

Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Agenda of the December 9th, 2019 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call (5 Minutes)
- III. Approval of the Minutes (5 Minutes)
 - a. Minutes from November 4, 2019
 - b. Minutes from November 18, 2019
- IV. Presentations (20 Minutes)
 - a. Dr. Bruce Lewenstein, Manisha Munasinghe, Jaewon Sim, and J.T. Baker
 - i. Graduate and Professional Student-Elected Trustee Election
- V. Division Breakout (5 Minutes)
- VI. Elections (10 Minutes)
 - a. Finance Commission Chair
- VII. Old Business (20 Minutes)
 - a. Discussion of Resolution 3: *Demanding Mandatory Arbitration and Class Action Bans Be Removed from CASHNet and Other Community Agreements*
- VIII. New Business (20 Minutes)
 - a. Introduction to Resolution 4: *Recommendation for the Graduate and Professional Student Activity Fee for 2020-2022*
- IX. Open Forum (5 Minutes)
- X. Adjournment



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Agenda of the November 4, 2019 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 5:31pm A. Barrientos-Gomez calls meeting to order
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Present: A. Cohn, C. Duell, A. Johnson, M. Keefe, K. Laurent, N. London, L. Louis, P. Vinhage, , D. Yucalan, J. Bogdanowicz, L. Kenney, A. Loiben, J. Pea, L. Smith, A. Barrientos-Gomez, M. Kalaji, R. Harrison, A. Sontag, V. Kasonde, A. P. D. G. Everett, A. Cirillo,
 - b. Absent: P. Vinhage D. Wang, A. Woods, K. Esannason,
- III. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Minutes from October 21, 2019
 - i. Motion to approve
 - ii. Seconded
 - iii. **Approved**
- IV. Presentations
 - a. Alexa Cohn, Executive Vice President: What is a Resolution?
 - i. A. Cohn: Steps in writing a resolution. First step is to identify the issue. Then, search for legislative history. History on resolutions are on the

assembly's website. Next you must engage stakeholders for information, context, and background. After you decide if there is enough backing to write a resolution. If you decide that the issue can be addressed using a resolution you may write a draft and introduce it to the assembly. Then after discussion and amendments, the resolution may be voted on. If the resolution passes in the assembly, it will be sent to President Pollack to sign.

- ii. A. Johnson: What do you do if you want to vote on a resolution during the week it is introduced?
- iii. A. Cohn: We would need to suspend out rules first, which would require a 2/3 vote.

V. Division Breakout

- a. To discuss resolutions

VI. Discussion on Division Breakout

VII. Committee Updates

- a. Executive Committee: We are having issues with the emails, if you are not receiving the agenda and meeting reminder let us know.
- b. Operations: All staffing vacancies are our responsibility, we are looking for suggestions, and if anyone has any questions please let us know.
- c. Communications: None
- d. Appropriations: None
- e. Finance: The next CampusGroups help session is going to be on Tuesday, November 19th from 12-1 in Day Hall room 115.

f. Student Advocacy: We have a townhall with GPCI on November 20th from 5:30-6.

g. Diversity and International Students: We hosted a productive Community Conversation on Free Speech, Democracy, and Hong Kong on October 30th. We are working to select a topic for November's Community Conversation and suggestions are welcome. The Diversity and Inclusion Renaissance Ball, co-sponsored by DISC as part of the Graduate and Professional Diversity Council, will be held on Saturday, November 9th from 7:00 to 11:00 pm in G10 Biotech. The Ball will feature live music by the amazing Brownskin Band. More information and a link the online ticket sales can be found here:

<https://gradschool.cornell.edu/diversity-inclusion/student-organizations/renaissance-ball/>

The next event in the Building Allyship Series, title "Helping International Scholars Uncover the Hidden Curriculum" will be held on Tuesday, November 12th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in G10 Biotech. This session will provide us with an opportunity to understand the experiences of international scholars coming to U.S. institution of higher and what it means to serve as an ally as they are confronted with new institutional landscapes and sociocultural environments.

Please RSVP using this link:

bit.ly/IntlAllyship

h. Programming: None

i. Faculty Awards: None

- j. General Committee: None
- k. Graduate School: None
- l. GPCI: Google form for feedback has been created and sent to all feed reps and voting members. If you haven't done so already, please send this out to your fields so we can solicit feedback on the first draft! The Google form can be found here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciv5C4gp1_bjfw_OoUqOqNs18jBtzBjCsUnf-YP7-EZAt2GA/viewform?usp=sf_link

The GPCI committee will also be co-sponsoring a town hall with SAC on November 20th from 5:30 to 7:00 pm in Goldwin-Smith Hall room G64. Please come by and voice concerns about the graduate and professional student experience!

- m. UA Delegates: We have a meeting tomorrow about resolutions and the campus code of conducts.

