

# Bylaws

## Cornell University

### Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

*as amended on April 10, 2023*

## ARTICLE I: ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY

### Section 1.01: Establishment

- A. The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Bylaws are established in accordance with the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Charter Article VII.

### Section 1.02: Authority

- A. The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Bylaws are granted authority in accordance with the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Charter Article VII.

## ARTICLE II: DEFINITIONS

### Section 2.01: GPSA Bylaws Document Definitions

- A. The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly is hereafter referred to as the GPSA.  
B. The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Charter hereafter is referred to as the GPSA Charter.  
i. The GPSA Charter may also be referenced by citing the appropriate article, section, and subsection number.  
C. The Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Bylaws hereafter are referred to as the GPSA Bylaws.  
i. The GPSA Bylaws may be referenced by citing the appropriate item, section, and subsection number.

## ARTICLE III: GPSA STANDING COMMITTEES

### Section 3.01: Responsibilities for All Committees

- A. Submit a budget request outlining and justifying all planned expenditures to the Appropriations Committee Chair two weeks prior to the second GPSA meeting, and shall submit an update on the status of their budget by the end of February.

### Section 3.02: Executive Committee

- A. Purpose  
i. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the GPSA.  
ii. The Executive Committee shall ensure the smooth operation of the GPSA in coordination with the standing committee chairs.

- 38 B. Chairperson  
39 i. The Executive Vice-President of the GPSA is the chairperson of the Executive Committee.  
40 C. Membership  
41 i. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the GPSA, of which there shall be at least  
42 four.  
43 D. Duties  
44 i. Represent the GPSA in University matters.  
45 ii. Speak for the GPSA on issues that must be addressed before the next regularly scheduled meeting.  
46 iii. Establish agendas for the meetings of the GPSA.  
47 iv. Make appointments to University committees, liaison positions, and all other external committees that  
48 become vacant prematurely.  
49 v. Conduct an orientation meeting with all the chairs of the GPSA's standing committees at the beginning of  
50 the current GPSA term.  
51 vi. Work closely with the Office of Assemblies to book rooms, contract equipment, follow through with  
52 other issues related to meeting logistics, and any other relevant tasks.  
53 vii. Provide executive updates at GPSA meetings.  
54 viii. Maintain open communication with GPSA members and the Office of Assemblies staff regarding  
55 meetings and other information relevant to the GPSA.  
56 ix. Receive and review documents to be sent to GPSA members or other members of the Cornell University  
57 community.  
58 x. Function as the Elections Committee during the current GPSA term.  
59 xi. Respond to e-mails addressed to GPSA email addresses.  
60 xii. Assist the Office of Assemblies staff in maintaining a functional and up-to-date website and listservs.  
61 xiii. Take on any additional responsibilities for the proper functioning of the GPSA.  
62 xiv. Present an update from the GPSA at the March Board of Trustees Meeting.  
63 xv. Select and coordinate representatives to attend the Ivy Summit.  
64 xvi. Complete the required registration process to ensure the GPSA is recognized as a student organization  
65 with the Student Activities Office (SAO).  
66 xvii. Distribute the semi-annual report of the GPSA to the members.  
67 E. Meetings  
68 i. The Executive Committee shall meet prior to GPSA meetings.  
69 ii. When consensus cannot be reached, simple majority votes shall be exercised.  
70 iii. The members may call additional meetings as deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the GPSA.  
71 iv. The Executive Committee meets regularly with deans of the Graduate School, deans of the Professional  
72 schools, University administrators, and executives of other assemblies.  
73

### 74 **Section 3.03: Operations and Staffing Committee**

- 75  
76 A. Purpose  
77 i. The Operations and Staffing Committee is charged with appointing graduate and professional students to  
78 committees staffed by the GPSA, and with maintaining and updating the GPSA Charter, GPSA Bylaws,  
79 and relevant documents.  
80 B. Chairperson  
81 i. The chairperson for the Operations and Staffing Committee is the Vice President for Operations.  
82 C. Membership  
83 i. All standing committee chairs and GPSA delegates to the University Assembly are required to serve on  
84 the Operations and Staffing Committee.  
85 ii. The President and Counsel to the GPSA shall serve as ex-officio members.  
86 iii. The graduate and professional student University Assembly representatives shall be considered voting  
87 members for all appointments to University Assembly committees.  
88 D. Duties

- 89 i. Work closely with the Office of Assemblies to communicate the appointment process to graduate and  
90 professional students, make committee appointments, update appointment lists, communicate  
91 appointments to relevant chairs and representatives, and any other relevant tasks.  
92 ii. In coordination with the entire body of the GPSA and interested individuals, ensure that the practices of  
93 the GPSA at its meetings and campus activities are environmentally sustainable.  
94 iii. In addition to advertising committee vacancies, reviewing applications, and acting as a liaison between  
95 committee representatives and the GPSA, the Committee also determines committee size and prepares  
96 relevant documents and application materials for the appointment process.  
97 iv. The Vice President for Operations shall present the process for committee appointments at the first  
98 meeting in the fall semester.  
99 a. External committee appointments shall be completed by the following meeting and presented to the  
100 GPSA at that meeting. Any remaining vacancies will be staffed on a rolling basis by the Executive  
101 Committee  
102 b. The appointments shall be subject to the review of the Executive Committee. In the case of premature  
103 vacancy, the Executive Committee may staff these external appointments by majority vote.  
104 v. The Chairperson is charged with requesting revisions to the GPSA Bylaws from standing committee  
105 chairs.  
106 vi. The revisions are to be incorporated into the GPSA Bylaws.  
107 vii. The revised GPSA Bylaws are to be presented as a resolution at the second meeting of the current GPSA  
108 term for approval.  
109 viii. The Chairperson shall serve as an administrator of the appropriate governing documents and Robert's  
110 Rules of Parliamentary Procedure during meetings.
- 111 E. Meetings  
112 i. All Committee meetings shall be open to the graduate and professional student community.  
113 ii. When a consensus cannot be reached, actions shall be determined by a majority vote of all Committee  
114 members present.  
115 iii. Minutes shall be taken at meetings, and upon review by the Committee Chair, shall be submitted to the  
116 Office of Assemblies for posting.
- 117 F. GPSA Standing Committee Appointments  
118 i. By the end of September, the Committee shall set the size of and appoint members to the Appropriations  
119 Committee, Communications Committee, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Finance  
120 Commission, Graduate and Professional Student Programming Board, Faculty Awards Committee,  
121 Diversity and International Students Committee, and Student Advocacy Committee. These appointments  
122 shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.  
123 ii. After initial committee appointments are made, vacancies may be filled by members appointed by the  
124 Executive Committee or appointed by committee chairs to their own committee.  
125 a. Any members appointed by committee chairs are non-voting members until the appointments are  
126 approved by the Executive Committee.
- 127 G. GPSA External Committee Appointments  
128 i. The Operations and Staffing Committee shall appoint the following:  
129 a. Eight graduate or professional students (two from Biological Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities  
130 and Physical Sciences of which one from each division will be appointed annually for a two-year  
131 term) to the Academic Integrity Hearing Board,  
132 b. One graduate or professional student to the Trustee Nominating Committee,  
133 c. One liaison officer (a current member of the GPSA) each to the Faculty Senate, the Employee  
134 Assembly and the Student Assembly as ex-officio, non-voting members,  
135 d. One graduate or professional student to each of the following Faculty Senate committees,  
136 1. Academic Freedom and Professional Status of the Faculty,  
137 2. Advisory Committee on Athletics and Physical Education,  
138 3. Educational Policy Committee,  
139 4. ROTC-University Relations Committee,  
140 5. University Faculty Library Board,

