



Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly of Cornell University

Minutes of the August 31, 2026 Meeting

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Physical Science Building 401 & Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - A. N. Brennan called the meeting to order at 5:10pm
 - B. *Members Present:* Y. Alay, L. Alshameh, N. Brennan, A. Coogan, A. Cortez, C. Cox, K. Dahal, J. Deskins, D. Freeman, A. Garcia-Ortiz, D. Ghimire, D. Hwang, L. Kim, C. King, I. Kosar, Z. Liu, Z. Lynch, M. Mitri, R. Prude, E. Snell, Y. Wu
 - C. *Members Absent:*
 - D. *Also Present:* T. Lewis
- II. Approval of the April 27, 2026 Meeting minutes
 - A. A. Coogan motioned to approve the meeting minutes
 - B. The minutes were **passed** by unanimous consent
- III. Call for late additions to the agenda
 - A. There were no late calls to the agenda
- IV. Business of the day
 - A. Tal Lewis, the Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate Education gave a presentation to the assembly.
 - B. Internal Vacancies
 1. The Assembly voted in an ILR representative, Arts and Humanities representative and they **passed** by unanimous consent.
 - C. University Assembly Nominations
 1. Two candidates were nominated for the position, they gave speeches and took questions. A. Barnes was chosen to represent the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly.
 - D. General Committee Approval
 1. N. Brennan presented the candidates for the General Committee
 2. Y. Alay motioned to reopen the graduate School General Committee seats
 3. The panel remains as it is with a vote majority vote of **5-6-3**
 - E. Resolution I: The Internal Assembly Budget for 2026-2027
 1. A. Garcia-Ortiz motioned to approve the budget
 2. The motion **passed** by a majority vote of **16-0-1**



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- F. VP of Appropriations Nominations: Zander Lynch
- G. Campus Groups Funding Consent Item
 - 1. A. Garcia-Ortiz motioned to vote for this consent item
 - 2. The motioned **failed** by a majority vote of **13-0-4**
- V. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates
 - A. President
 - 1. Nothing to Report
 - B. Executive Vice President
 - 1. Z. Lynch reported to the Assembly that he is working to assign everyone to a committee
 - C. Operations and Staffing Committee
 - 1. J. Deskins reported to the assembly that the committee would like new members.
 - D. Appropriations Committee
 - 1. N. Brennan reported that they are working to go through payments and to give them time, and that clubs can get their funding tier with the QR code.
 - E. Communications Committee
 - 1. C. Cox reported that they are looking for new members and gave background to the committee
 - F. Finance Commission
 - 1. Nothing to report
 - G. Student Advocacy Committee
 - 1. K. Dahal reported they are looking for new members and gave background to the committee
 - H. Diversity and International Students Committee
 - 1. A. Garcia-Ortiz reported they are looking for new members
 - I. Programming Board
 - 1. Nothing to report
 - J. Faculty Advising, Teaching, and Mentorship Award Committee(FATMAC)
 - 1. Nothing to Report
 - K. Graduate School
 - 1. Nothing to Report
- VI. Open Discussion
 - A. D. Freeman expressed to the assembly more transparency with members so they can help.
- VII. Adjournment
 - A. A. Garcia-Ortiz motioned to adjourn the meeting
 - B. The motion **passed** by unanimous consent



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The meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm.

Respectfully Committed,
Erin Kenefick-Coppersmith
Clerk of the Assembly