VIII. New Business

- a. Introduction to Resolution 2: Condemning the Dismissal of Julia Feliz from the Cornell Alliance for Science's Global Leadership Fellowship
 - i. Motion to extend meeting 5 minutes
 - 1. Seconded
 - 2. Approved
 - ii. Motion to extend meeting 10 minutes
 - 1. Seconded

2. Approved

IX. Motion to skip open forum and skip to adjournment

a. Seconded

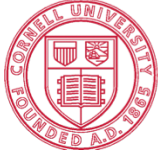
b. Approved

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashlynn Lee

Clerk of the Assembly



Cornell University
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Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
Agenda of the November 18, 2019 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

I. Call to Order

- a. 5:30 A. Barrientos-Gomez calls meeting to order

II. Roll Call

- i. Present: A. Cohn, C. Duell, K. Esannason, A. Johnson, M. Keefe, K. Laurent, N. London, L. Louis, P. Vinhage, A. Woods, D. Yucalan, J. Bogdanowicz, L. Kenney, A. Loiben, J. Pea, L. Smith, A. Barrientos-Gomez, M. Kalaji, R. Harrison, A. Sontag, V. Kasonde, A. P. D. G. Everett
- ii. Absent: A. Cirillo, D. Wang,

III. Presentations

- a. Victoria Kasonde, Vice President of Operations on State of Operations

- i. V. Kasonde: The Operations and Staffing Committee is charged with appointing graduate and professional students to committees staffed by the GPSA, and with maintaining and updating the GPSA Charter, GPSA Bylaws, and relevant documents. Who Are We? All committee chairs (12) Standing and ad-hoc, University Assembly delegates (4) Formally appointed, and Executive Committee (5) Ex-officio. Our duties include making committee

appointments, updating appointment lists, communicating appointments to relevant chairs and representatives, ensuring that the practices of the GPSA at its meetings and campus activities are environmentally sustainable, advertising committee vacancies, reviewing applications, and acting as a liaison between 91 committee representatives, and requesting revisions to the GPSA Bylaw. Where does committee budget money go? It is at the discretion of the chair. How can I make suggestions to the Bylaws? Through your committee chairs and “all Committee meetings shall be open to the graduate and professional student community.”

IV. Division Breakout

- i. Discussing resolutions

V. Committee Updates

- i. Executive Committee: If you are not receiving emails let us know.
- ii. Operations: If you have any questions about staffing/vacancy let us know
- iii. Communications: If you have questions regarding the newsletter let us know
- iv. Appropriations: none
- v. Finance: We have another campus group tomorrow in day hall.
- vi. Student Advocacy: We have townhall this week on Wednesday in GSH G64, there is a Facebook event, please come.
- vii. Diversity and International Students: We have a successful event last week, and our weekly meeting this morning, at 10:45am if people would like to come in the future. Epl49

- viii. Programming: We have a grad night out at the Loft December 5th, and on February 8th there will be a free skate event.
- ix. Faculty Awards: none
- x. General Committee: We had a meeting last week.
- xi. Graduate School: We have a new member that has been appointed to the new Dean search community
- xii. GPCI: Townhall on Wednesday.
- xiii. UA Delegates: We had a presentation from Michelle Horvath, the Judicial Administrator, on her annual report on all campus-related incidents from the Judicial Administration. She is working with the Codes & Judicial Committee on further clarifications in the code for the Student Code of Conduct. We also discussed modifications to a current draft on Minors at Cornell.
- xiv.

VI. Elections

- i. Master's-at-Large Voting Representative
 - a. Nominated: David, Katherine, Casey
 - b. Results: Katherine
- ii. Master's in Industrial and Labor Relations Voting Representative
 - a. Results: Ethan

VII. Old Business

- a. Discussion of Resolution 2: *Condemning the Dismissal of Julia Feliz from the Cornell Alliance for Science's Global Leadership Fellowship*
 - 1. Motion to change the title from condemned to concern

a. Seconded

b. 7-8-2

c. Passes

2. Motion to move resolution to DSIC

a. Seconded

b. Passes

VIII. New Business

a. Introduction to Resolution 3: *Demanding Mandatory Arbitration and Class Action Bans Be Removed from CASH Net and Other Community Agreements*

IX. Motion to extend meeting by 15 minutes

i. Seconded

ii. Passed

X. Open Forum

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Ashlynn Lee
Clerk of the Assembly



Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Committee Updates for the December 9th, 2019 Meeting

Executive Committee: The next general body meeting will be on January 27, 2020

Operations:

- Presented the state of operations to the general body
- Discussed plan of action for amending the bylaws for external committees
- Greatest priority is filling the seats for the vacant internal committees
- Need to fill the grad representative on the Trustee Nominating Committee and Student Health Plan Advisory Committee

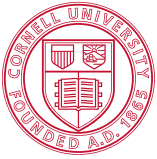
Finance Commission: The next CampusGroups help session is going to be on Tuesday, November 19th from 12-1 in Day Hall room 115.

Diversity and International Students: DISC co-sponsored a welcome event with Graduate and Professional Students International, a new RSO with the goal of building a stronger network of international students, on November 21st. Planning is underway for the third Building Allyship Series event, which will focus on allyship to first generation/low income graduate and professional students. The event will be a collaboration with the First Generation/Low Income Graduate Student Association (FiGLI), another new RSO this year. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5th from 12:00 to 1:00 in G10 Biotech, with lunch served at 11:30. More announcements and an RSVP form will be sent out in mid-January.

