



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

**Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly**

Minutes of the September 10th, 2018 Meeting

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
  - a. E. Winarto called the meeting to order 5:32 pm.
  - b. Members present: A. Loiben, A. Cohn, A. Barrientos-Gomez, C. Mittan, D. Arora, D. Giesler, E. Winarto, K. Krishnan, K. Angierski, M. Kalaji, N. London, R. Harrison, W. Zhang, M. Jodlowski.
  - c. Members Absent: J. Kent-Dobias, A. Viarruel.
- II. Approval of the Minutes from the May 7th, 2018 meeting.
  - a. M. Battaglia motioned to approve the minutes from the May 7th, 2018 meeting.
    - i. The Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.
- III. Presentations
  - a. Gina Giambattista then made her presentation on Robert's Rules of Order and the legislative process of the GPSA.
    - i. Robert's rules was established to allow everyone to be heard in a decision making body. It's basic principles are creating a debating environment with courtesy and justice for all. G. Giambattista went over the legislative process (what to do before writing a resolution) and how to conduct debate on the floor.
    - ii. A Robert's Rules summary is in the [Meeting Packet](#).
    - iii. Additional resources for Robert's Rules are available at [assembly.cornell.edu](http://assembly.cornell.edu)
    - iv. A motion was made to extend the speakers time by five minutes, there was no dissent.
    - v. A member of the audience asked if one needs to be a voting member to make a motion?
      1. E. Winarto responded no, any member can make a motion (for example: Field and Ex-officio).
    - vi. A member of the audience asked can the representatives of funded organizations make a motion?
      1. E. Winarto responded yes.



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2. A. Loiben: the only thing Voting Members can do that is special is vote yes or no on the motion/resolution.
- vii. An audience member asked why the Minutes from the August 27th Meeting weren't ready to be voted on?
  1. G. Giambattista: last week there was a substitute clerk, and the Minutes aren't quite ready for review yet.

### IV. Voting Member Elections

#### a. 1 M.Eng Voting Member

- i. M. Battaglia asked for a Point of Information, specifically why are the M.Eng representatives being elected here and not at their school?
- ii. E. Winarto: it's the tradition that we've done. We could elect the CIPA representative here if we wanted to, which we have done in the past. Our Non-M.Eng Masters representative last year was from CIPA and we elected them here.
- iii. M. Battaglia: the GPSA's charter says there are four Masters seats: one for ILR, CIPA, Engineering, and one At-Large. Why are we running the Engineering election when ILR and CIPA were sent out to their Field Organizations?
- iv. E. Winarto stated that her understanding is that there's nothing written that says not to run the election here.
- v. M. Battaglia asked why are they elected differently?
- vi. E. Winarto: CIPA and ILR are comparable to the Professional Schools because they have one major, but M.Eng is not. If M. Battaglia has an objection to this he can make a motion.
- vii. M. Battaglia: no objection at this time.
- viii. **No nominations were offered for the position.**
- ix. M. Battaglia motioned to reach out to the Engineering Masters Field Organization to ask if they have anyone interested in serving, similar to how the GPSA did with CIPA and ILR. There was no dissent and the motion **passed** by unanimous consent.

#### b. 1 Non-M.Eng Masters Voting Member

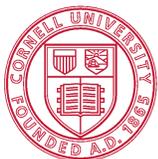
- i. Nominations: Katelyn Palumbo nominated herself.



