Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Agenda of the October 30th, 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 October 16th, 2017
IV. Presentations (30 Minutes)
   a. Cornell University President Martha Pollack
V. Division Breakouts (10 Minutes)
VI. Committee Updates (5 Minutes) (30 Sec/Committee)
   a. Executive Committee
   b. Operations
   c. Communications
   d. Appropriations
   e. Finance
   f. Student Advocacy
   g. Diversity and International Students
   h. Programming
   i. Faculty Awards
   j. General Committee
   k. Graduate School
VII. Open Forum (5 Minutes)
VIII. Old Business
   a. Discussion on Resolution 3: Approval of GPSA’s Internal Budget for the 2017-2018 Term
      (10 Minutes)
   b. Preliminary Vote on Appropriations Committee’s Student Activity Fee Recommendations (25 Minutes)
      i. Athletics and Physical Education
      ii. Big Red Barn

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.
iii. Cornell Concert Commission
iv. Cornell University EMS
v. Cornell University Programming Board
vi. GPSA
vii. Risk Management: Club Insurance

IX. Adjournment
I. Call to Order
   a. E. Winarto called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

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.
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: ≥ 35% of the above recommendations: $29.18/student.

iv. Total Student Activity Fee recommendation: $84/student.
v. Contact T. McCann with questions (tmm45). 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 3-0-0.

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).
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 Pollack 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.
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
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 Grocery¹ through an annual contribution of $20,000 for a maximum of four years (totaling $80,000)² 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; 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

¹ http://anabelsgrocery.org/
² GPSA Resolution 3 in 2015-16 Supporting Document
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
## Summary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>$42,529.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$258.28</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Current Balance</strong></td>
<td><strong>$42,271.66</strong></td>
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### Income Categories

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY2017 “True Up”</td>
<td>$188.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Cash Balance (rollover)</td>
<td>$8,398.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income from GPSAF ($4.50/student)</td>
<td>$33,943.50</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$42,529.94</strong></td>
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### FY 2018 Expense Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2017-18 Budget</th>
<th>% of Total Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10000 Administrative</td>
<td>$6,000.00</td>
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<td>10001 Executive</td>
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<td>10002 Communications</td>
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<tr>
<td>10003 Operations &amp; Staffing</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
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<td>10004 Appropriations</td>
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<td>10005 Finance Commission</td>
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<td>20001 Student Advocacy</td>
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<td>30001 Ivy Summit*</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>30002 NAGPS*</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>30003 Faculty Awards</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
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<td>30004 Diversity Committee</td>
<td>$2,300.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anabel’s Grocery</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>55.40%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$36,100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
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* 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
Graduate and Professional Student Activity Fee (GPSAF) Initial Recommendation for 2018-2020

Graduate & Professional Student Assembly Appropriations Committee
Spring 2017

April

- Preliminary applications with estimate of funding requests solicited from groups.
- Organizations that have not applied for by-line funding in the past are required to complete additional steps.

Fall 2017

September

- 8th: Final applications for by-line funding are due.
- GPSA Appropriations Committee (AC) delegates 2 reviewers per application.
- 25th - 29th: AC hosts public meetings with organizations to discuss application.
- AC deliberates and votes on initial funding recommendations for 2018-2020 SAF.

October

- 16th: AC presents recommendations to the GPSA.
- 17th - 20th: AC office hours to meet with GPSA members with questions on the process and recommendations.
- 30th: Vote to accept/reject funding recommendations.
- If approved, funding amount is placed into final SAF resolution.
- If rejected, funding recommendation is reconsidered by the AC.

November

- 6th: Vote to accept/reject funding recommendations.
- 13th: AC presents revised funding recommendations.
- If approved, funding amount is placed into final SAF resolution.
- If rejected, the organization will not be eligible for byline funding in the 2018-2020 cycle.
- 13th: Vote to approve the final SAF resolution to set the SAF for 2018-2020.
- 27th: Backup day if vote is postponed to approve the final SAF resolution.
- If resolution does not pass: SAF remains at current cycle's level and allocations.
Committee Composition

