



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Agenda of the November 4th, 2019 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call (5 Minutes)
- III. Approval of the Minutes (5 Minutes)
 - a. Minutes from October 21, 2019
- IV. Presentations (20 Minutes)
 - a. Alexa Cohn, Executive Vice President
 - i. What is a Resolution?
- V. Division Breakout (20 Minutes)
- VI. Discussion on Division Breakout (10 Minutes)
- VII. Committee Updates (10 Minutes)
 - 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

l. GPCI

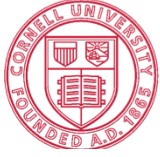
m. UA Delegates

VIII. New Business (15 Minutes)

a. Introduction to Resolution 2: Condemning the Dismissal of Julia Feliz from the Cornell Alliance for Science's Global Leadership Fellowship

IX. Open Forum (5 Minutes)

X. Adjournment



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Agenda of the October 21st, 2019 Meeting 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 5:30pm A. Barrientos-Gomez calls meeting to order
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Present: A. Cohn, C. Duell, K. Esannason, A. Johnson, M. Keefe, K. Laurent, N. London, L. Louis, P. Vinhage, D. Wang, A. Woods, D. Yucalan, J. Bogdanowicz, L. Kenney, A. Loiben, J. Pea, L. Smith, A. Barrientos-Gomez, M. Kalaji,
 - b. Absent: R. Harrison, A. Cirillo, A. Sontag, V. Kasonde
- III. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Minutes from October 7th, 2019
 - i. Point of amendment: email change from kmo to kml
 - ii. Seconded
 - iii. Approved
 - iv. Motion to approve with amendment
 - v. Seconded
 - vi. Approved
- IV. Presentation
 - a. Charles van Loan, Dean of Faculty, and Manisha Munasinghe, Graduate and Professional Student-Elected Trustee
 - i. C. Van Loan: We are here to discuss the Ad-hoc budget. We want to enable to engage people who decide on the Ad-hoc budget with the community concerns and questions. We are here to discuss parts of the budget
 - ii. M. Munasinghe: Some key issues that come up for grad students with the budget include stipends, endowment, distribution of money between

colleges. We are here today answer some questions and listen to your concerns.

- V. Division Breakout
 - a. To discuss Ad Hoc Budget
- VI. Elections (10 Minutes)
 - a. Master of Engineering Voting Member
 - i. Results: Everette
- VII. Committee Updates
 - a. Executive Committee: No updates.
 - b. Operations: Onboarding of Chairs started last week. After taking feedback, additional information will be sent out. We are currently working on staffing external committees as well
 - a. Communications: No updates.
 - b. Appropriations: No updates.
 - c. Finance: We are working on getting monthly help sessions started. The first one will be Oct. 29 12-1 pm Day hall 115, for campus groups and budgeting.
 - d. Student Advocacy: We will meet this week on Wednesday at 2pm in the Big Red Barn.
 - e. Diversity and International Students: 105 students, faculty, and staff attended the October 11th Building Allyship Event with Luca Maurer. The next event in the series will be on November 12th from 11:30 to 1:00 in G10 Biotech, with the title "Talking About the Hidden Curriculum, Part I", and will focus on the hidden curriculum for international students transitioning into US graduate and professional programs. Event announcements will be coming out soon. We are planning a Community Conversation about free speech and Hong Kong, tentatively scheduled for October 22nd but that is likely to be postponed. We are co-sponsoring the Diversity & Inclusion Renaissance Ball, which will be held Saturday, November 9th from 7:00 to 11:00 pm in G10 Biotech. Tickets will be sold at the BRB during TGIFs over the next few weeks, or through the OISE webs
 - a. Programming: We are working to plan the next grad night out.

- b. Faculty Awards: No updates, meetings will start in the spring.
- c. General: No updates.
- d. Grad: No updates.
- e. GPCI: I sent out a link for feedback on the first draft, please send it out to your field representatives.
- f. University Assembly: No updates.

