

Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Cornell Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Minutes of the December 1st, 2025, Meeting

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

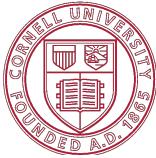
Room 401, Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

I. Call to Order

- a. N. Brennan called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.
 - i. *Members Present:* J. Alzayer, A. Basquiat, N. Brennan, A. Cardenas, P. Caruso, C. Chappel, A. Coogan, D. Freeman, E.R. Gallant, I. Gatimi, A. George, M. Hassler, M. James, Y. Khaled, C. King, A. Kooyada, Z. Liu, Z. Lynch, C. Meffert, T. Nguyen, S. Raimondi, S. Sepp, I. Smith, Y. Wu
 - ii. *Members Absent:* V. Baruah, B. Candelaria, J. Chobirko, I. Di Tomassi, A. Garcia-Ortiz, M. Ortiz, K. Rohrbaugh
 - iii. *Also Present:* T.A. Lewis, J. Withers

II. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. A. Cardenas reminded the GPSA that this special meeting would be on the Student Code of Conduct Review and that the last meeting of the semester would be on December 8
- b. Operations and Staffing
 - i. Z. Lynch shared that there would be appointments and nominations later in the meeting
- c. Appropriations
 - i. None
- d. Communications
 - i. None
- e. Finance
 - i. None
- f. Student Advocacy
 - i. I. Gatimi shared that the committee would participate a lot in the Code of Conduct Review discussion to come
- g. Programming
 - i. None
- h. Diversity and International Students
 - i. None
- i. Faculty Advising, Teaching, and Mentorship Award
 - i. None



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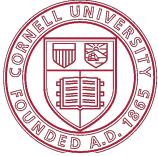
- j. Special Grants
 - i. None
- k. Graduate School
 - i. Nothing major, but T.A. Lewis reported that application volume continues to be strong, and the admissions cycle is started

III. Presentations

- a. Presentation I by Student Code of Conduct and Procedures Review Committee (Zora Patterson deRham, President of the Cornell University Student Assembly; Jenn Michael, Senior Director Student Services)
 - i. The presenters began by describing the committee and its purpose in sending representatives to the meeting. The committee is advisory and focused on gathering community feedback on the Student Code of Conduct and related procedures. The speakers also clarified the scope of today's presentation (listening and note-taking rather than personnel complaints or debate). The speakers played an eleven-minute-long video explaining the code and procedures and different resolution pathways
 - ii. GPSA members provided feedback. Several members pointed to temporary suspensions as a biggest concern, with severe punitive measures for students (loss of funding, insurance, academic progress, immigration status) and members asked for greater thresholds. Members also asked for more transparent decision-making on punishments and appeals, with explanations of timeline, progress, and key steps. Members also mentioned overly long timelines, "paused" investigations, vague criteria, important decisions being made by one person, and an inconsistent review cycle (five-year gap between what is meant to be an annual code review)
 - iii. The speakers thanked the GPSA and stated that this was the first listening session with more to come. They will consolidate feedback to represent graduate and professional voices later on, and gave codeandprocedures@cornell.edu as a address for further feedback

IV. Appointments and Nominations

- a. Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Status of the Faculty (AFPSF)
 - i. N. Brennan opened the floor for nominations
 - ii. A. Cardenas and Y. Wu both self-nominated to be AFPSF representative
 - iii. Seeing no other nominations, Z. Lynch motioned to close the floor for nominations. Without objection, N. Brennan closed the floor



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- iv. Both candidates gave a two-minute speech and took limited questions from members
- v. An online vote resulted in a tie
- vi. C. King motioned to extend the meeting by two minutes, for a new end time of 6:32 p.m. The motion passed by unanimous consent
- vii. D. Freeman motioned to enter moderated debate without candidates present. The motion passed by unanimous consent
- viii. Z. Lynch motioned to extend the meeting by ten minutes, for a new end time of 6:42 p.m. The motion passed by unanimous consent
- ix. In a second vote, Y. Wu was elected as GPSA representative to the Committee on AFPSF
 - b. Committee on Music (CoM)
 - c. Educational Policy Committee (EPC)
 - d. Generative AI in Education Working Group

V. New Business

- a. None

VI. Open Forum

- a. None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anthony Wang
Clerk of the Assembly