Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly of Cornell University
Minutes of the October 26th, 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 5:07pm
   B. *Members Present:* M. Abraham-Aggarwal, A. Aftab, Y. Alay, N. Brennan, A. Burquez, C. Chappel, A. Coogan, A. Cortez, C. Cox, K. Dahal, J. Deskins, D. Freeman, A. Garcia-Ortiz, D. Ghimire, C. King, I. Kosar, Z. Liu, M. Pabla, R. Prude, A. Runnels, E. Snell II, S. Van Rossem, J. Wilson, Y. Wu
   C. *Members Absent:* L. Alshameh, D. Hwang, L. Kim, Z. Lynch, M. Mitri
   D. Also Present: T. Lewis, K. Kimball

II. Presentations and Speakers
   A. Vice President Kyle Kimball, vice president for university relations, gave a presentation and took questions and comments.

III. Approval of the October 5, 2026 Meeting minutes
   A. C. King motioned to approve the meeting minutes
   B. The minutes were **passed** by unanimous consent

IV. Call for late additions to the agenda
   A. C. King motioned to move the graduate school updates forward on the agenda.
   B. A. Garcia-Ortiz motioned to move Resolution 4 to the front of the agenda

V. Business of the Day
   A. Resolution 4- Single- Use Plastic Phaseout
      1. C. Cox and committee gave a presentation about Resolution 4, single use plastic phaseout, and took questions and comments from the assembly.
      2. N. Brennan moved the assembly into a 5 minute caucus for comments by the assembly.
      3. The assembly voted in favor of resolution 4, by **18-0-0,** the resolution **passed**
   B. Finance Commission Presentation
      1. C. King gave a presentation about finances and took questions and comments from the assembly.
   C. Resolution 2- Reallocation of Special Grant Opportunities
      1. N. Brennan and committee presented resolution 2 to the assembly, they took questions and comments

2. The assembly voted in favor of resolution 2, by **18-0-1**
3. The assembly motioned for a revote for next meeting, and resolution 2 was added to next meetings agenda

D. Resolution 3- Establishing concrete, survivor-centered reforms to Cornell University's sexual-violence policies, procedures, and support systems
   1. A presentation was given sharing the resolution the committee took questions and comments.
   2. No action was taken at this time, the resolution was tabled until the next meeting

E. GPSA Vacancies
   1. K. Li was nominated for the position and added in as a social science representative.

VI. Committee Reports

A. President
   1. N. Brennan reported GPSA will not have to cover the campus groups fee and they are launching a new initiative to tackle the Ithaca moratorium disruptions.

B. Executive Vice President
   1. E. Snell II reported they attended the Ivy+ summit and met with different representatives from student government.

C. Operations and Staffing Committee
   1. Nothing to report

D. Appropriations Committee
   1. Nothing to report

E. Communications Committee
   1. J. Deskins reported they are boosting their social media presence and plans for tabling events.

F. Finance Commission
   1. C. King reported if a member is interested in joining the committee to reach out

G. Student Advocacy Committee
   1. Nothing to report

H. Diversity and International Students Committee
   1. K. Dahal reported alumni reaching out, using Ivy+ connections and an upcoming presentation to the assembly.

I. Programming Board
   1. Nothing to Report

J. Faculty Advising, Teaching, and Mentorship Award Committee(FATMAC)
   1. Nothing to report

K. Graduate School
   1. T. Lewis talked with the graduate students for a check in. He took questions and comments from the assembly.

VII. Open Discussion

A. Nothing to discuss

VIII. Adjournment

A. C. Chappel motioned to adjourn the meeting

B. The motion **passed** by unanimous consent

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.

Respectfully Committed,
Erin Kenefick-Coppersmith
Clerk of the Assembly