- Mariko Alexander, Graduate Student in Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology, immediate past Chairperson of Appropriations, 3rd term Appropriations, Voting Member.
- Matthew Battaglia, Professional Student in the Law School and Johnson Business School, 1st term Appropriations, Voting Member.
- Jon Cicoski, Graduate Student in Performance and Media Art, 1st term Appropriations, Voting Member.
- Tyler McCann, Graduate Student in Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology, Chairperson, 2nd term Appropriations, Voting Member.
- Elena Michel, Graduate Student in Plant Biology, 2nd term Appropriations, Voting Member.
- Manisha Munasinghe, Graduate Student in Computational Biology, 2nd term Appropriations, non-voting ex-officio member.
- Kriszta Pozsonyi, Graduate Student in Performance and Media Art, 2nd term Appropriations, Voting Member.
- Jack Satterlee, Graduate Student in Plant Biology, 1st term Appropriations, Voting Member.
- Cassandra Stambuk, Graduate Student in Animal Science, 2nd term Appropriations, Voting Member.

Application

Applications were developed in conjunction with the Office of Assemblies and the Student Assembly. They inquired about funding request, mission, governing documents, summary of officers and events for the past two academic years, and detailed financial statements for the past and projected future.

Application Review Process

Pairs of Appropriations Committee voting members were delegated the responsibility to familiarize and critique by-line organization applications. Applications and supplemental material was available to all members of the Appropriations Committee to provide additional opportunities for inquiry beyond the designated pair of reviewers.

Each pair of reviewers was also responsible for leading the public hearing for their respective by-line organizations. These reviewers then led the discussion when initial recommendations were deliberated and voted on by members of the committee. Due to the confidential, financial information contained within these applications, and references to sensitive information throughout these materials, the following packet does not contain the application materials used by the Appropriations Committee to develop its funding recommendations.
Athletics and Physical Education
Primary Reviewer – Jon Cicoski
Secondary Reviewer – Jack Satterlee

Group Profile
Cornell Athletics offers access for all graduates students to a wide array of sporting events on campus. Through the Big Red Sports Pass (part of the Cornell Student ID Card) graduate and professional students and their immediate families gain free admission to all home athletic events, except for men’s ice hockey games and postseason contests. The by-line funding arrangement does provide a $5 discount on men’s ice hockey tickets ($13 instead of $18). This discount is available for individual game tickets as well as season tickets for graduate students and their family members. 250 men’s ice hockey tickets are reserved in prime seats for graduate and professional students.

Request and Recommendation

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<th>Current Funding</th>
<th>Request</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$7.82</td>
<td>$8.03</td>
<td>$7.64</td>
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Committee Analysis
Cornell Athletics requested $8.03 in order to account for inflation since the last byline cycle. This was also in acknowledgement of the previous cycle’s appropriations committee request that Athletics request increases in smaller increments. The committee believes in the services Athletics provides to the graduate student body, and our members did not find any objections to their request for more financial support on that basis. Additionally, when the committee expressed reservations that Athletics has never provided the committee with graduate student attendance data, they responded that they have new software that will allow them to accumulate and distribute the information the committee requested as early as the coming year, and certainly by next funding cycle. This will allow the committee to see how many reserved hockey tickets are purchased and used, the number of family members attending events with graduate/professional students, etc.

However, the committee also learned from their application that the amount requested was based on a graduate student projected population of 6,500 students. Budgetary information was not provided in-depth by this group due to the expansive network of activities this group takes on, but a breakdown of past GPSAF expenses was illustrated. Given that the population is actually slightly more than 7,300 graduate students, and based on the SAF illustration provided by Athletics the committee adjusted the fee in order to provide the group with the total dollar amount they requested while more accurately accounting for the cost per student.
Big Red Barn (BRB)
Primary Reviewer – Cassandra Stambuk
Secondary Reviewer – Mariko Alexander

Group Profile
The Big Red Barn Graduate and Professional Student Center (BRB) is the only centrally located gathering place for graduate and professional students at Cornell University. The Big Red Barn staff (comprised of an 11-month professional Manager, two graduate student Assistant Managers, 20-22 graduate student staff and five BRB Fellows) are tasked with providing programming aimed to increase social, cultural, and intellectual exchange among students. The weekly “Tell Grads It’s Friday” (TGIF) is an extremely well-attended event by the graduate and professional student population. Other events have included various dance parties, trivia night, special event nights, and family-orientated programming. The BRB serves as the hub for graduate student life on campus. In addition to TGIF events, which are historically very well-attended, the BRB hosts regular trivia nights, student mixers, coffee hours, write-ins, and other events specifically geared toward graduate and professional students. Other organizations around campus and those outside of the Cornell Community can send in a request to rent BRB at a cost.