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1. K. Palumbo introduced herself. She is a second year CIPA fellow interested in public/nonprofit management.
  2. A. Loiben: what is an area you're interested in getting involved in on the GPSA?
  3. K. Palumbo stated she's interested in Finance and more generally the support that graduate students are given across campus.
  4. Members voted during Division Breakouts
- c. 2 University Assembly (UA) Representatives
- i. M. Battaglia gave a short introduction to the UA: the University Assembly brings together all four constituent groups on campus. It works on issues that are cross cutting on campus and meets biweekly as well (staggered from the GPSA). Members are expected to be on at least one UA committee.
  - ii. Nominations:
    1. M. Battaglia nominated Logan Kenney
      - a. M. Battaglia read a statement for L. Kenney. She is a 1L, graduated from CALS, served on the SUNY Student Assembly, and is interested in the UA's impact on health care and infrastructure. She withdrew from the Law School GPSA election to run for this.
    2. Jeff Pea nominated himself.
      - a. He is a 2nd year PhD student in Biomedical Sciences. He worked on student government at his former institution in Canada.
    3. Andy Barrientos Gomez nominated himself.
      - a. He is a 3rd year PhD student in Romance Studies. He is currently the GPSA's Executive Vice President, and is working on the Ivy+ summit and the GPCI.
    4. There were no questions for the candidates.
    5. A motion was made to move on and vote, the motion passed by unanimous consent.
- d. **Balloting for the election was held during Division Breakouts. Results of the elections were announced under New Business (bullet "VII.c")**

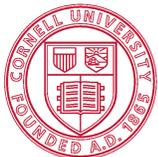
### V. Division Breakouts



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### VI. Committee Updates

- a. Executive: A. Barrientos-Gomez motioned to reinstate the Graduate and Professional Student Initiative (GPCI) ad-hoc committee. It's a five year plan for Graduate and Professional student life at Cornell. Ad-hoc committees have to get reinstated every year they are needed.
  - i. M. Battaglia: could we write it into our Bylaws so that we don't have to reinstate it every five years?
  - ii. E. Winarto: you can suggest that, but sometimes it's nice to have the flexibility of when to call it back.
  - iii. There was no dissent to the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
- b. Operations: had their first meeting on Friday (9/7). The committee is composed of all the committee chairs and UA representatives. They deal with structural things within the GPSA and are tasked with updating the Bylaws.
- c. Communications: please follow the GPSA on social media.
- d. Appropriations: already had their first two meetings to set the internal budget. They will be talking to Anabel's Grocery soon. If you'd like to join please do.
- e. Finance: they are a little overworked right now, but they're working on the submitted budgets.
- f. Student Advocacy: still looking to recruit more members before their first meeting.
- g. Diversity and International Students: still looking for members as well. They will be hosting an event later with Dean Knuth.
- h. Programming: they are still looking for people to join the committee as well. If you're interested, email Daksh Arora.
- i. Faculty Awards: the committee will not be very active until next semester.
- j. General Committee: their first meeting will be on Friday (9/14).
- k. Graduate School: beginning a search for new management at the Big Red Barn (BRB). J. Allen asked if the Executive Committee wanted to choose students for that committee, or would they want interested students to reach out to her?
  - i. A. Loiben: are you talking about the BRB advisory committee or the committee which will choose the manager?
  - ii. J. Allen: the search committee that will choose the new manager. We would like at least 1-2 students per meeting/interview. But if you want to choose a



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group of people, so there are back ups to come to meetings when the primary members can't that's ok as well.

- iii. E. Winarto: let's have A. Loiben and J. Allen talk about this after.
- iv. J. Allen: also, each interview is a day-long thing, and we want the candidates to meet a large group of graduate students.
- v. J. Allen: if you're interested in the Student Library Advisory Committee let J. Allen or the Executive Committee know.

### VII. New Business

- a. C. Stambuk introduced **Resolution 1**.
  - i. C. Stambuk explained the operating budget included in the Meeting Packet.
  - ii. K. Krishnan asked does this count as part of what GPSAFC gives to clubs?
    - 1. C. Stambuk: no, FC is part of the byline organizations, so that's totally separate.
  - iii. D. Arora: how do you determine what committee gets what money?
    - 1. C. Stambuk: each chair writes a proposal and we review it in comparison to historical spending.
    - 2. C. Stambuk: Programming Board is byline funded.
  - iv. D. Geisler: the GPCI was just reinstated, is there space in the budget to account for this?
    - 1. C. Stambuk: that's a good question.
    - 2. M. Battaglia: the short answer is right now it's not in the budget.
    - 3. C. Stambuk: the GPCI is going to have so many sub-groups we can't reach that far.
  - v. D. Geisler: when will the budget be finalized and voted on?
    - 1. C. Stambuk: we would like to vote on it today, because without a budget we can't function.
    - 2. A. Loiben: the Bylaws say it must be introduced by the second meeting.
    - 3. M. Battaglia: hopefully no committee will exhaust its budget in between now and the next meeting.
  - vi. K. Krishnan: we do have extra from the roll over fund if the GPCI needs money to hold events. How long can money keep rolling over?
    - 1. C. Stambuk: in perpetuity.