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- 141                   6. University Lectures Committee,  
142           e. One graduate or professional student to each of the following Student Assembly committees,  
143               1. Dining Services,  
144               2. Inclusion and Diversity Initiatives Committee,  
145           f. Two graduate or professional students to the Gorge Safety Committee,  
146           g. One graduate or professional student to the Learning Technologies Governance Committee,  
147           h. One graduate or professional student to the President's Sustainable Campus Advisory Committee,  
148           i. One graduate or professional student to the Public Safety Advisory Committee,  
149           j. Two graduate or professional students to the Student Insurance Health Plan Advisory Committee,  
150           k. One graduate or professional student to the Student Library Advisory Council,  
151           l. Three graduate or professional students to the University Council on Mental Health and Welfare,  
152           m. One graduate or professional student to the University Diversity Council,  
153           n. One graduate or professional student to the University Neighborhood Council,  
154           o. Two representatives to the Family Life Advisory with one position reserved for a graduate or  
155               professional student with a child or children and the other reserved for the partner of a graduate  
156               student,  
157           p. Two graduate or professional students to the Campus Planning Committee,  
158           q. Two graduate or professional students to the Transportation Hearing and Appeals Board,  
159           r. One graduate or professional student to the Council on Hazing Prevention,  
160           s. Two graduate or professional students to the President's Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs,  
161           t. One graduate or professional student to the Orientation Planning Committee,  
162           u. Liaisons to the byline organizations funded by the Graduate and Professional Student Activity Fee;  
163               1. Two graduate or professional students to the Cornell Cinema Student Advisory Board,  
164               2. Three graduate or professional students to the Big Red Barn Advisory Board,  
165               3. Two graduate or professional students as liaison to the Cornell University Programming Board,  
166               4. Two graduate or professional students as liaison to the Cornell University Emergency Medical  
167               Service,  
168               5. Two graduate or professional students as liaison to the International Students Union,  
169               6. Two graduate or professional students as liaison to the Physical Education Department,  
170           v. One current GPSA member to each of the following University Assembly committees,  
171               1. Campus Infrastructure Committee,  
172               2. Campus Welfare Committee,  
173               3. Codes and Judicial Committee.  
174           ii. As requests for representatives come from other external committees, these positions will be staffed as  
175               necessary.  
176               a. Additional or temporary committees will be kept in the records of the Vice-President of Operations,  
177               to be added to the Bylaws as necessary  
178           iii. General Committee of the Graduate School  
179               a. Following the election of the GPSA officers each year, but preceding the election of the standing  
180               committee chairs, a representative for the General Committee of the Graduate School shall be elected.  
181               b. The elected representative shall serve a two-year term so that there are at any time no more than two  
182               elected representatives from the GPSA.  
183               c. Should either of these seats become vacant before the end of their term, the Vice President for  
184               Operations may appoint an interim representative until an election can be held for a new  
185               representative to complete the term.  
186               d. An interim representative to the General Committee, appointed by the Vice President for Operations  
187               is subject the approval of the Executive Committee.  
188               e. These seats are not transferable.  
189   H. University Assembly Committee appointments  
190           i. The Operations and Staffing Committee, in cooperation with the graduate and professional student  
191           representatives of the University Assembly, shall appoint graduate and professional student  
192           representatives and liaisons to all committees under the jurisdiction of the University Assembly.

- 193 I. Faculty Senate Committee Appointments  
194 i. The Operations and Staffing Committee shall appoint graduate and professional student representatives to  
195 the relevant committees under the jurisdiction of the Faculty Senate.

196

### 197 **Section 3.04: GPSA Elections Committee**

198

#### 199 A. Purpose

- 200 i. The Elections Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the election of the GPSA Voting Members,  
201 officers, and committee chairs.

#### 202 B. Constitution

- 203 i. The Executive Committee shall serve as the Elections Committee unless the ability of the Executive  
204 Committee to impartially conduct the elections is called into question by a one third vote of the seated  
205 Voting Members. Immediately following such a vote, the Voting Members and Field Representatives  
206 shall elect a Chairperson for the Elections Committee.

#### 207 C. Membership

- 208 i. Chairperson may recruit other Voting Members of the GPSA as members of the Elections Committee.

#### 209 D. Duties

- 210 i. Decide on the procedural rules for elections.  
211 ii. Be responsible for gathering and leading the caucuses for the Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences,  
212 Social Sciences and Humanities.  
213 iii. Be responsible for running the caucuses by asking for nominations, soliciting statements from nominees,  
214 moderating question and answer sessions, and counting ballots.  
215 iv. Announce the newly elected persons to the GPSA.

#### 216 E. Meetings

- 217 i. The Elections Committee shall meet prior to the second to last regularly scheduled GPSA meeting of the  
218 current GPSA term.  
219 ii. All meetings of the Elections Committee shall be open to the graduate and professional student  
220 community.

#### 221 F. Election of the Officers

- 222 i. The sitting President of the GPSA shall temporarily act as the Chairperson during the elections of the  
223 officers of the GPSA until a new President is elected, after which the new President shall preside over the  
224 election of officers and community chairs.

225

### 226 **Section 3.05: Appropriations Committee**

227

#### 228 A. Purpose

- 229 i. The Appropriations Committee shall concern itself with all aspects of the Graduate and Professional  
230 Student (GPS) Activity Fee, including review of the GPSA Byline Allocation Procedures, the GPSA  
231 Eligibility Criteria and Obligations for Byline Funded Organizations, the GPSAFC Funding Guidelines,  
232 and the GPSA Internal Budget.

#### 233 B. Chairperson

- 234 i. The Committee shall have a chairperson elected by the GPSA.

#### 235 C. Membership

- 236 i. The Committee shall consist of members appointed by the GPSA Operations and Staffing Committee.  
237 ii. Members shall attend the meetings of the Committee.  
238 iii. Members shall serve until the end of the current GPSA term in which they are appointed, unless they are  
239 subject to removal.  
240 iv. Termination of a committee member is at the discretion of the Chair when a committee member is absent  
241 for more than two scheduled committee meetings. A replacement may be sought after consultation with  
242 the Operations and Staffing Committee.

