

Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Minutes of the November 13th, 2017 Meeting

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

I. Call to Order

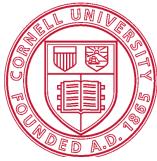
- a. E. Winarto called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
- b. *Members Present:* R. Adityavarman, K. Angierski, R. Boylan, C. Cannarozzo, A. Gagnon, J. Goldberg, J. Hernandez, S. Hesse, M. Jodlowski, C. Little, A. Loiben, T. McCann, E. Michel, A. Schofield, C. Stambuk, W. Zhang.
- c. *Members Absent:* R. Harrison, D. Moon.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- a. T. McCann motion to amend section VI.iii.8 to say “we previously asked ISU to emphasize advocacy over funding, but this request was not honored”. The amendment passed by unanimous consent.
- b. A motion was made to call the question, there was no dissent. The minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

III. Presentations

- a. G. Nichols, from Broadening Experience in Science and Technology (BEST), then made his presentation.
- b. BEST is a nationwide, NIH funded initiative to increase training towards alternative career paths for PhD students.
- c. The Cornell BEST program specializes in five areas: communication; mentoring; science policy; government & risk compliance; and industry, entrepreneurship & management.
- d. Signing up is really easy. Their motto is “we facilitate flexible experiences.”
 - i. For contact: www.best.cornell.edu or email G. Nichols: grn38
- e. M. Munasinghe: what are the main challenges that exist for this?
- f. G. Nichols: mainly people don’t know BEST exists. A lot of people also feel like they don’t have time to explore this.
- g. N. Rogers asked a question about advisors.



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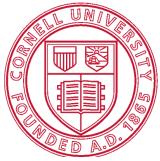
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- h. G. Nichols: when you sign up to be a BESTie you take a survey and we connect you with someone in similar areas.
- i. A. Loiben: are there ways to be involved if you're not in a STEM field but find this interesting?
- j. G. Nichols: our public events are open to anyone, but the externships are limited.
- k. A. Poon: it seems like most of your services are most valuable to people who are about to graduate. Are there any services for people who have left campus?
- l. G. Nichols: BEST mostly does things for people here, but those who have left campus can email us and use our reference list.
- m. M. Munasinghe: do you put on programs at Geneva and/or Cornell Tech?
- n. G. Nichols: he'll get back to you on that.
- o. C. Rose: have you thought about broadening it to people in the humanities?
- p. G. Nichols: unfortunately the funding comes from NIH, so not really.

IV. Division Breakouts

V. Committee Updates

- a. Executive: follow the GPSA on facebook. Exec is co-hosting a call-a-thon to Congress on Wednesday about the GOP tax plan.
- b. Operations: within the next two weeks we will be holding the initial meetings for Student Legal Services and the GPCI. At those two meetings we will be trying to find a chair for each. We'll be emailing out to everyone about those committees.
- c. Communications: nothing to report.
- d. Appropriations: nothing to report.
- e. Finance: nothing to report.
- f. Student Advocacy:
 - i. Election of New Chair
 - 1. T. McCann nominated Breanne Kisselstein.
 - 2. D. Brown nominated Nicholas Carre.
 - 3. B. Kisselstein was elected co-chair of SAC by unanimous consent.
 - 4. N. Carre was elected co-chair of SAC by unanimous consent.
- g. Diversity and International Students: DISC is slowing down a bit towards the end of the semester. There will be one more community lunch, probably during the last week of classes. They have been discussing having inclusivity training for members



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of the GPSA. That would likely happen towards the beginning of next semester.
Email E. Law (epl49) with questions.

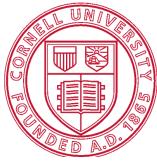
- h. Programming: a survey will be sent out about Grad Ball. If you have any fun ideas you can email C. Cannarozzo at cjc365.
- i. Faculty Awards: nothing to report.
- j. General Committee: nothing to report.
- k. Consensual Relationship Task Force: they are aiming to have a policy on the President's desk by the end of the academic year. They have a website and are asking for input. If you are curious about meetings, you can attend the next ones.
- l. Graduate School: at the last General Committee meeting the group unanimously passed a new description of the role of the Director of Graduate Studies.