Request and Recommendation

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10.42</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$11.44</td>
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Committee Analysis
The BRB has consistently surpassed obligations set forth by the Committee and demonstrates a clear commitment to serving the graduate and professional student community. The committee believes the BRB provides a tremendous value to the graduate/professional community.

Recently, many equipment updates have been taken up by BRB, including a new sound system, a new wood pellet stove, and a new kegerator. Additionally, with financial support from GPSA, the studio piano was rebuilt and new bike rack is going to be installed. The Graduate School has also granted financial support for three large ceiling fans to be installed. Looking ahead, the next area for improvement will be outdoor picnic tables co-owned by Cornell Dining.

The large increase in the requested amount is mostly due to increasing the hourly wage of workers gradually to $15 as mandated by New York state law. Consideration was also made to the retirement of the current director of the BRB in 2019, and the unexpected expenses that could arise during the transition of new leadership. Some questions were raised about the financial support provided by the Graduate School to this group, and how support is negotiated. The committee was pleased by the estimates provided by the BRB director for major renovation
projects financed by the Graduate School. The committee hopes professional schools may also contribute moving forward.

The original request was determined with a significantly smaller number of graduate and professional students than actually enrolled. During the public hearing the BRB’s director informed the committee of the lump sum needed by the BRB to accomplish its goals. The committee’s recommendation of $11.44 / student will supply the group with the requested lump sum.
Cornell University Emergency Medical Services (CUEMS)
Primary Reviewer – Cassandra Stambuk
Secondary Reviewer – Kriszta Pozsonyi

Group Profile
The Cornell University Emergency Medical Service (CUEMS) is a certified, student-run Emergency Medical Service (EMS). Its mission is to provide professional, efficient, and effective First Response Basic Life Support care to the entire Cornell community. The Cornell University Undergraduate Student Assembly and Graduate and Professional Student Assembly partially fund CUEMS. The squad provides emergency response to medical emergencies on Cornell University campus and surrounding university-owned properties. It also provides stand-by service for university events and provides CPR, First Aid and other training seminars to the Cornell community, as well as providing services completely free of charge to patients. For medical emergencies, CUEMS is dispatched via radio by the University Police Department.

Request and Recommendation

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<th>Current Funding</th>
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<tr>
<td>$1.80</td>
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Committee Analysis
CUEMS does important, life-saving work, which makes Cornell a better place to study, work, and live. The group accepts new members each semester to be trained weekly in life-saving techniques for shift work as EMTs or paramedics. The services provided by this group are available to all members of the Cornell community, and the graduate and professional community’s support through the SAF sustains this work.

The CUEMS administrators have been open and detailed with the committee about their building renovations, the level of staffing they require, and their training and readiness activities. The committee is impressed with the number of additional Cornell events CUEMS has been able to send at least one full service crew to without additional cost in addition to normal services. The committee is also impressed with CUEMS's push to expand their public outreach programs, such as first aid and bystander training, alcohol awareness events, and public health campaigns.
Cornell Cinema (CC)
Primary Reviewer – Kriszta Pozsonyi
Secondary Reviewer – Tyler McCann

Group Profile
Cornell Cinema offers educational and popular film programming for a diverse student audience on the Cornell campus. Cornell Cinema's primary mission is educational in scope, providing access both to a wide array of films not typically available to the Cornell and local communities—such as international, independent, classic, or documentary film—and to popular films in a more affordable way than other local venues. In addition to screenings, the Cinema organizes introductions by film scholars, panels with faculty and other experts from the field, and filmmakers to engage in post-screening discussions. Other popular special events include movies on the Willard Straight Terrace in the summer, student film showcases, children's film festival, and live musical events (e.g., accompanying silent films screening). The Cinema often partners with student groups or courses to cosponsor showings. Currently, the Cinema charges a $6 graduate student admission to a typical screening, but does offer occasional events at a lower rate and sells multi-event discount cards. Cornell Cinema has a Student Advisory Board that works with the staff to set the programmatic goals of the organization, plan events and coordinate outreach. There are several graduate and professional students involved on this board, including one appointed by the GPSA.