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- 243 v. At the discretion of the Chair, new applications received during the fall semester of fee-setting years may  
244 be placed on hold until the following semester.
- 245 D. Duties
- 246 i. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the operations of the Committee: The Chairperson shall oversee  
247 the Committee's actions and operating budget, as well as schedule and run the meetings of the  
248 Committee.
- 249 ii. The Chair of the Appropriations Committee will serve on the GPSA Finance Commission.
- 250 iii. The Committee shall review, maintain and adhere to the GPSA Byline Allocation Procedures and GPSA  
251 Eligibility Criteria and Obligations for Byline Funded Organizations.
- 252 iv. The Committee shall review the policies and procedures for setting the GPS Activity Fee.
- 253 a. In the Fall of fee-setting years:
- 254 1. The Committee shall make a recommendation to the GPSA regarding the amount and distribution  
255 of the GPS Activity Fee.
- 256 b. In the Fall of non-fee-setting years:
- 257 1. The Committee shall coordinate with the Student Assembly to determine deadlines for the  
258 preliminary byline applications in April and the final byline applications in September.
- 259 2. The Committee shall work with the Vice President of Operations to ensure liaison positions for  
260 each by-line funded organization are filled before the end of the Fall semester.
- 261 3. The Chair will arrange time at GPSA meetings for by-line funded organizations to speak and  
262 provide an update to their operations.
- 263 v. The Committee shall maintain the GPSAFC Funding Guidelines. If deemed necessary, it shall make  
264 suggestions for changes to the GPSA.
- 265 vi. The Committee shall oversee the internal funds of the GPSA and work with the Office of Assemblies to  
266 ensure adherence to the budget. The Committee shall provide budget updates to the Executive Committee,  
267 as requested.
- 268 vii. The Chairperson shall collect budget proposals from all standing committee chairs two weeks prior to the  
269 second regularly scheduled GPSA meeting. The Chairperson shall then propose the GPSA Internal  
270 Budget based on the collected budget proposals, which shall be presented as a resolution at the second  
271 regularly scheduled meeting in the Fall semester.
- 272 viii. At the end of their term, the Chairperson shall transfer access to historical documents and chairperson-  
273 specific information to the new Chairperson.
- 274 E. Meetings
- 275 i. The Committee shall hold meetings, as necessary, subject to the minimum requirements of Item 3.05.e.v.
- 276 ii. Meetings of the Committee shall generally be open to the graduate and professional student community.  
277 However, the Chairperson, in consultation with the Committee, may decide to close parts of the meetings  
278 in order protect sensitive information from being made public.
- 279 iii. The Committee is encouraged to consider town hall style meetings late in the Spring semester of non-  
280 funding years to provide information about the GPS Activity Fee and gather relevant input from the  
281 graduate and professional student body, in particular, with regard to the appeal of the applying byline  
282 funded organizations.
- 283 iv. Minutes shall be taken, and upon review by the Chairperson, shall be submitted to the Office of  
284 Assemblies for posting on the Committee's website, along with meeting agendas.
- 285 v. The minimum number of meetings to fulfill the Committee's mission is:
- 286 a. In non-GPSA Activity Fee setting years:
- 287 1. One meeting before winter break to explain the application process for byline funded groups to  
288 the members of the Committee,
- 289 2. One meeting in the spring semester with the GPSAFC to discuss the GPSAFC Funding  
290 Guidelines.
- 291 b. In GPSA Activity Fee setting years:
- 292 1. One meeting as soon as the Committee is staffed to review the GPSA Activity Fee process, as  
293 described in the GPSA Byline Allocation Procedures and GPSA Eligibility Criteria and  
294 Obligations for Byline Funded Organizations, and Article IX of the GPSA Charter,

- 295                   2. One meeting, as stipulated in the GPSA Byline Allocation Procedures, to discuss the byline  
296                   applications and the amounts of funding to be recommended,  
297                   3. One meeting to which applying byline organizations are invited and may state their cause if the  
298                   Committee recommends an allocation lower than the requested amount,  
299                   4. One meeting to reconsider the recommended funding amount if such reconsideration is requested  
300                   by the GPSA after a meeting.
- 301 F. Coordination with the Office of Assemblies
- 302    i. The Committee shall rely on the Office of the Assemblies to:
- 303       a. Help with the administrative aspects of coordinating with byline funded organizations,  
304       b. Provide organizations applying for byline funding with information,  
305       c. Provide institutional memory,  
306       d. Provide the Appropriations Committee Chairperson at least read-only access to the financial system  
307       that tracks the GPSA Internal Budget.  
308       e. Provide the current balance of any GPSA rollover funds upon request.
- 309 G. GPSA Internal Budget
- 310    i. The GPSA Internal Budget will be based upon budget proposals submitted by the standing committee  
311       chairs.
- 312    ii. Standing committee chairs shall present a budget proposal to the Appropriations Committee Chairperson  
313       two weeks prior to the second regularly scheduled GPSA meeting of the Fall Semester.
- 314    iii. Standing committee budgets may include line items for operational and food expenses. The food line item  
315       is specifically for food provided at committee meetings for committee members.
- 316    iv. The Appropriations Committee Chairperson will execute the process of setting the GPSA Internal Budget  
317       pursuant to Item 3.05.d.vii.
- 318    v. Upon approval of the GPSA Internal Budget by the GPSA, the Appropriations Committee Chairperson  
319       will operate in conjunction with the Office of Assemblies to establish enforcement guidelines for  
320       committee spending.
- 321 H. Ethical Responsibility
- 322    i. The GPSA Activity Fee is set by the GPSA and paid by every graduate and professional student, and thus  
323       is not only set apart from other fees and tuition by the way it is determined, but also by its source. The  
324       Chairperson, the Committee, and the GPSA have a responsibility in ensuring that the money is well spent,  
325       and supporting organizations providing valuable services and events to the graduate and professional  
326       student community.
- 327

### 328 **Section 3.06: Communications Committee**

- 329
- 330 A. Purpose
- 331    i. The Communications Committee is charged with maintaining a strong communication link between the  
332       GPSA and all graduate fields, professional schools, and the Cornell community.
- 333 B. Chairperson
- 334    i. The Vice President for Communications shall serve as the chairperson of the Communications  
335       Committee.
- 336 C. Membership
- 337    i. The Committee shall consist of the Division Chiefs for each of the caucuses. Additional members may be  
338       appointed by the GPSA Operations and Staffing Committee.
- 339    ii. Termination of a committee member is at the discretion of the Chair when a committee member is absent  
340       for more than two scheduled committee meetings.
- 341 D. Duties
- 342    i. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the operations of the Committee: The Chairperson shall oversee  
343       the Committee's actions and operating budget, as well as schedule and run the meetings of the  
344       Committee.
- 345    ii. The Chairperson is charged with contacting all appropriate administrative offices so that they and the