Faculty Awards: No updates

Student Advocacy Committee: Our town hall went well, there is substantial feedback that needs to be gone through and prioritized into projects.

Graduate and Professional Community Initiative: Our joint town hall with SAC on November 20th went very well, thank to everyone who came out! Please also send your fields the link to feedback for the GPCI. Public comment will close on December 31st. The form can be found here: <https://forms.gle/R9vhD61HNpeXbBPCA>



Resolution 3: Demanding mandatory arbitration and class action bans be removed from CASHNet and other community agreements

Abstract: Cornell's CASHNet payment system mandates arbitration to resolve disputes and bans class actions, practices condemned by our own Law and ILR faculty. These terms should not appear in any agreement Cornell presents its community.

Sponsored by: Jaron Kent-Dobias

Whereas, making a payment to Cornell's Bursar using the online CASHNet system requires agreeing to "arbitrate all disputes and claims between you and [the Bursar's contracted service provider] before the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") under the Federal Arbitration Act, and not to sue in court in front of a judge or jury."

Whereas, Cornell Law Professor Katherine Stone and ILR Professor Alexander Colvin have written that "delegating dispute resolution to arbitration [...] permits corporations to write the rules that will govern their relationships with their workers and customers and design the procedures used to interpret and apply those rules when disputes arise."

Whereas, "[o]n average, employees and consumers win less often and receive much lower damages in arbitration than they do in court."

Whereas, use of CASHNet further requires agreeing that "you may only be able to bring a claim against us in your individual capacity and not as a plaintiff or class member in any purported class or representative proceeding."

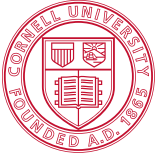
Whereas, the above amounts to a ban on class actions, "thereby preventing consumers or employees from joining together to challenge systemic corporate wrongdoing."

Whereas, the combination of mandatory arbitration and banning class actions "give corporations a "get out of jail free" card for all potential transgressions" and their proliferation is "undermining decades of progress in consumer and labor rights."

Whereas, Cornell should not subject any member of its community to these unfair terms.

Be it therefore resolved, the Office of the Bursar should ensure the mandate for arbitration and the ban on class actions be removed from the terms of CASHNet.

Be it further resolved, the University should review all other agreements to which its students, employees, and faculty are subject and ensure similar terms are not present.



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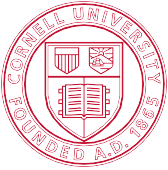
31 **Be it further resolved,** the University push any departement, office, or contracted corporation
32 whose agreements contain such terms to remove them.

33 **Be it finally resolved,** the University must never tolerate agreements or contracts facing members
34 of the Cornell and Ithaca communities—including those of service, employment, and housing—that
35 mandate arbitration or ban class actions.

36 Respectfully Submitted,

37 Jaron Kent-Dobias

38 Chair of the Student Advocacy Committee



Cornell University
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GPSA RESOLUTION 4: RECOMMENDATION FOR THE GRADUATE AND
PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE FOR 2020-2022

Sponsored by: James Bogdanowicz, on behalf of the GPSA Appropriations Committee

- 1 **WHEREAS**, The GPSA Charter, §Article II Section 2.02 states:
2 a) The GPSA, during the fall semester of odd-numbered years, through the authority delegated by the President
3 of the University and the Board of Trustees, shall be charged with recommending the amount and the
4 allocation of the Graduate and Professional Student Activity Fee, subject to the approval of the President of
5 the University.
6 b) Neither an opt-out option nor an option to pay extra will be allowed to exempt a student from paying the
7 Student Activity Fee.
8 1. Exceptions may be considered if recommended and approved by the GPSA and approved by the
9 President of the University.
10 c) These procedures shall be reviewed by the Student Assembly, the GPSA, and a representative of the President
11 of the University, at least every four years in a non-fee-setting year;
12

13 **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the GPSA recommends the Graduate and Professional Student Activity
14 Fee be set at \$86.00, to be distributed as follows;

- 15 a) Athletics and Physical Education: \$7.72
16 b) Big Red Barn:\$13.28
17 c) Cornell University Emergency Medical Services: \$2.20
18 d) Cornell Cinema:\$9.00
19 e) Risk Management: Club Insurance: \$5.50
20 f) Cornell Concert Commission: \$5.76
21 g) Cornell University Programming Board: \$3.00
22 h) Graduate and Professional Student Programming Board: \$3.00
23 i) Graduate and Professional Student Assembly: \$4.90
24 j) International Students Union: \$1.62
25 k) GPSAFC*: \$30.02

- 26 1. *Amount includes an allocation for the Cornell Tech graduate masters and PhD students in residence
27 on the Cornell Tech campus during this fee cycle. This allocation will be the total fee for each
28 enrolled student minus the per capita fees for Club Insurance and the Graduate and Professional
29 Student Assembly. These fees will be sent directly to the student organization at Cornell Tech and
30 held in an account managed by its staff advisor.

31
32 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**
33 **James Bogdanowicz**
34 GPSA Appropriations Committee Chair