



GPSA Resolution #6: Calling for the Development of a Strategic Plan

October 16th, 2017

Abstract: This resolution confirms the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly's support for AY 2017 - 2018 University Assembly Resolution 3: Calling for the Development of a Strategic Plan. Furthermore, the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly calls on the administration to engage with not only all assemblies but also the larger Cornell community when crafting the Strategic Plan.

Sponsored by: Elena Michel, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Biological Sciences Voting Member and University Assembly Representative

Whereas, senior leadership recognizes the critical need to address issues of injustice, racism and bigotry, in the wake of separate incidents on or near campus this semester, and to develop and/or enhance programs and services that support **diversity** and inclusion on our campuses; and

Whereas, many in our campus community are dealing with questions and concerns about recent U.S. executive actions on immigration travel bans, and DACA and undocumented students—and the current and future implications for student, faculty, and staff activities and our **international** programs; and

Whereas, the Senior Leaders Climate Action Group is working to integrate **sustainability** and climate action strategies into the campus culture and strategic planning process; and

Whereas, the opening of the tech campus in New York City marks the beginning of a new era of unprecedented opportunity for Cornell, which hinges upon our ability to take advantage of cross-college synergies and develop institutional capacity to act as "**One Cornell**" and create more connections among the distinct parts; and

Whereas, there is an ongoing tension between our ambitious aspirations to enhance diversity, sustainability, connectivity between colleges and campuses, and global impact, and the limited availability of new resources to fund these aspirations; and

Whereas, the most recent strategic plan was completed in May 2010 and set forth specific objectives and actions for the university for the period of 2010-2015; and

Whereas, this plan has not been updated to reflect the changing environment for higher education in general and for Cornell in particular; and



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

- 1 **Whereas**, on October 3rd, 2017, the University Assembly Campus Welfare Committee introduced
2 Resolution 3: Calling for the Development of a Strategic Plan; and
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- 4 **Whereas**, a strategic plan will guide institutional decisions about where to invest resources (i.e.,
5 time, effort, and money); therefore
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- 7 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly formally requests
8 that the president and provost of Cornell University initiate a strategic planning process to begin in
9 fall 2017 and to be completed in 2018; and
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- 11 **Be it Further Resolved**, that the university administration should partner with all assemblies
12 and ensure that faculty, students, and staff share in the strategic planning process and have a
13 meaningful role in shaping the final strategic plan; and
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- 15 **Be it Further Resolved**, that all assemblies will have the ability to appoint members to the strategic
16 planning advisory council in the process of crafting the new strategic plan; and
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- 18 **Be it Further Resolved**, that the strategic planning advisory council should hold town halls
19 throughout this process to inform and solicit feedback from the larger Cornell community before
20 submitting a final draft; and
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- 22 **Be it Further Resolved**, that the university administration should formally present a status update on
23 the strategic plan to all assemblies by the end of fall 2018; and
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- 25 **Be it Finally Resolved**, that all assemblies must endorse the strategic plan in the form of a formal
26 Resolution before the strategic plan is adopted by the University.