- 346 Committee are in regular contact throughout the year.
- 347 iii. The Committee will maintain the GPSAINFO listserv and is in charge of the creation of the GPSAINFO  
348 newsletter. Distribution will be coordinated by the Committee in cooperation with the Graduate School to  
349 reach all students registered through the Graduate School, and with the Johnson Graduate School of  
350 Management, the Cornell Law School, and the College of Veterinary Medicine to reach the registered  
351 professional students.
- 352 iv. The Chairperson will work closely with the Executive Committee, the Executive Vice President, and the  
353 Graduate School to coordinate the involvement of the GPSA in the new student orientation.
- 354 v. The committee will designate one committee member to contact all GPSA committees and focus groups  
355 throughout the year to assist them in publicizing meetings and committee-related events. These events  
356 will be announced in the GPSAINFO, any GPSA web sites, and the Graduate School Calendar.
- 357 vi. Division Chiefs
- 358 a. Each division caucus will elect from amongst themselves a Division Chief.
- 359 b. A Chief will be a Voting Member that is not a member of the Executive Committee.
- 360 c. If a Division Chief is elected to a position on the Executive Committee or the position is otherwise  
361 vacated, then a new Division Chief will be elected by the division caucus as soon as arrangements can  
362 be reasonably made.
- 363 d. The Vice President for Communications may appoint interim Chiefs as necessary. These  
364 appointments are subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
- 365 e. Each Division Chief is a member of the Communications Committee.
- 366 f. Each Division Chief is the primary person responsible for transmitting information between the  
367 GPSA and the Field Representatives, Field Organizations, Deans, students, and other members of  
368 their respective division.
- 369 g. Each Division Chief is encouraged to make themselves known to, and meet periodically with the  
370 Field Representatives, Field Organizations, and other members whom they are responsible to.
- 371 h. Division Chiefs are to assist the Vice President for Communications in any other way as needed.
- 372 i. Division Chiefs can be removed from their position by a majority vote of their division caucus.
- 373 E. Meetings
- 374 i. The Committee will meet at least once a month. All committee meetings shall be open to the graduate and  
375 professional student community.
- 376 ii. When a consensus cannot be reached, actions shall be determined by a majority vote of all committee  
377 members present.
- 378 iii. Minutes shall be taken at meetings and, upon review by the Committee Chair, shall be submitted to the  
379 Office of Assemblies for posting.
- 380

### 381 **Section 3.07: GPSA Finance Commission**

382

- 383 A. Purpose
- 384 i. The GPSA Finance Commission (GPSAFC) is charged with allocating funds to registered graduate and  
385 professional student organizations on the Ithaca and Geneva campuses of Cornell University.
- 386 B. Chairperson
- 387 i. The Commission shall have a chairperson, elected by the GPSA.
- 388 C. Vice-Chairperson
- 389 i. Upon consultation of GPSAFC commissioners, the chairperson shall appoint a vice-chairperson.
- 390 D. Membership
- 391 i. The Commission shall consist of at least six and no more than fifteen members, hereafter referred to as  
392 finance commissioners, appointed by the GPSA Operations and Staffing Committee.
- 393 ii. When possible, the finance commissioners should represent each of the professional schools and each of  
394 the Divisions of the Graduate School.
- 395 iii. Finance commissioners have exclusive voting privileges for allocating funds according to the rules set  
396 forth in the GPSAFC Funding Guidelines.



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- 397 iv. Finance commissioners shall attend the meetings of the Commission.  
398 v. If a finance commissioner is absent from two or more consecutive meetings of the Commission, without  
399 providing prior notice to the Chairperson, the Chairperson may ask the GPSA Operations and Staffing  
400 Committee to replace that commissioner.  
401 vi. Finance commissioners shall serve until the end of current GPSA term in which they are appointed,  
402 unless they are subject to removal as stated in Item 3.07.c.v.
- 403 E. Duties
- 404 i. The Commission is responsible for distributing funds to student groups according to the rules as set forth  
405 in the GPSAFC Funding Guidelines.
- 406 ii. The Chairperson is responsible for the operations of the Commission: The Chairperson oversees the  
407 Commission's actions and operating budget, and assists the Vice-Chair in scheduling and running the  
408 meetings of the Commission.
- 409 iii. The Chairperson, in cooperation with the Office of the Assemblies staff, sets the schedule for the annual  
410 budget application process.
- 411 iv. The Chairperson may appoint a Vice-Chair with the consent of the GPSAFC, and the Chair can delegate  
412 any of the Chairperson's responsibilities to the Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair shall be responsible to the  
413 Chairperson, and the Chairperson can terminate the Vice-Chair's duties at any time.
- 414 v. The Vice-Chair shall stand in for the Chair when the position is temporarily vacant.
- 415 vi. The Vice-Chair shall schedule and run the meetings of the Commission, including assigning budget  
416 reviews to commissioners and taking attendance.
- 417 vii. The Vice-Chair will assist the Chair in writing policy changes and resolutions to the GPSA Bylaws and  
418 GPSAFC Funding Guidelines.
- 419 viii. The Chairperson shall submit a budget request outlining and justifying all planned expenditures internal  
420 to the Commission to the Appropriations Committee Chairperson two weeks prior to the second GPSA  
421 meeting.
- 422 ix. The Chairperson may additionally delegate specific duties to other GPSAFC members, as necessary.  
423 These duties may include, but are not limited to: preparing materials for meetings, keeping the minutes,  
424 making updates to the GPSAFC website, and reviewing the GPSAFC Funding Guidelines and suggesting  
425 beneficial changes to the Chairperson of the GPSA Appropriations Committee.
- 426 x. The Chairperson shall submit a written update to the Appropriations Committee Chairperson on the status  
427 of the internal budget by the end of February.
- 428 F. Meetings
- 429 i. The Commission shall meet at least three times each semester to deliberate on matters set forth in the  
430 GPSAFC Funding Guidelines.
- 431 ii. The GPSAFC Chairperson also has the responsibility of organizing one meeting during the latter part of  
432 the spring semester, prior to the annual budget request deadline, where student organizations may come to  
433 learn about the regulations and procedures of the Commission.
- 434 iii. The Chairperson shall notify the Office of the Assemblies of the Commission's meeting times and  
435 locations.
- 436 iv. Meetings shall be open to the public. However, the Chairperson or any of the commissioners may call for  
437 a vote to be taken by secret ballot.
- 438 v. Any representative of a student organization wishing to present his or her organization's case at a meeting  
439 must notify the Chairperson at least three days in advance of the meeting.
- 440 vi. When the GPSAFC cannot reach a consensus, a simple majority vote will suffice for decision-making  
441 within the Commission.
- 442 vii. Minutes shall be taken at meetings and, upon review by the Chairperson, shall be submitted to the Office  
443 of Assemblies for posting.
- 444 G. Deadlines for Funding Applications
- 445 i. The deadline for current-year budget applications shall be in late April, with the specific date set by the  
446 Commission each year.
- 447 ii. The last date to submit proposals for advanced, standard summer funding shall be in late May. This  
448 funding shall cover any events during the months of June-August.

