

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

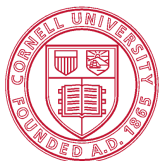
**Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly**

Minutes of the November 6th, 2017 Meeting

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

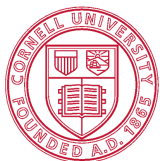
Klarman Auditorium, Klarman Hall

- I. Call to Order
  - a. E. Winarto called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.
  - b. *Members Present:* R. Adityavarman, K. Angierski, R. Boylan, C. Cannarozzo, A. Gagnon, J. Goldberg, R. Harrison, J. Hernandez, S. Hesse, M. Jodlowski, A. Loiben, T. McCann, E. Michel, D. Moon, A. Schofield, C. Stambuk, W. Zhang.
  - c. *Members Absent:* C. Little.
- II. Approval of the Minutes
  - a. T. McCann motioned to **amend** section V.d to say “11/10” not “11/3”, there was no dissent.
  - b. M. Battaglia motioned to **amend** section III.g to say “what can we do for helping professional schools increase accessibility?” There was no dissent.
  - c. The minutes were **approved** with unanimous consent.
- III. Presentations
  - a. Christina Kim, Office of the Complainants’ Advisors, then made her presentation.
    - i. The office is staffed by law students hired by the university, and provides procedural advocacy (details what disciplinary measures are available).
    - ii. The office does not have a duty to report if informed of an incident.
    - iii. Since August 2017, 18 people have used the office, and 10 have made formal complaints.
    - iv. Email: [complaintadvice@cornell.edu](mailto:complaintadvice@cornell.edu)
    - v. M. Battaglia: do you have adequate resources and is there anything we could do to help in that area?
    - vi. They will have an office at the Law school once construction finishes, and they think there are enough advisors right now. As more people know about this and utilize the service they may need more advisors.
    - vii. M. Munasinghe: are the five members of your office paid or on credit?
    - viii. Paid by the university on an hourly rate.



## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

- ix. A. Loiben: do you think the process is working?
- x. We think the Cornell Title IX office is doing a pretty good job. The biggest problem now is how long investigations take.
- xi. M. Munasinghe: is there a way for Geneva and Cornell Tech to get in touch with you?
- xii. They have been contacted by someone at Weill. It gets a little complicated because Weill is under a different policy, but they skype and call. They haven't reached out to satellite campuses a lot.
- b. T. Bollu, GPSAFC Chair, then made his presentation.
  - i. The GPSA Finance Commission is a standing committee charged with the allocation of funds to graduate and professional student organizations. It currently allocates money to 302 groups.
  - ii. FC is staffed by graduate and professional students. FC receives at least 35% of the student activity fee (currently around \$29.40/student) and meets once a month (9 regular meetings).
  - iii. On average, FC has been reviewing around 120 budgets a month (400 so far this semester).
  - iv. Contact T. Bollu tb387 (until December) with questions.
  - v. N. Rogers: there's the allocation process and the reimbursement process, can you talk about that?
  - vi. T. Bollu: GPSAFC is primarily responsible for allocating. GPSAFC does not have authority on the reimbursement side, there is a form to fill out for reimbursements.
  - vii. A. Loiben: are the other commissioners on January to January terms?
  - viii. T. Bollu: no, they are on academic year terms. The chair is the only commissioner during the summer.
  - ix. M. Battaglia: that seems like a lot of work to put on the chair.
  - x. T. Bollu: we only get around 20 summer budgets, so it's not a lot.
  - xi. M. Battaglia: have you considered mirroring how the Law school does reimbursements? Maybe direct ordering food?
  - xii. T. Bollu you can go to Mary (office of Dean of Students) and get direct orders for food.

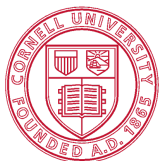


## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

- xiii. R. Boylan: how often are GPSAFC guidelines reviewed? And have you considering sending out a survey about how the allocation process is going for people?
  - xiv. T. Bollu: FC guidelines are infrequently reviewed, but there were new ones from last year. Since the new guidelines we have not had an official survey. Most of FC's problems come from people not using the current guidelines. Organizations have to be registered with the student activities center.
  - xv. R. Boylan wanted to raise the idea of getting feedback.
  - xvi. A. Schofield: what is the way to appeal a budget?
  - xvii. T. Bollu: a commissioner will leave a comment on the budget if there is a problem, and then it will move into the next review (next meeting).
  - xviii. A. Poon: is there anything you've done to advertize the guidelines?
  - xix. T. Bollu: I do take responsibility for the fact that we have not advertised a lot. In a typically semester we used to get around 120 budgets, but this semester there have been 400.
  - xx. A. Poon: to what degree does GPSA or GPSAFC have reimbursement control?
  - xxi. T. Bollu: do we reimburse someone who did not follow guidelines? That comes back to the committee. The process (i.e. paper) is handled by the university.
- c. A motion was made to remove Divison Breakouts from the agenda, there was no dissent.

