

# Graduate and Professional Student Center

## Objectives

Objective 1: Enhance the operation and accessibility of the Big Red Barn to better foster both academic and social interactions among graduate and professional students

*Rationale:* Similar to the previous GPCI document, this objective is still standing as an on-going long-term goal. The Big Red Barn is under new leadership and many changes are expected to happen in the coming years to elevate the usage of the Big Red Barn and improve the students' experience at the center. One of the main goals is to increase graduate and professional students' usage of the Big Red Barn. The following are some actions to help maintain this objective.

### *Actions:*

- a. Support the operation of the BRB Advisory Board. The BRB Advisory is led by the management of the BRB and includes BRB management and staff, Cornell dining and GPSA representatives. GPSA will continue to designate two graduate/professional student representatives every year to serve on the BRB Advisory Board.
- b. Continue supporting the Big Red Barn with funding for maintenance and building upgrades as needed.
- c. Upgrade the seating area
  - i. Increase the number of indoor tables and seats at the Big Red Barn.
- d. Support the Big Red Barn in examining cooling down systems to make the building's temperature more comfortable during hot weather
- e. Increase operating hours of the barn to include weekends (during Fall and Spring)
  - i. Create a committee to explore what the Big Red Barn could provide during the summer in terms of services, programming and operating hours
- f. Increase operating hours of the barn to include summers
  - i. Create a committee to explore what the Big Red Barn could provide during the summer in terms of services, programming and operating hours.
    - i. *Summer 2019 was the first summer in which the BRB was operational. To ensure that the BRB is open in future summer, the GPSA will continue to support the BRB in maintaining and expanding their summer operating hour.*

Objective 2: Increase the visibility and usage of the Big Red Barn amongst graduate and professional students.

*Rationale:* The Big Red Barn hosts and/or create s a multitude of events and programming. Moreover, the Big Red Barn space serves as a free physical space resource for graduate students and organizations to host events. Some students might not be aware of these things;

therefore, it is essential to continue promoting the Big Red Barn's space, events and programming.

*Actions:*

- a. Include the Big Red Barn in newsletter and mass communication.
- b. Assist the Big Red Barn in promoting events and programming.
- c. Encourage graduate and professional student organization to use the Big Red Barn for meetings and events.
- d. Offer incentives to organizations when hosting programming at the Big Red Barn.