- 449       iii. An emergency, rolling summer funding budget shall also be available for student organizations. Funding  
450       requests may be submitted starting in mid-May and ending July 31st.  
451       iv. These requests will be reviewed by the GPSA Finance Commission during the period of May-August per  
452       Commissioner availability but at a minimum of two predetermined dates.  
453       v. The funds from the emergency, rolling budget may only be used for events during the summer term.  
454 H. Unallocated Funds  
455       i. If funds remain for allocation in the current-year budget, those funds will remain in the Commission's  
456       account for allocations in future GPSA terms.  
457

### 458 **Section 3.08: Student Advocacy Committee**

- 459 A. Purpose  
460       i. The GPSA Student Advocacy Committee works on issues of diversity, finances, stipend levels, mental  
461       and physical health, accessibility, child care and the general well-being of all graduate and professional  
462       students. The Student Advocacy Committee works in consultation with other relevant student and  
463       University committees and interested parties.  
464 B. Chairperson  
465       i. The Committee shall have a chairperson, elected by the GPSA.  
466 C. Members  
467       i. Any graduate or professional student is eligible to apply to become a member of the Committee.  
468       Applicants will be reviewed and staffed by the Operations and Staffing Committee.  
469       ii. Termination of a committee member is at the discretion of the Chairperson when a committee member is  
470       absent for more than half of the scheduled committee meetings.  
471 D. Duties  
472       i. The Committee is required to update the Graduate and Professional Student Resource List posted on the  
473       Student Advocacy Committee Website at least once each GPSA term.  
474       ii. In order to be more fully aware of the issues faced by the graduate and professional student community,  
475       the Committee will hold an open town hall meeting, at least one per year. Funding will come from the  
476       Committee budget. The meeting will have two goals: To provide a brief overview of current and past  
477       Committee activities and to gather information and anecdotes on current problems facing the community.  
478       Following these town hall meetings, the Committee will report their results to the GPSA and any relevant  
479       Cornell administrators.  
480       iii. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the operations of the Committee: The Chairperson shall oversee  
481       the Committee's actions and operating budget, as well as schedule and run the meetings of the  
482       Committee.  
483       iv. The Chairperson is charged with contacting all appropriate administrative offices so that they and the  
484       committee are in regular contact throughout the year.  
485 E. Meetings  
486       i. The Committee will meet once per month during the months of September, October, November,  
487       December, February, March, and April, and additionally as necessary. All committee members are  
488       expected to attend these meetings unless informed otherwise.  
489       ii. All Committee meetings shall be open to the graduate and professional student community. When a  
490       consensus cannot be reached, actions shall be determined by a majority vote of all committee members  
491       present.  
492       iii. Minutes shall be taken at meetings and, upon review by the Chairperson, shall be submitted to the Office  
493       of Assemblies for posting.  
494       iv. All meeting agendas and minutes shall be posted to the Committee's website.  
495       v. It is the responsibility of the Committee to post and advertise any advocacy related material on its website  
496       and ensure that the website is kept current.  
497  
498

### Section 3.09: Graduate and Professional Student Programming Board

- 499  
500  
501 A. Purpose  
502 i. The Graduate and Professional Student Programming Board (GPSPB) organizes events for graduate and  
503 professional students sponsored by the GPSA, such as receptions, speakers, socials, Grad Ball, Grads’  
504 Nights Out and other events that may arise as stated in Article 6.04.h of the GPSA Charter.  
505 B. Chairperson  
506 i. The Board shall have a chairperson, elected by the GPSA, as described in Article 6.02 of the GPSA  
507 Charter.  
508 C. Membership  
509 i. Any graduate or professional student is eligible to apply to become a member of the Committee.  
510 Applicants will be reviewed and staffed by the Operations and Staffing Committee.  
511 ii. One member of the Committee will serve on the Slope Day Steering Committee.  
512 iii. Termination of a committee member is at the discretion of the Chairperson when a committee member is  
513 absent for more than half of the scheduled committee meetings.  
514 D. Duties  
515 i. The GPSPB’s primary purpose is to plan, seek funding for, and carry out the annual Grad Ball.  
516 ii. The Chair shall submit a budget request outlining and justifying all planned expenditures internal to the  
517 Programming Board to the Appropriations Chair by two weeks prior to the second regularly scheduled  
518 GPSA meeting.  
519 iii. At the fourth regularly scheduled meeting of the fall semester and first regularly scheduled meeting of the  
520 spring semester, the Chair shall propose a schedule of events for the upcoming term.  
521 iv. The Programming Board shall work closely with the Office of Assemblies to contract entertainment, book  
522 rooms, and other issues as necessary.  
523 v. The Programming Board shall work with the Student Advocacy Committee to plan town hall event(s).  
524 vi. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the operations of the Programming Board: The Chairperson shall  
525 oversee the Programming Board’s actions and operating budget, as well as schedule and run the meetings  
526 of the Committee.  
527 vii. The Chairperson is charged with contacting all appropriate administrative offices so that they and the  
528 Programming Board are in regular contact throughout the year.  
529 E. Meetings  
530 i. The Programming Board will meet at least once every six weeks during the current GPSA term. The  
531 Chair will schedule additional meetings as necessary. All committee members are expected to attend  
532 these meetings unless informed otherwise.  
533 ii. All Programming Board meetings shall be open to the graduate and professional student community.  
534 iii. When a consensus cannot be reached, actions shall be determined by a majority vote of all committee  
535 members present.  
536 iv. Minutes shall be taken at meetings and, upon review by the Programming Board Chair, shall be submitted  
537 to the Office of Assemblies for posting.  
538

### Section 3.10: Faculty Teaching, Advising, and Mentorship Award Committee

- 539  
540  
541 A. Purpose  
542 i. The primary purpose of the Faculty Teaching, Advising, and Mentorship Award Committee (“Award  
543 Committee”) is to solicit nominations for and administer one or more annual Awards to recognize faculty  
544 who exhibit excellence in the teaching, advising, and mentorship of graduate and professional students.  
545 B. Chairperson  
546 i. The Award Committee shall have a chairperson, elected by the GPSA, as described in Article 6.02 of the  
547 GPSA Charter.  
548 C. Membership  
549 i. Any graduate or professional student is eligible to apply to become a member of the Committee.