VI. Open Forum

- a. A. Gagnon: nominations are open for the Campus Climate Task Force. If you are interested in being a part of that remember that peer nominations close on Wednesday (11/15) at midnight, and self nominations close on Friday (11/17) at midnight.
- b. E. Law was curious if the GPSA wanted to nominate anyone.
- c. M. Munasinghe: if OISE has a slate of nominees, we would be open to putting that in a resolution. If we are to nominate someone as the GPSA, M. Munasinghe is of the personal opinion that we should nominate one per sub committee.
- d. E. Law: OISE has put out a list of 7 nominees, and E. Law and B. Kisselstein are on that list (connection to GPSA).
- e. M. Battaglia: there was an email sent out about the CJC's hate speech working group. The working group is examining if and how the code should be changed to address hate speech. The working group will work parallel to and with the Presidential Task Force. They are looking for a member from this Assembly, but also there will be open community involvement. If you have anyone who is interested in serving on the working group please email mab622.

VII. New Business

- a. Resolution 8**
- b. T. McCann: the whereas clause reiterates what the charter demands of the SAF. The resolved clause has the initial recommendations we voted on.



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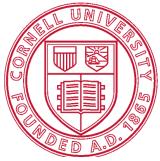
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- c. However, the recommendation attachment has some different numbers than the ones in the Resolution
- d. T. McCann motioned to **amend** Athletics and PE to change the amount to “\$7.72”, the BRB to “\$11.58”, CUPB to “\$2.50”, and GPSAFC to “\$29.56”.
 - i. These numbers represent the actual headcount of graduate and professional students. The student activity fee will still be \$84 per student.
 - ii. A motion was made to **call the question**, there was no dissent. The amendment **passed** 15-0-3.
- e. A. Loiben motioned to **call the question** on the Resolution, there was no dissent. The Resolution **passed** 16-0-2.

VIII. Old Business

a. **Resolution 6**

- i. This resolution was born out of the Campus Welfare Committee from the University Assembly. At the last UA meeting it was recommitted back to the CWC. Within the CWC they still want to pass this resolution (as currently constituted) through the constituent assemblies.
 - ii. E. Michel motioned to **amend** (took it as friendly) line 22 on the first page to rearrange it to read “**climate** solutions and **sustainability**”.
 - iii. M. Battaglia: do you want to vote on this today or next meeting?
 - iv. E. Michel: original writer indicated that she would love it passed as it is today.
 - v. A. Poon made a friendly **amendment** to line 25 to capitalize “Tech”.
 - vi. A motion was made to **call the question**, there was no dissent. The Resolution **passed** 16-0-2.
- b. M. Munasinghe: we’re going to do a straw poll of all seven OISE nominees to the presidential task force. If anyone would like to nominate someone from the GPSA at this time they can do that as well.
 - c. Seven OISE candidates:
 - i. Jenna Kyle
 - ii. Stephen Kim
 - iii. Breanne Kisselstein
 - iv. Eugene Law



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- v. Neethu Putta
- vi. Karen Smeda
- vii. Andreina Thielen Martin
- d. The straw poll (of nominees as a group) was overwhelmingly in favor of the nominees.
- e. J. Goldberg motioned to put on the agenda for next meeting an election for a GPSA delegate to the CJC ad-hoc working group on hate speech.
 - i. M. Munasinghe: that might be too late for the working group
 - ii. N. Stetson: the time frame is a little up in the air. He thinks two weeks from today would still be timely.
 - iii. M. Battaglia: each constituent assembly is allowed to staff their seat on the working group in whatever way they want. Sooner is generally better than later, but the assembly can choose.
 - iv. E. Winarto: we have received one nomination: Aaron El Sabrout.
 - v. J. Goldberg revised his motion to have the election right now.
 - 1. M. Jodlowski motioned to call the question on the motion, there was no dissent. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
 - vi. Aaron El Sabrout from BLSA was nominated and unanimously confirmed by a voice vote.
- f. A motion was made to adjourn, there was no dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Ferraro
Clerk of the Assembly