

Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

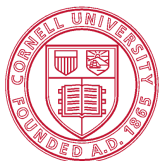
Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Minutes of the April 17, 2017 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

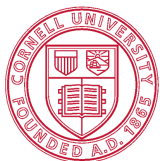
Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
 - a. N. Rogers called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
 - b. *Members Present:* T. Bollu, R. Boylan, C. Franklin, J. Goldberg, J. Hernandez, S. Hesse, M. Jodlowski, A. Loiben, J. Maynard, E. Michel, M. Milano, M. Munasinghe, L. Munguia, I. Smythe, T. Snider, A. Waymack, E. Winarto.
 - c. *Members Absent:* E. Case.
 - d. *Also Present:* C. Thrasher Carroll, J. Lamey, and J. Resecto.
- II. Approval of the Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2017.
 - a. A motion was made to approve the minutes, there was no dissent, the minutes were approved.
- III. Presentations
 - a. Caroline Thrasher-Carroll and Janna Lamey then made their presentation on the graduate and professional student mental health committee.
 - i. The committee has gotten together monthly for a year. They have several projects for next year including implementing 1) a support group model, 2) a caring community program (peer to peer mentoring program), 3) a resilience fair (to showcase research behind resilience and self care), 4) a Cornell Tech program working on peer mentors and distress activities, and 5) Thriving at Cornell. The committee is an outcome of the last GPCI document
 - ii. Thriving at Cornell will take place in June. If interested contact either C. Thrasher-Carroll at ct265@cornell.edu or Janna Lamey at jsl62@cornell.edu.
 - b. Jeffrey Resecto on the Maplewood development.
 - i. A motion was made to postpone J. Resecto's presentation for a couple of minutes, there was no dissent.
 - ii. A motion was made to reseat S. Hesse, there was no dissent.
 - iii. A motion was made to vote R. Walroth as chair of the Elections Committee, there was no dissent, and R. Walroth was approved as chair.



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1. At this meeting voting members and division chiefs were elected.
- iv. J. Resecto then began his presentation on the new Maplewood development. There will be 872 new beds in studio, one, two, three and four bedroom apartments/townhouses. A total of 442 units. Leasing starts this fall, and occupancy begins in 2018.
- v. T. Bollu asked who is managing the site and when will there be occupancy.
- vi. EdR is the developer and manager, and phased occupancy will begin July 2018.
- vii. R. Walroth stated incoming students aren't accepted until the spring but Maplewood is leasing in the fall.
- viii. J. Resecto: coordinating closely with Cornell's housing services, between September and late April only leasing to graduate students. Everybody else will be on a waitlist until then.
- ix. A. Natarajan asked about safety of graduate students on site, and he understands that CUPD will not have jurisdiction.
- x. J. Resecto: there is a state statute which prohibits CUPD from policing the site. Services will be provided by the county. There will be a management team on site, on call. Cameras on site as well. Every building entrance has card access.
- xi. A. Natarajan stated there is a Cornell property across Maple Ave., and continued that the developers should contribute funding to a blue light on that Cornell site.
- xii. J. Resecto: they'll make that happen.
- xiii. A. Natarajan noted the old Maplewood had 4 graduate monitors, and asked will that still be available.
- xiv. J. Resecto: around 16 spaces will be available.
- xv. A. Gagnon stated a 4 bed townhouse is \$914 a month, and asked does that include utilities.
- xvi. J. Resecto: \$914 per person. Rent will include all electricity, water, wifi, trash. Parking is separate at around \$40 a month. No gas will be used at Maplewood, everything will be electric. Each unit has its own washer/dryer, dishwasher, full size refrigerator, and garbage disposal.



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- xvii. It was asked if Maplewood will be pet friendly. The answer was yes.
- xviii. J. Resecto stated there will be two rent terms: a 12 month and a 10 month. Subletting will probably be allowed.
- xix. T. Bollu stated he is very happy about how graduate students were listened to during this whole process.

IV. Breakout Session by Division

- a. Voting member and division chief elections were held during the breakout session. The voting members for next year are as follows (minus professional schools):
 - i. Arts & Humanities: K. Angierski, R. Harrison, and J. Goldberg.
 - ii. Physical Sciences: X. Schofeld, A. Loiben, S. Hesse, and A. Gagnon.
 - iii. Social Sciences: E. Winarto, C. Little, M. Jodlowski, and D. Moon.
 - iv. Life Sciences: T. McCann, E. Michel, and C. Stambuk.