- 550 Applicants will be reviewed and staffed by the Operations and Staffing Committee as specified in Section  
551 3.03.f.
- 552 ii. Termination of a committee member is at the discretion of the Chairperson when a committee member is  
553 absent for more than half of the scheduled committee meetings.
- 554 D. Duties
- 555 i. Articulate and disseminate selection criteria for the Award(s).
- 556 ii. Establish a process for soliciting nominations and/or applications for the annual Award(s).
- 557 iii. Select Award recipient(s) before the end of the last day of classes in the Spring semester.
- 558 iv. Seek funding for and host an Award Ceremony to celebrate and recognize the Award recipient(s) each  
559 academic year before the end of May.
- 560 v. Coordinate with the GPSA Communications Committee to publicize both the solicitation of nominations  
561 and the administration of the Award(s), once selections have been made.
- 562 vi. The Chairperson shall submit a budget request outlining and justifying all planned expenditures internal  
563 to the Award Committee to the Appropriations Chair by two weeks prior to the second regularly  
564 scheduled GPSA meeting. The budget shall include funds to publicize both the solicitation of nominations  
565 and the administration of the Award(s).
- 566 vii. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the operations of the Award Committee: The Chairperson shall  
567 oversee the Award Committee's actions and operating budget, as well as schedule and run the meetings of  
568 the Committee.
- 569 E. Meetings
- 570 i. The Award Committee will meet at least once per year during the current GPSA term to select Award  
571 recipient(s). The Chair will schedule additional meetings as necessary.
- 572 ii. When a consensus cannot be reached, actions shall be determined by a majority vote of all committee  
573 members present.
- 574 iii. Minutes shall be taken at meetings and, upon review by the Award Committee Chairperson, shall be  
575 submitted to the Office of Assemblies for posting. Respect will be paid to the privacy of nominators and  
576 nominated faculty members.

### 577 **Section 3.11: Diversity & International Students Committee**

- 578 **Section 3.11: Diversity & International Students Committee**
- 579
- 580 A. Purpose
- 581 i. The primary purpose of the Diversity & International Students Committee ("Diversity Committee") is to  
582 promote diversity and inclusion in all its forms within the GPSA membership and within the broader  
583 graduate and professional student community at Cornell University.
- 584 B. Chairperson
- 585 i. The Diversity Committee shall have a chairperson, elected by the GPSA, as described in Article 6.02 of  
586 the GPSA Charter.
- 587 C. Membership
- 588 i. Any graduate or professional student is eligible to apply to become a member of the Committee.  
589 Applicants will be reviewed and staffed by the Operations and Staffing Committee as specified in Section  
590 3.03(f).
- 591 ii. Termination of a committee member is at the discretion of the Chairperson when a committee member is  
592 absent for more than half of the scheduled committee meetings.
- 593 D. Duties
- 594 i. Communicate with groups engaged with diversity and international student issues in order to involve and  
595 engage diverse students with the work of the GPSA.
- 596 ii. Provide a forum to discuss diversity and inclusion within the graduate and professional student  
597 community.
- 598 iii. Host an annual meeting for groups representing diversity and international students.
- 599 iv. Engage Cornell administration in issues affecting diversity and international students.
- 600 v. Bring before the GPSA resolutions on issues related to diversity and international students.

- 601 vi. Present to the GPSA annually during the second to last meeting of the GPSA term on its work supporting  
602 international students, Students of Color, gender equality, LGBTQI students, students with disabilities,  
603 and related issues.

604

### 605 **Section 3.12: University Assembly Representation**

606

- 607 A. The President of the GPSA shall serve as a member of the University Assembly.  
608 B. The members of the GPSA will elect representatives to the University Assembly, the number and composition  
609 of which shall be in accordance with the University Assembly Charter.  
610 i. If they are not already GPSA Voting Members or Field Representatives, these delegates shall be  
611 considered ex officio members of the GPSA.  
612 ii. These delegates are required to report on University Assembly activities at meetings at the request of the  
613 Executive Committee.

614

### 615 **Section 3.13: Committee Delegates**

616

- 617 A. The Operations and Staffing Committee will appoint graduate and professional students to University  
618 committees which it staffs, GPSA committees and liaison positions, hereafter referred to as committee  
619 designees.  
620 B. Committee designees may serve as many one-year terms as they like, but must be appointed annually.  
621 C. All committee designees must be matriculated graduate or professional students of Cornell University.  
622 D. Exceptions to this rule may be made by a majority vote of the seated Voting Members at the request of the  
623 Vice President for Operations.

624

### 625 **Section 3.14: Committee and Committee Designee Reporting**

626

- 627 A. To ensure accountability and responsibility to the student body, each standing committee shall present a  
628 written report to the GPSA at least once a semester in addition to oral reports at meetings.  
629 B. To ensure accountability and responsibility to the student body, each ad hoc committee shall present a written  
630 report to the GPSA at least once a semester.  
631 C. Prior to meetings of the GPSA, committee designees shall submit to the GPSA Vice President for Operations  
632 a report to be shared with the GPSA.  
633 i. Reports shall include, but are not limited to, notification of whether the committee has met the  
634 committee's agenda and a short summary of the meeting.  
635 ii. The Executive Committee may remove committee designees for failing to submit a report for two  
636 consecutive meetings and shall appoint a new designee accordingly.

637

### 638 **Section 3.15: GPSA Ad-Hoc Committees**

639

- 640 A. Purpose  
641 i. The GPSA may form an ad-hoc committee when a need cannot be fulfilled through existing standing  
642 committees or through committees in the other Assemblies or in the University, or when the GPSA feels  
643 additional consideration is required.  
644 ii. To increase efficiency and decrease duplication, every effort will be made to address perceived needs of  
645 graduate and professional school students through existing University Committees and other appropriate  
646 bodies first.  
647 B. Chairperson  
648 i. The Committee shall have a chairperson, elected by the members of the ad-hoc committee.  
649 ii. The chairperson shall schedule and chair the meetings of the committee.

- 650       iii. The chairperson is responsible for providing committee updates to the GPSA.  
651 C. Membership  
652       i. Any graduate or professional student is eligible to apply to become a member of the committee.  
653       Applicants will be reviewed and staffed by the GPSA Operations & Staffing committee.  
654       ii. Shall consist of at least three members approved by the GPSA Operations & Staffing Committee.  
655       iii. Shall have at least one GPSA Voting Member.  
656       iv. Additional committee membership may be recommended by the GPSA Operations and Staffing  
657       Committee.  
658 D. Meetings  
659       i. The Committee will meet as necessary during the current GPSA term. All committee members are  
660       expected to attend these meetings unless informed otherwise.  
661       ii. All Committee meetings shall be open to the graduate and professional student community. When a  
662       consensus cannot be reached, actions shall be determined by a majority vote of all committee members  
663       present.  
664       iii. Minutes shall be taken at meetings and, upon request, shall be presented to the GPSA.  
665 E. Formation, Termination, and Re-Establishment  
666       i. Formation of an ad hoc committee is to be presented as a motion.  
667       ii. The ad-hoc committee will be dissolved when either the work of the committee has been completed or at  
668       the end of the term of office, whichever comes first.  
669       iii. An ad-hoc committee can be re-established by a resolution to continue its function in the next GPSA term  
670       by the GPSA.  
671