VIII. Open Forum

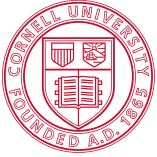
- a. A. Barrientos-Gomez: The big red barn is setting up a system of bringing your cup to go green.
- b. D. Yucalan: If we have concerns about Cornell health, who do we talk to?
 - i. Andy: We could look for someone in the administration
 - ii. Jan: You could talk to someone in Ryan Lombardi's office
- c. A. Loiben: do people think this is a good room for meetings, reach to exec

Adjournment 6:37pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashlynn Lee

Clerk of the Assembly



1 Resolution 2: Condemning the Dismissal of Julia Feliz
2 from the Cornell Alliance for Science’s Global
3 Leadership Fellowship

4 *Sponsored by:* Arielle Johnson

5 **Whereas**, on October 15th, Julia Feliz was dismissed from the Cornell Alliance for Science Program
6 for “utiliz[ing] the classroom environment to discuss [their] dissatisfaction with the program”.

7
8 **Whereas**, many details of the case are still unknown. However, given the published information, we
9 feel that the Alliance for Science’s administrative team mishandled the situation. It is extremely
10 concerning that the stated reason for Feliz’s dismissal is their activism. Feliz’s allegation that Alliance
11 for Science administrators threatened to take away fellows’ visas if they missed classes, if true, is also
12 disturbing.

13
14 **Whereas**, as graduate and professional students who often have little power in advising
15 relationships, we empathize with the precarity of Julia’s situation. It often seems difficult to speak
16 up about concerns in our own programs—mental health issues, sexual harassment, racism, and other
17 issues—when our supervisors control the futures of our careers.

18
19 **Whereas**, Cornell undergraduates, graduate and professional students, postdocs and fellows should
20 be free to critique their programs without fear of retaliation.

21
22 **Be it resolved**, the Cornell Graduate and Professional Student Assembly votes to condemn the
23 dismissal of Julia Feliz from the Cornell Alliance for Science Program.

24
25 Respectfully Submitted,

26 Arielle Johnson

27 Voting Member, Life Sciences



Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Committee Updates for the November 4th, 2019 Meeting

Executive Committee: The next general body meeting will be on November 18th, 2019

Operations: One-on-one onboarding meetings are done. First operations digest to come out soon. Also, compiled list of feedback from onboarding process is done. Excel documents are being filled out slowly (waiting on responses about external committee reps)

Finance Commission: The next CampusGroups help session is going to be on Tuesday, November 19th from 12-1 in Day Hall room 115.

Diversity and International Students: We hosted a productive Community Conversation on Free Speech, Democracy, and Hong Kong on October 30th. We are working to select a topic for November's Community Conversation and suggestions are welcome.

The Diversity and Inclusion Renaissance Ball, co-sponsored by DISC as part of the Graduate and Professional Diversity Council, will be held on Saturday, November 9th from 7:00 to 11:00 pm in G10 Biotech. The Ball will feature live music by the amazing Brownskin Band. More information and a link the online ticket sales can be found here: <https://gradschool.cornell.edu/diversity-inclusion/student-organizations/renaissance-ball/>

The next event in the Building Allyship Series, title "Helping International Scholars Uncover the Hidden Curriculum" will be held on Tuesday, November 12th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in G10 Biotech. This session will provide us with an opportunity to understand the experiences of international scholars coming to U.S. institution of higher and what it means to serve as an ally as they are confronted with new institutional landscapes and sociocultural environments. Please RSVP using this link: bit.ly/IntnlAllyship

Faculty Awards: No update

Graduate and Professional Community Initiative: A Google form for feedback has been created and sent to all feed reps and voting members. If you haven't done so already, please send this out to your fields so we can solicit feedback on the first draft! The Google form can be found here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciv5C4gp1_bjfw_OoUqOqNs18jBtzBjCsUnf-YP7-EZAt2GA/viewform?usp=sf_link

The GPCI committee will also be co-sponsoring a town hall with SAC on November 20th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm in Goldwin-Smith Hall room G64. Please come by and voice concerns about the graduate and professional student experience!