Request and Recommendation

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<thead>
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<th>Current Funding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10.54</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
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Committee Analysis
Cornell Cinema (CC) serves a diverse graduate and professional student population while promoting cultural awareness. In terms of CC's attendance data and budget, the requested GPSAF amount (and the requested sum's relation to the their whole budget) is in proportion to the ratio of their GPS attendees. It should also be noted that CC is currently undergoing a significant reduction in its funding from the Student Assembly SAF. Cornell Cinema has voiced a strong commitment during this funding process to developing a long-term strategy of decreasing its overall dependence on student activity fees (both from the SA and the GPSA); for the funding cycle 2018-2020, CC is requesting from the GPSA a slight increase in funding compared to their current/previous amount in order to decrease the impact of the SA's cut to their funding, and provide room to transition away from the SAF.

The committee applauds CC for fulfilling its obligations that the GPSA has posed in previous recommendations, resolutions, and other communications, including the implementation of a successful system for attendance tracking. In this sense, CC is currently one of our most well-prepared by-line organization when it comes to presenting data on attendance and GPS
involvement. Overall, CC turned in one of the most comprehensive sets of application materials and, throughout this period, in their public hearing, additional meetings with committee members, and follow-up emails, CC has maintained outstanding, informative, and transparent communication with the AC.

At the same time, many of our members see CC as an educational unit within Cornell and therefore believe that it should be funded at the institutional level by Cornell University for the function it serves to the campus community.

Therefore, the committee recommends, in addition to funding CC to the full amount requested ($11) that CC and the GPSA develop an agreed-upon system to ensure a sustainable decrease in SAF funding starting with the next (2020-2022) funding cycle, while also providing CC with our assembly’s endorsement and assistance of CC’s diversification of funding strategy.
Risk Management: Club Insurance
Primary Reviewer – Kriszta Pozsonyi
Secondary Reviewer – Jon Cicoski

Group Profile
All independent registered graduate and undergraduate student clubs are covered by the student club insurance policy, which is purchased via a nominal portion of the Student Activity fee. The program:
- protects club officers from lawsuits (and enables students to pursue leadership positions without worrying about personal liability as a result);
- enables clubs to use off-campus facilities;
- allows clubs a more liberal use of the Cornell name;
- allows clubs to avoid filing for their own insurance policies which would usually be not as strong;
- lowers the cost per student, and obviates insurance on a per-club basis;
- meets national league organization requirements for insurance coverage;
- provides host liquor legal liability coverage for graduate student events that follow guidelines for responsible use of alcohol.

The program is currently made of two insurance policies. The current program provides $1,000,000 of general liability coverage, $1,000,000 of catastrophic medical coverage and $3,000,000 catastrophic injury cash.

Request and Recommendation

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$5.50</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
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Committee Analysis
Club Insurance is essential to the functioning of most independent clubs on campus. Therefore, it would be unwise to eliminate funding for Club Insurance. This program allows all independent clubs on campus to run without having to purchase their own insurance plans and provides personal liability protection to the individual leaders of clubs. Due to the necessity of this service for independent clubs, the Committee recommends approving Club Insurance at the requested rate.
**Cornell Concert Commission (CCC)**
Primary Reviewer – Mariko Alexander
Secondary Reviewer – Matt Battaglia

**Group Profile**
The Cornell Concert Commission seeks to “provide the student body with popular and diverse musical entertainment”. To do so, the CCC selects and produces 3-5 large, on-campus performances each academic year. Past performers have included Modest Mouse, Janelle Monae, Bob Dylan, and a number of other popular and eminent artists. Graduate and professional students benefit from subsidized ticket prices and the ability to purchase tickets at least one day prior to the general public. To increase the number of students that benefit from their programming, the CCC aims to host one free concert per year, although historically this has not always been possible. Additionally, the CCC aims to dedicate 3-5% of its total operating budget to co-sponsoring musical events with other student organizations.