### 672 **Section 3.16: Internal Budget**

- 673  
674 A. GPSA Committees will track their own expenses.  
675 B. GPSA Committees will not commit to actions that could incur expenses that exceed the total amount  
676 budgeted for their operations without first obtaining the approval of the GPSA Appropriations Committee  
677 Chairperson.  
678 C. In the event that a GPSA Committee overruns their budgeted allocation, the Committee committing the  
679 overrun will collaborate with the Appropriations Committee to draft a resolution revising the GPSA Internal  
680 Budget so the expenses may be accounted.  
681 D. All queries regarding the GPSA Internal Budget and the current state of GPSA funds are to be directed to the  
682 Appropriations Committee Chairperson (Item 3.05.b).  
683 E. Any Current GPSA voting member, or field representative can propose a resolution to use funds from the  
684 GPSA reserve account. This resolution must be approved by a majority vote of present voting members and  
685 field representatives.  
686       i. A limit of how much can be approved by members present and anything above the limit requires a two-  
687       thirds majority vote of the entire GPSA, both voting and non-voting members. This limit is \$3000.  
688       ii. Resolutions can only be passed when reserves are at least 10% of annual funding received.  
689

## 690 **ARTICLE IV: PROCEDURES**

### 691 **Section 4.01: Term of Office**

- 692  
693  
694 A. The term of office of the GPSA shall be from June 1 to May 31, except for the positions of Appropriations  
695 Committee Chair and Finance Commission Chair, which will be from January 1 to December 31.  
696

### 697 **Section 4.02: Meeting Schedule**

698

- 699 A. Meetings shall be scheduled throughout the GPSA term, totaling seven (7) meetings per semester.  
700 B. Meetings defined in Section 4.02.a shall be referred to as “regularly scheduled meetings”.  
701 C. The GPSA will adopt a schedule of regularly scheduled meetings for the next term at the last meeting of the  
702 current GPSA term.

703

### 704 **Section 4.03: Regularly Scheduled Meetings**

705

- 706 A. Regularly scheduled meetings are open to all constituents and to the public.  
707 B. The GPSA Executive Committee shall determine appropriate discussion and business items.  
708 C. The presiding officer shall only vote on resolutions or subsidiary motions when the vote will affect the result.  
709 Examples include when a tie exists (for actions requiring majority approval) and when actions requiring two-  
710 thirds approval fall one vote short.

711

### 712 **Section 4.04: Agendas and Resolutions**

713

#### 714 A. Agendas

- 715 i. Agenda items will be compiled by the GPSA President in consultation with the Executive Committee.  
716 ii. Agendas must be sent to the members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

#### 717 B. Resolutions

- 718 i. Upon signing of a petition by 100 Cornell graduate and professional students, any Graduate and  
719 Professional Student may present a resolution to the GPSA for consideration.  
720 a. Within two regularly scheduled meetings after the presentation of the petition, the GPSA Voting  
721 Members will discuss and vote on the resolution.  
722 b. The form and wording of the resolution, as voted upon by the GPSA, shall be identical in form and  
723 wording to that of the petition.  
724 ii. Any GPSA member may present a resolution to the GPSA for consideration.  
725 iii. Procedure  
726 a. The primary sponsoring GPSA member explains the purpose of the resolution to the Assembly.  
727 b. The sponsor answers questions directly pertaining to the resolution. The sponsor may defer to other  
728 people in attendance for answering questions.  
729 c. For votes on resolutions, majority and two-thirds majority vote shall be determined based on total  
730 number of Voting Members participating in the vote, with the following exceptions:  
731 1. Motions to amend or rescind a previously adopted motion shall require either (1) prior notice and  
732 a two-thirds majority of those participating in the vote, or (2) a majority of the entire Voting  
733 Membership without prior notice.  
734 2. Amendments to the Bylaws and the Charter shall adhere to majority requirements stated in the  
735 Charter §10.01  
736 d. If the Assembly adopts a resolution, the President must convey the resolution to the President of the  
737 University within two weeks following the meeting in which the resolution is adopted. The wording  
738 of the resolution must be identical to that of the adopted resolution. If the President is unwilling or  
739 unable to perform this responsibility, the Officer of highest precedence shall have the responsibility to  
740 do so. If no Officer is willing or able to perform this responsibility, the sponsor of the resolution shall  
741 have the responsibility to do so.

742

### 743 **Section 4.05: Additional Meetings**

744

- 745 A. Additional meetings may be scheduled at least one week in advance by the Executive Committee, with  
746 written approval from at least two-thirds of the seated Voting Members.  
747 B. Only one additional meeting may be called per semester.

748

749 **Section 4.06: Division Summits**

- 750
- 751 A. For each Division of the Graduate School and jointly for the Professional Schools, at least one Division
  - 752 Summit shall be scheduled each GPSA term by the Division Chiefs for the Division.
  - 753 B. The Voting Members will compile an agenda of discussion topics, focusing on issues pertaining specifically
  - 754 to the Division.
  - 755 C. The exact date is to be determined at the Voting Members' discretion. Voting Members must notify Field
  - 756 Representatives sufficiently in advance of the time and location of the summit.
  - 757 D. GPSA members from other Divisions may be invited at the discretion of the Voting Members of the Divisions
  - 758 sponsoring the summit.

759

760 **Section 4.07: Executive Session**

761

- 762 A. Meetings may be closed for special executive session when deemed necessary to protect the rights of
- 763 members of the Cornell community by majority vote of the Voting Members present.
- 764 B. Field Representatives may be excluded from these sessions in addition to constituents and the public.
- 765 C. No binding actions will take place while in executive session.

766

767 **Section 4.08: Parliamentary Procedure**

768

- 769 A. The GPSA will use Robert's Rules of Order (latest edition) as the basis for determining procedures for formal
- 770 debate and legislative action.
- 771 i. As stated in Robert's Rules of Order, basic motions require the approval of the majority of cast votes to
- 772 take effect; abstentions are not considered cast votes.
- 773 B. The GPSA is not constrained to use parliamentary procedure for all discussions.

774

775 **Section 4.09: Quorum**

776

- 777 A. A quorum of GPSA Voting Members is required before business items may be voted on at regularly
- 778 scheduled meetings.
- 779 B. A quorum of the Voting Members shall consist of a majority of the seated Voting Members of the GPSA.

780

781 **Section 4.10: Absences**

782

- 783 A. Voting members
- 784 i. Must notify the Executive Vice-President in advance of any absence.
- 785 ii. Absences will be determined to be excused or unexcused by two-thirds majority vote of the Executive
- 786 Committee.
- 787 iii. May be unseated by a simple majority of the Executive Committee if they have more than two absences
- 788 from GPSA meetings during the current GPSA term. Unseated members do not count as part of the total
- 789 vote when calculating quorum, majority votes, or two-thirds votes.

