518.50 total.
 12. GPSAFC: $\geq 35\%$ of the above recommendations: \$29.18/student.
- iv. Total Student Activity Fee recommendation: \$84/student.
 - v. Contact T. McCann with questions (tbn45). Next appropriations committee meeting is Friday, Oct. 27th, 3:30-5pm, Mann 102.
 - vi. J. Kent-Dobias asked for the reason why CUEMS funding comes from students but money for policing doesn't.
 1. CUEMS uses student volunteers, the CUPD does not.
 - vii. GPSAFC gives funding to fields and any tiers/clubs.
 - viii. M. Munasinghe asked if the recommendation for Cornell Cinema took into account the 20 percent decrease in funding from the SA.
 1. It was more of a consideration of how the GPSA values Cornell Cinema, but the SA decrease was in the back of our minds too.
 - ix. Anabel's funding comes out of the GPSA. It comes from the GPSA directly because the money was supposed to be temporary for them to get their footing, and it's harder for groups to temporarily get byline funding.
 - x. GPSAFC money goes right to graduate/professional community, unlike byline organizations that are spread across the wider Cornell community.

IV. Open Forum

- a. T. McCann **motioned to add an additional GPSA meeting** to the 2017-2018 schedule on November 6th, 2017.
 - i. A straw poll was held of the entire assembly.
 - ii. A motion was made to **call the question**, there was no dissent. The meeting was added by **13-0-5**.

V. New Business

a. Resolution 6

- i. E. Michel introduced the Resolution. Because of recent events and a new president it's a good time to form a new strategic plan (a plan for usually around 5 years of what the University wants to work on).



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- ii. There are open spots for graduate/professional students on the Campus Welfare Committee
- iii. The Resolution was **tabled** until the next meeting (no motion was made to vote on it).

b. Resolution 7

- i. E. Law and E. Michel introduced the Resolution. The Resolution asks for President Polack to respond to the concerns raised within it (and to not wait for the Task Force to respond, which could take months).
- ii. M. Munasinghe: in President Pollack's letter she accepted Resolution 5, but Provost Kotlikoff's letter seems like a pseudo rejection.
- iii. This resolution reiterates that we want: the representatives to the Task Force to be student nominated, an institutional commitment to deconstructing systems of oppression and inequity, and more transparency.
- iv. B. Kisselstein: does this just address systemic oppression of racial/ethnic minorities? We need to raise awareness that the Task Force won't address a lot of other minorities.
- v. E. Law: this goes back to Resolution 5 where we discuss under represented minorities. Black and Latinx representatives are explicitly asked for because of the September incidents.
- vi. D. Geisler: how do we get a guarantee on our resolution asks?
- vii. E. Law: we don't have the power to force the President to do anything. We can pass resolutions, use the political pressure we have, but that's basically it.
- viii. M. Munasinghe: we don't have the power to force the President to take action, but that doesn't mean we should "go gentle into that good night."
- ix. N. Stetson: we have a connection with the Cornell Daily Sun too.
- x. OISE has been circulating a nomination form of who their groups want to be on the Task Force.
- xi. M. Munasinghe asked if line 105 is saying OISE nominates and GPSA cannot nominate.
 - 1. E. Law doesn't think this language would limit GPSA nominations.
- xii. A motion was made to extend the meeting by five minutes, no dissent.



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- xiii. J. Goldberg: it's imperative we keep passing resolutions like this, because we can't force the administration to do anything, we can only recommend. However we can also put bodies in spaces and organize people to put pressure on the administration.
- xiv. A. Schofield **motioned to amend** line 99 (the last whereas), "Whereas, the update that President Pollack provided on the formulation and the charge of the presidential task force implicitly rejected the spirit of GPSA AY 2017-2018 Resolution 5 without any direct communication with the GPSA;"
 - 1. A motion was made to extend the meeting by five minutes, no dissent.
 - 2. A motion was made to call the question, there was no dissent. The amendment **passed** 12-0-6.
- xv. A motion was made to extend the meeting by five minutes, no dissent.
- xvi. A **motion was made to amend** line 130 "indicated in GPSA AY 2017-2018 Resolution 5"
 - 1. A motion was made to call the question, there was no dissent. The amendment **passed** 13-0-5.
- xvii. A motion was made to **call the question** on the resolution, there was no dissent. Resolution 7 **passed** 13-0-5.

VI. Old Business

a. Resolution 3

- i. A motion was made to **table** the resolution until the next meeting, there was no dissent.

VII. A motion was made to adjourn, there was no dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Ferraro
Clerk of the Assembly