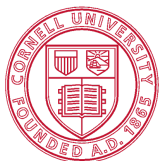
V. Old Business

a. Resolution 13

- i. An updated version of the resolution was included in the meeting packet. It matched what the UA passed. H. Rawlings is charging a working group to address these issues. The working group will report back to President Pollack by March 1st 2018.
- ii. A. Loiben motioned to make the amendments that are in the meeting packet.
 - 1. A motion was made to call the question on the amendment, no dissent.
 - 2. Amendment approved 17-0-1.
- iii. A motion was made to call the question on the resolution, no dissent.
- iv. Resolution 13 was approved 17-0-1.

b. Resolution 14

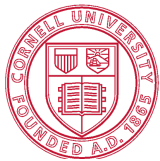
- i. A. Waymack: SAC met to talk about the resolution again and had a fair amount of division within the committee. Possible options for getting broader graduate/professional student input on this include having town halls, having a survey, or having a referendum. SAC did agree to have the creation of a working group to write our own policy which we would then have the Faculty Senate approve. The disagreement in the committee hinges



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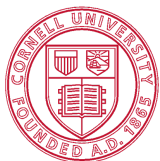
on whether we need the mandate of the whole student body or not because it applies to a small group of students.

- ii. A motion was made to recommit indefinitely the resolution to the SAC.
 - 1. N. Stetson: we need to decide if this is a policy issue or a rights issue.
 - 2. T. Snider asked what will working group do.
 - 3. The working group would write a policy and send it to the Faculty Senate after sounding out graduate/professional student body in some way.
 - 4. M. Munasinghe: if SAC disagreed I'm sure larger student body disagrees.
 - 5. R. Walroth: working group makes sense because language in resolution isn't threshed out enough for Faculty Senate.
 - 6. A. Natarajan: instead of working group taking it to faculty senate, maybe we should include members of the Faculty Senate in the working group.
 - 7. A. Loiben: the underlying disagreement in SAC was over which way is the best way to get this policy enacted.
 - 8. A. Waymack: in 2015 the Faculty Senate tried to make their own changes. They voted down 3 of the 4 changes and never did anything with the fourth. We passed our resolution in 2016. Instead of presenting our resolution to the Faculty Senate, there was supposed to have been a group working with graduate students and faculty. That group has not met.
 - 9. A. Waymack: two issues, first is rights vs. policy. The second is ethical, some students are doing this willingly. That is where we could decide as a body. Because of history where there were no meetings, A. Waymack has no faith that a joint working group will do anything.
 - 10. N. Stetson acknowledged the professional ethics component as well.
 - 11. I. Pendleton: Faculty Senate needs to be forced to confront this. He doesn't see why we're killing this to have a working group.
 - 12. M. Munasinghe: drafting of a full policy would help end ambiguities.



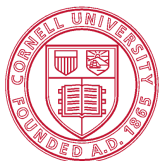
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13. C. Franklin: this is a rights issue. GPSA needs to protect student rights.
14. R. Walroth: doesn't see this resolution as fundamentally different from the 2016 one. He stated that when resolutions are sent to another assembly, they go through the chair of that assembly. We have a new Dean of Faculty now, but we still can't compel the Faculty Senate to have this resolution on their agenda.
15. I. Smythe: some of us have talked to the new Dean of Faculty, he seems very interested in this. I. Smythe thinks the Faculty Senate would have more incentive to act if graduate/professional students made their voice heard as a whole.
16. L. Munguia: rights and policy are not mutually exclusive. Getting feedback from graduate community would be good. If we have a concrete vision of what graduate students want, that would bolster our stance.
17. A. Natarajan: we could send out a survey after the working group comes up with something.
18. A. Waymack: thinks R. Walroth had mischaracterized how the previous resolution was presented to the Faculty Senate. A. Waymack stated there's not a norm for if the chair of an assembly can reject it or not.
19. N. Rogers: it was misrepresented to faculty about how much student support there was for these 4 changes the Faculty Senate tried to make in 2015. These were like pre-policy change paragraphs. The broader Faculty Senate didn't understand why they were looking at it. Wanted to set up a group with a lot of people represented.
20. A motion was made to extend the meeting by 15 minutes, no dissent.
21. T. Snider: this might spur debate, show Faculty Senate their work on this was insufficient.



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22. J. Goldberg: we are discussing a motion to recommit. He's comfortable with passing this and then also doing the working group. The risk of going to the student body is if the result is close.
23. R. Walroth: we could also discuss this at the UA. He motioned to close the speaker's list and call the question at the end of the current speaker's list on recommitting the resolution indefinitely, there was no dissent.
24. T. Bollu agreed with J. Goldberg and T. Snider. Need more momentum this time around and we should not be deterred.
25. A. Natarajan: this creates a person to check in on student.
26. N. Stetson: this is asking faculty to govern their relationships with students. We can't force the Faculty Senate to do anything. This might be the only way out. There is nothing preventing us from taking multiple approaches.
27. A. Waymack: we are now enforcing that this must be reported. She stated that she doesn't want to recommit this indefinitely. We should devote more time to this issue.
28. A motion was made to extend the meeting until 7:30pm, no dissent.
29. The question was called and the motion to recommit the resolution indefinitely **failed** 0-8-10.
- iii. A. Waymack motioned to **amend** by striking lines 201-204.
 1. It came up last meeting where graduate students could potentially grade other graduate students they are having relationships with, which is the reasoning behind this amendment.
 2. A. Natarajan asked shouldn't we take the moral high ground and hold ourselves to the same standard.
 3. M. Munasinghe agreed with A. Natarajan. When graduates are in positions of power they shouldn't sleep with their students.
 4. N. Stetson: we should be binding ourselves when we are in the superior position.