790

791 **Section 4.11: Removal**

792

- 793 A. Voting members
- 794 i. An unseated member may be removed from the GPSA Voting Members following a vote by two-thirds of
- 795 the Executive Committee.
- 796 ii. The Executive Committee may not vote to remove an unseated Voting Member until one regularly



- 797 scheduled GPSA meeting has elapsed since the Voting Member was informed that they were unseated.  
798 B. Field Representatives  
799 i. Must notify the Executive Vice-President in advance of any absence.  
800 a. A Field Representative who will miss a meeting may send an alternate from their field, who will  
801 satisfy their attendance requirement for that meeting.  
802 ii. Absences will be determined to be excused or unexcused, and alternates approved, by two-thirds majority  
803 vote of the Executive Committee.  
804 C. Committee Chairs and University Assembly Representatives  
805 i. A GPSA standing committee chair, ad hoc committee chair, or University Assembly representative may  
806 be removed from their position by a two-thirds vote of the seated Voting Members but may retain their  
807 seat as a Voting Member.  
808 D. GPSA Officers  
809 i. GPSA officers may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the seated Voting Members but may  
810 retain their Voting Membership.  
811

## 812 **ARTICLE V: GPSA Election Rules**

### 813 **Section 5.01: Voter Eligibility**

- 814 A. To vote in any GPSA election, a person must be a registered student in a graduate or professional degree  
815 program.  
816  
817  
818

### 819 **Section 5.02: Definitions**

- 820 A. The following words throughout the Election Rules are defined as such:  
821 i. Classroom: is any space in which a professor, teaching assistant, or any other instructor holds prescribed  
822 class times. “Classroom” includes in person, hybrid, and online courses.  
823 ii. Cyber Bullying: is the act of bullying in any online space. These election rules follow the same definition  
824 of bullying as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and applicable university policies or governmental  
825 laws.  
826 iii. Individual or self-promoting publicity: is any outreach events, office hours, postings, or public facing  
827 events, whether in-person or virtual, in which interaction with, or promotion of, the candidate is a  
828 substantial reason for the act.  
829 iv. Social Media: is any online service that allows users to share, create, or post content for social  
830 networking purposes. Social media services include, but are not limited to: Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok,  
831 LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, Reddit, MySpace, Pinterest, YouTube, and CampusGroups.  
832 However, email, GroupMe, WhatsApp, Signal, SMS texting, and private messaging features on other  
833 applications are not social media.  
834  
835

### 836 **Section 5.03: Compliance with University Policies and Student Code of Conduct**

- 837 A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must be aware of and comply with all applicable policies and  
838 provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, including but not limited to:  
839 i. Use of Cornell Name, Logo & Artwork policy  
840 ii. Event Registration policies  
841 iii. Facilities Reservation policies  
842 iv. University Postering and Chalking policies  
843 v. Intimidation tactics and cyberbullying activities are strictly prohibited  
844 B. A violation of any University policy is a violation of these rules and therefore grounds for a challenge if it  
845

846 compromises the fairness of the election. It is the candidate's responsibility to read the referenced documents  
847 and be familiar with the rules and regulations established within them. The Elections Committee may also  
848 refer any reported violations to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS) or any  
849 other appropriate office, which may impose disciplinary remedies and penalties according to its own rules and  
850 procedures.

851

## 852 **Section 5.04: Electronic Communications**

853

854 A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:

- 855 i. Cannot receive campaign support through a Cornell Administered list-serv.
- 856 ii. Must comply with Cornell University IT policies

857

## 858 **Section 5.05: Campaign Finance**

859

- 860 A. Candidates or supporters acting on their behalf must submit all receipts and/or proof of fair market value with  
861 the signed expense report to the Office of the Assemblies by the last regularly scheduled GPSA meeting.  
862 Candidates who do not submit receipts and/or proof of fair market value will be presumed to have spent \$0 on  
863 their campaign.
- 864 i. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not exceed the limit for out-of-pocket expenses and  
865 fair market value of donations of materials, professional services, and/or money.
  - 866 ii. Fair market value is the value at which something is to be obtained normally if documentation of its dollar  
867 value is not provided. If there is a supporting receipt for goods used in a candidate's campaign, then the  
868 value of that good is the dollar value on the supporting receipt as long as the transaction was conducted at  
869 arm's length.
  - 870 iii. For donated materials, professional services, or other goods for which no official receipt is provided,  
871 candidates must seek the most plausible assessment of the fair market value of the goods. Professional  
872 services will be defined as any work for which the given individual/donor is typically compensated.  
873 Volunteer time donated by full-time students, who are not professionals (have received payment for  
874 service) in the area of their volunteer effort, will not be considered professional services.
  - 875 iv. Paid advertisements and related costs on social networking sites or other websites must also be accounted  
876 for at fair market value.
  - 877 v. Candidates may use any platforms at their disposal, granted they are free. If these platforms require  
878 purchasing, candidates are required to report this in their expense report form.

879

## 880 **Section 5.06: Endorsements**

881

- 882 A. All registered student organizations receiving funds from the GPSA are encouraged to endorse candidates. If  
883 an organization chooses to endorse a candidate, it is expected to abide by the guidelines below.
- 884 i. Student Activities Funding Commission (SAFC) funded and Student Activity Fee (SAF) byline funded  
885 organizations may endorse candidates. All groups must act in a way that is fair and balanced when  
886 deciding on the endorsement of candidates.
  - 887 ii. The Elections Committee may recommend that the GPSAFC impose fines on or revoke allocated funds  
888 from organizations failing to comply.
  - 889 iii. If a member of the Elections Committee sits on the Executive Board or governing body of an  
890 organization, that organization is prohibited from endorsing candidates
  - 891 iv. All registered graduate and professional students are encouraged to individually endorse candidates.

892

## 893 **Section 5.07: Campaign Ethics**

894

- 895 A. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:  
896 i. May not, at any time before, during or after the elections, harass, threaten, or coerce others.  
897 ii. May not provide anything of material value to a member of the Cornell community to further themselves  
898 in the election or to promote their candidacy.  
899 iii. May not compel any person to endorse their candidacy, assist their campaign, or act as supporter as an  
900 explicit or implicit condition for initiation to, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in  
901 a group or organization.  
902

## 903 **ARTICLE VI: SUSPENSION OF THE GPSA BYLAWS**

- 904  
905 A. A GPSA Voting Member may make a motion to suspend an Article of the GPSA Bylaws for the duration of a  
906 meeting.  
907 B. The Article of the GPSA Bylaws is suspended with two-thirds of the seated Voting Members in favor.  
908 C. Article V, in its entirety, may not be suspended.