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- vii. K. Palumbo asked if these committees are able to spend against this money assuming that it's going to get passed, do they need confirmation that they will be reimbursed?
    - 1. E. Winarto: that is what M. Battaglia was saying. This is more or less what the committees are getting, and the committees shouldn't be coming close to these ceilings in the intervening two weeks between this meeting and the next.
  - viii. D. Geisler: is the roll over kept by the University?
    - 1. C. Stambuk: before we found this extra reserve account (found in an audit), it was somehow being held in our GPSA account. Now that we know the reserve account exists, we can put the roll over in there.
    - 2. M. Battaglia: the operating budget will be in one account, and the roll over will be in the reserve Account.
  - ix. An audience member asked what the activity fee goes to.
    - 1. C. Stambuk: you should look at [Resolution 8](#) from last year. the 2018-2020 byline cycle Resolutions will give you a break down of what organizations the activity fee goes to. There are 10 byline (activity fee) funded organizations including the GPSA. This budget is the GPSA's share of the pie.
  - x. M. Battaglia made a **motion to postpone** discussion of the Resolution until the next meeting. The motion was **approved** by unanimous consent.
- b. A. Loiben introduced **Resolution 2**.
- i. The Bylaws are part of the GPSA's governing documents. They discuss the composition of the committees, member duties, operations, etc. By the second meeting of the year, we need to provide an update to the Bylaws. This Resolution says we are adopting the changes made in the attached version of the Bylaws (the Resolution and attached Bylaws with changes are in the Meeting Packet).
  - ii. A. Loiben explained the six updates:
    - 1. The first is deleting a clause about Executive Committee decisions being subject to approval. It's extraneous, so we are deleting it (under Robert's Rules anything is subject to approval of the Assembly).



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2. Operations needs to staff a position on the Orientation Planning Committee.
  3. The Appropriations Committee chair has to give their documents to the next AC chair.
  4. The Finance Commission can increase the number of people on the Committee from 10 to 15.
  5. Some clean up of language based on the new Finance Commission guidelines.
  6. Codifying the practice of introducing a Resolution and having the Q&A session at one meeting, not voting on it at this first meeting, and then giving it another meeting before the Assembly debates and votes on it. This can be overridden if  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the Voting Members say we need to vote on something in the same day.
- iii. M. Battaglia asked would A. Loiben have an objection to looking at external committee appointments?
1. A. Loiben stated he would welcome clarifying language on how people are appointed.
  2. E. Winarto: anyone can email A. Loiben with possible amendments for the next meeting.
- iv. D. Geisler asked would each step in the Resolution procedure be mandatory in that particular order?
1. A. Loiben: yes, this is the procedure we've been operating under anyway. If you have suggestions to change let him know.
- v. C. Stambuk asked could A. Loiben put liaisons under staffing?
- vi. A. Loiben stated he's not sure, but we can decide as a group.
- vii. M. Battaglia **motioned to postpone discussion** of the Resolution until the next meeting. The motion was **approved** by unanimous consent.

### c. Results of the Elections of Voting Members

- i. **Non-M.Eng Masters Voting Member: Katelyn Palumbo.**
- ii. **University Assembly Representatives: Logan Kenney and Jeff Pea.**
- iii. A motion was made to add Open Forum to the Agenda, there was no dissent, the motion was **approved** by unanimous consent.

## VIII. Open Forum



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- a. C. Stambuk: the GPSA will have to look at FC guidelines. If anyone is upset or happy about them, join AC and we'll go over the process again.
- b. A. Loiben: Join committees!
- c. GPWomen Representative: ice cream social tomorrow (9/11) at 4:30 pm at the Big Red Barn (BRB).
- d. M. Battaglia motioned to adjourn the meeting, the motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Ferraro  
Clerk of the Assembly