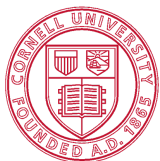
### IV. Committee Updates

- a. Executive: E. Winarto went to NAGPS.
- b. Operations: there will be another meeting in the near future.
- c. Communications: nothing to report.
- d. Appropriations: meeting at 3:30 pm on Friday.
- e. Finance: nothing to report.
- f. Student Advocacy: meeting about holding an international food festival.
- g. DISC: nothing to report.
- h. Programming: nothing to report.
- i. Faculty Awards: nothing to report.



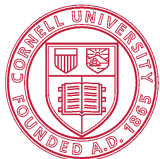
## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

- j. General Committee: nothing to report.
  - k. Consensual Relationship Task Force: nothing to report.
  - l. Graduate School: the new tax proposal should not affect you; there will be a new announcement in Graduate School announcements about it. Jan will talk through what the graduate grievance review board is. Email [jan.allen@cornell.edu](mailto:jan.allen@cornell.edu) with questions.
- V. Open Forum
- VI. Old Business
- a. Preliminary vote on SAF recommendations.
    - i. Orientation - Graduate School: \$0/student.
      - 1. T. Bollu: does this mean they will not be in the byline funding cycle at all?
      - 2. T. McCann: just for 2018-2020.
      - 3. A. Loiben: why?
      - 4. T. McCann: at no other institutions are graduate students paying for their orientation events. The organizers seemed to be able to get the money from the Graduate School. They really want ideas from students. Additionally, in 2016 the Graduate School delegated planning for orientation for professional students to the professional schools.
      - 5. A motion was made to call the question, there was no dissent. The recommendation **passed** 15-0-3.
    - ii. GPSAPB: \$2.22/student.
      - 1. A motion was made to call the question, there was no dissent. The recommendation **passed** 16-0-2.
    - iii. International Students Union: \$1.46/student.
      - 1. M. Munasinghe: did you get feedback on the impact of this decrease?
      - 2. They just asked why they got a decrease. They didn't respond to T. McCann's question that asked if they wanted to come talk with us.
      - 3. A. Loiben: are they trying to reach out to graduate/professional students?



## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

4. T. McCann: they've had a really hard time historically getting to graduate/professional students.
  5. M. Munasinghe: there are organizations that go to ISU for funding would this affect them?
  6. M. Battaglia: there was concern that this would spill into funding undergraduate stuff. There needs to be some form of accountability.
  7. T. Bollu: how do we feel about ISU co-hosting and not just hosting events?
  8. T. McCann: we previously asked ISU to emphasize advocacy over funding, but this request was not honored.
  9. A motion was made to call the question, there was no dissent. The recommendation **passed** 13-0-5.
- iv. Cornell Cinema: \$11/student.
1. A. Loiben: if SA votes to defund, and the administration doesn't fund them, does the Cinema stop existing?
  2. T. McCann: the money won't go to a ghost organization.
  3. M. Fessenden (director of Cornell Cinema): if SA cuts their funding we hope the administration will do something. The goal is to be switched over completely from undergraduate and graduate activity fee funding eventually. The program would change if the SA cut isn't made up by the administration.
  4. M. Battaglia: our plan is to fund them fully this cycle, and then lower it cyclically in a sustainable way forward which gives them time to transition.
  5. A motion was made to call the question, there was no dissent. The recommendation **passed** 15-0-3.
- v. At the November 13th meeting of the GPSA the SAF resolution will be presented and voted on (approval requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of all seated members).
- vi. M. Munasinghe: if you're a voting member and you can't be there you have to tell her now.



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- vii. J. Goldberg: we should make another resolution to recommend the administration fund Cornell Cinema.
- viii. M. Munasinghe: as a reminder the Scheinman Institute is having open forums about nominations to the Task Force (the graduate/professional student one is Wednesday, November 8th)
- ix. A. Schofield: there is a form in your email too.
- x. T. McCann: if you are interested in the byline organizations we fund, and want to be a liaison, come talk to him or A. Loiben.
- xi. D. Barbaria offered to talk about the SA vote on Cornell Cinema.
- xii. A motion was made to adjourn, there was no dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew Ferraro  
Clerk of the Assembly