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5. C. Franklin: agrees that we should leave the lines in. It should just say students we're grading (so if other graduate students are grading, assignments can be passed off to another TA).
6. C. Franklin motioned to **amend** the amendment by keeping lines 201-204, and adding "when in a position of power" at the end of line 203.
 - a. A. Natarajan **motioned to** amend the amendment to the amendment by clarifying the positions of power.
 - i. A. Waymack took a straw poll of voting members:
 1. Who wants to strike 201-204: 0 for.
 2. Who wants to make it clearer that this is about when graduate students are in power: 5 for.
 - ii. A motion was made to close the speaker's list and call the question on A. Natarajan's amendment.
 - iii. The amendment **failed** 0-10-8.
 - b. A motion was made to close the speaker's list and **withdraw** C. Franklin's amendment, there was no dissent.
7. A motion was made to close the speaker's list and **withdraw** A. Waymack's amendment, there was no dissent.
- iv. A motion was made to **recommit** the resolution to the SAC until the next GPSA meeting.
 1. A. Waymack objected.
 2. A motion was made to extend the meeting until 7:40pm, there was no dissent.
 3. M. Munasinghe suggested a doodle poll be made to send to the assembly.
 4. M. Jodlowski: doesn't want to vote on the resolution now. She supports the spirit of the resolution, but wants to fix specific language before voting to approve it.
 5. C. Franklin motioned to straw poll for if the GPSA were voting on the actual resolution:



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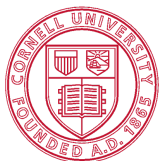
- a. The results of the straw poll were 5-7-6.
- 6. A motion was made to call the question on recommitting the resolution, no dissent.
- 7. The motion to recommit Resolution 14 to the SAC until the next GPSA meeting was **approved** 12-0-6.

c. Resolution 15

- i. T. McCann: the only thing that is different in this version is that the BRB fundraising numbers changed a little bit.
- ii. T. McCann made a motion to do a straw poll.
 - 1. Who wants to fund piano and bike rack: 10-0-8
 - 2. Who wants to fund just bike rack: 3 for.
 - 3. Who wants to fund nothing: 0 for.
- iii. A motion was made to extend the meeting until 7:50 PM, no dissent.
- iv. A motion was made to **amend** by striking lines 51-52.
 - 1. A motion was made to call the question on the amendment, there was no dissent.
 - 2. The amendment was **approved** 13-0-5.
- v. A motion was made to remove the word “free” before “bike sharing initiative”.
 - 1. A motion was made to call the question, no dissent.
 - 2. The amendment was **approved** 12-0-6.
- vi. A motion was made to call the question, no dissent.
- vii. Resolution 15 was **approved** 13-0-5.

VI. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates

- a. Executive: the Executive Committee is also the Elections Committee, however R. Walroth is chair of Elections. If you are a retiring voting member you can be on the Elections Committee as well.
- b. Operations: had a meeting today, there will be a bunch of changes to the charter and bylaws in the future. If interested on being in Student Legal Services committee email S. Hesse at sah354@cornell.edu.
- c. Appropriations: still needs more members.
- d. Communications: no updates.



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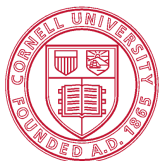
- e. Finance: annual budgets are now due May 1st. Be on look out for tier allocations.
- f. Student Advocacy: Dine and Discuss is this Wednesday (4/19), they will be discussing finances. Final meeting is on April 27th, 6:30 PM, in Weill 121.
- g. Diversity and International Students: email an393@cornell.edu if you want to get involved on DISC.
- h. Programming: graduate mixer this thursday (4/20) in the BRB. Please tell your constituencies. Ticketing for Grad Ball is now live. If you have a financial need talk to A. Molitoris or J. Allen.
- i. Faculty Awards: this is the last week to nominate for faculty awards. Email cgf44@cornell.edu. Springfest is this Thursday (4/20) on Ho Plaza.
- j. General Committee: read the code of legislation and tell A. Waymack and A. Natarajan how you feel about it. Please consider joining a focus group on progress reports for graduate students.
- k. Graduate School: send questions to ask a dean.
- l. A motion was made to extend the meeting by five minutes, no dissent.

VII. Open Forum

- a. M. McBride has been charged by the judicial administrator because he leaked a document. There will be a hearing Wed. (4/19), in 163 Day Hall. Come show your support.
- b. A. Loiben: the document that was released was talking about the university considering financial need in admissions for international students.
- c. This week is Sexual Assault Awareness Week. There will be a graduate and professional student event (Bystander Intervention) Thursday (4/20), noon-1:30, in 401 Physical Sciences.
- d. T. Bollu: the opening date of Anabel's Grocery is May 7th.
- e. M. Munasinghe asked if there is an rsvp form for the Bystander Intervention event, the answer was no an rsvp is not needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Ferraro



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Clerk of the Assembly