**Request and Recommendation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Funding</th>
<th>Request</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$5.76</td>
<td>$5.76</td>
<td>$5.76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Committee Analysis**
The CCC has a long history of providing high quality musical entertainment to the Cornell campus and Ithaca community. Performers often include acts which many students would not otherwise have the opportunity to see, both due to limited performances and ticket prices. CCC also makes an effort to host one free show per year, and supports student organizations by co-sponsoring events. Additionally, graduate and professional students need attend only one show every 1-2 years to recoup their fee in ticket price savings. It is the opinion of the Committee that graduate and professional students receive excellent value for their investment in the CCC.
Group Profile
The Cornell University Programming Board sponsors and organizes approximately six major shows per year, highlighting famous comedians, lecturers, and other non-musical acts. Past shows have included Humans of New York, Nick Offerman, and John Mulaney. Graduate and professional students have the opportunity to purchase tickets at least one day prior to the general public, and pay reduced ticket prices. Additionally, CUPB aims to dedicate approximately 5% of its budget toward co-sponsored events with other student organizations.

Request and Recommendation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Funding</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3.56</td>
<td>$4.05</td>
<td>$2.46</td>
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Committee Analysis
The CUPB offers graduate and professional students the ability to see high caliber talent that they may never have had the opportunity to see otherwise. CUPB has a strong history of quality programming and solid ticket sales. However, events are not well-advertised to the graduate and professional student community, resulting in low attendance. CUPB has also fallen short of its co-sponsorship goals recently. The data received by the Committee indicates that graduate and professional students have been sponsoring the CUPB at a rate significantly greater than our utilization of their programming. The funding recommendation reflects a closer alignment of graduate and professional student attendance with our subsidy.
Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Programming Board (GPSPB)
Primary Reviewer – Matt Battaglia
Secondary Reviewer – Elena Michel

Group Profile
The mission of the GPSPB is to improve the quality of social and wellness-oriented programming for graduate and professional students at Cornell University. Their events have included the annual Grad Ball, Grads’ Nights Out, mixers, speakers, and wellness-related.

Request and Recommendation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Funding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$2.22</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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Committee Analysis
The GPSPB is the only programming board on campus that directly targets the graduate and professional students for their events. It hosts both large well-attended events such as Grad Ball, but has also experimented with new kinds of events to draw in more students. Their internal programming is complemented by co-sponsorships with other groups on campus, such as “From Cell to Cell”, a conference about Prison, Performance, and Television, Graduate Diversity and Inclusion Renaissance Ball, and several social functions throughout the year.

The committee was informed by the President of this group of their persistent issues with communication with advisors and lacking permission to access financial data for previous years. This issue did not limit the committee’s ability to review general finances and other application materials, however the committee plans to follow-up in the coming semesters to ensure the problem of accessing financial data is resolved.

The members of the committee view the tentative plans for this group in the coming year positively, specifically plans to branch out to the professional schools. During the group’s public hearing the need for contacts with Law and Business school students was shared and addressed by one of our own members. According to the President, several groups have already approached GPSPB for co-sponsorship.

While the committee feels that the group has a clear direction, and foundation to build on, our members were not convinced of the need for increased funding. The one major use of a funding increase would be to spend more on Grad Ball while remaining under the 50% total budget obligation set by the GPSA, which could allow more attendees to participate. It is the opinion of the committee to support the direction of the group, ensure they have access to financial information, and consider funding increases for the following cycle.
Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA)
Primary Reviewer – Tyler McCann
Secondary Reviewer – Elena Michel

Group Profile
The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly represents all graduate and professional students on Cornell University's Ithaca, New York and Geneva campuses through the shared governance system. This body aims to advocate for the graduate and professional student community, by offering policy recommendations to and requesting audiences with Cornell University administration. The GPSA also maintains the power to set and collect a Student Activity Fee to be distributed among organizations that enrich the graduate and professional student community at Cornell University.

Request and Recommendation

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$4.50</td>
<td>$4.90</td>
<td>$4.90</td>
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Committee Analysis
Beginning in spring 2017 the GPSA transferred its first year of support ($20,000) to Anabel's Grocery, the student-run grocery store on Ithaca's campus. This relationship was determined by a previous GPSA membership to entail up to $80,000 in funds over four years, distributed evenly between the organization’s subsidy fund and capital depreciation, and subject to reevaluation every fall semester. In the current funding cycle, $2.50 / student was collected through the GPSA, and any remainder would be pulled from rollover funds. Due to depletion of the rollover funds in the past academic year, the GPSA will need to increase the amount ($2.71 / student) it collects to fulfill the remaining years’ contributions to Anabel's Grocery.

Internally the GPSA is seeking to increase its funding to various committees to allow greater capacity to fulfill its mission. Particular among these capacities include Diversity and International Student Committee, and Communications. To continue the current level of funding to each of the GPSA’s committees into the future, the GPSA portion of its SAF will need to increase by $0.19.
International Student Union (ISU)
Primary Reviewer – Jack Satterlee
Secondary Reviewer – Elena Michel

Group Profile
The International Students Union (ISU) promotes cultural exchange and dialogue by hosting and funding international events. This is done through co-sponsorship of events and activities organized by student organizations within the Cornell community as well as ISU hosted and organized events. Recently, ISU has also taken on the role of advocate for Cornell international students in matters pertaining to the Cornell administration and student life. This includes peer mentorship programs for international students and the peer-to-peer storage service Ezra’s Box.

Request and Recommendation

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1.62</td>
<td>$1.98</td>
<td>$1.46</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Committee Analysis
The committee believes that ISU plays an important role in facilitating international exchange and awareness at Cornell, particularly for undergraduate students. Several members of the executive team participated and answered questions at the public hearing, and the group voiced interest in expanding graduate and professional student input, including the goal for future membership to be made up of 50% undergraduates and 50% graduate and professional students (GPS).

The committee’s concerns lie with the belief that ISU has not adequately targeted its funding or membership towards GPS:
- In our conversations with ISU it came to our attention that there is currently only one GPS member of ISU and there are no GPS serving on the ISU executive or planning boards.
- The contributions of the GPSAF are being used to subsidize primarily undergraduate student events. This is especially the case for events co-sponsored by ISU. In several conversations it became apparent that many GPS organizations were unaware that they could seek co-sponsorship and funding from ISU.
- The funding role of ISU far outweighs its role as an advocate for GPS in spite of past requests by previous appropriations committees to limit the funding function.
- The group had no attendance or feedback data to illustrate the events hosted and actions taken on by the group were valued by GPS.

From this position, the committee recommends a 10% reduction in the ISU allocation for the 2018-2020 funding cycle. The committee believes this amount will support the work ISU does
while also addressing our concerns about the use of GPSA funds allocated to ISU as they contribute specifically to the enrichment of the GPS community.

The committee acknowledges the challenge of developing GPS connections that can increase their participation in student groups, and hope to provide a conduit to achieve this. In the future we aim to encourage ISU to more strongly target their international student advocacy, event sponsorship, and membership towards the GPS community.
Orientation - Graduate School
Primary Reviewer – Tyler McCann
Secondary Reviewer – Kriszta Pozsonyi

Group Profile
The Graduate School holds an orientation for all incoming graduate students during the fall and spring semesters. These events are developed, augmented, and shaped by graduate student feedback and input to the Steering Committee in the form of a survey and small group discussions with incoming students. Historically the GPSA has played some role in the program’s events.

Request and Recommendation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1.00</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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</table>

Committee Analysis
The committee applauds the quality of orientation events, and emphasis on orientation as a continuous process rather than a single event to build an inclusive campus.

To the best of its knowledge the Steering Committee for orientation, the GPSA began funding Orientation as a by-line organization at least as early as 2007. From 2013-2015 breakfast was provided to students to meet with current members of the GPSA. In 2016 the venue was changed and breakfast was replaced with the GPSA being incorporated as part of the formal program.

The committee decided to recommend no funding for the following by-line cycle for the following reasons:

- Orientation events are mandatory, in practice, for all educational institutions. It is unheard of by the Steering Committee or Appropriations Committee members for graduate and professional students to subsidize their own orientation events at our sister institutions. The committee believes this is the institution’s responsibility.
- In 2016 the Graduate School delegated responsibilities for professional student orientation events to the professional schools. As a result the professional students were subsidizing an event intended exclusively for graduate students.
- It was suggested by the group that it was not financially stressed, and any decrease in funding could be made up from within the Graduate School.
- The committee was told that a reduction in funding would not harm the relationship between GPSA and the Graduate School.
- The organization explicitly asked for more feedback from students, and indicated this was highly valued by the Steering Committee.
### Summary

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<td>International Students Union</td>
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<td>Orientation – Graduate School</td>
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* Includes funding to the grocery store in Anabel Taylor Hall

**Amounts reported are per student per year
### Past GPSAF data

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<td>Athletics</td>
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<td>Cornell Concert Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Student Board*</td>
<td>$1.51</td>
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<td>Orientation- Graduate School</td>
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<td>Risk Management: Club Insurance</td>
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