

Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

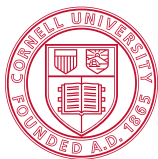
Cornell Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Agenda of the May 3rd, 2021 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7 PM

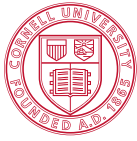
- I. Call to Order
- II. Announcement of Election Results for Voting Members (5 mins)
- III. Approval of the Meeting Minutes (5 mins)
 - a. Monday, April 12th, 2021
- IV. Presentation (15 mins)
 - a. Jason Kahabka, Associate Dean for Administration
 - b. Kathryn Boor, Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate Studies
- V. Elections (40 minutes)
 - a. Officers
 - i. President
 - ii. Executive Vice President
 - iii. Vice President of Operations
 - iv. Vice President of Communications
 - b. General Committee of the Graduate School (2-year term)
 - c. Committee Chairpersons
 - i. Diversity and International Students Committee
 - ii. Student Advocacy Committee
 - iii. Programming Board
 - iv. Faculty Teaching, Advising, and Mentorship Award Committee
 - d. University Assembly (4 delegates)
- VI. Division Breakout (10 minutes)
 - a. Voting Members
- VII. Old Business (5 mins)
 - a. Resolution 12: University Policy 1.3 and the ITAP
 - i. Returned from Committee Review
 - 1. Signed Memo with Graduate School and Provost
- VIII. New Business (10 mins)
 - a. Resolution 18: Standing Rules
 - b. Resolution 19: Committing GPSA Funds to Global Pandemic Efforts
- IX. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates (5 mins)
 - a. Executive Committee – Nikola Danev

If you are in need of special accommodations, contact Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 prior to the meeting.



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

- b. Communications – Kavya Krishnan
- c. Operations – Martik Chatterjee
- d. Finance – Caroline Steingard
- e. Appropriations – Aakarsha Pandey
- f. DISC – Yu-Yu Shih
- g. Faculty Teaching – Cody Duell
- h. Programming – Kasey Laurent
- i. Student Advocacy – David Kent
- X. Open Forum (depending on time/motions on the floor)
- XI. Adjournment



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

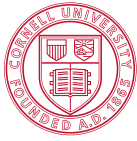
Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Minutes of the April 12, 2021 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

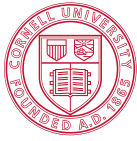
- I. Call to Order
 - a. D. Dunham called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.
- II. Announcements
 - a. The assembly held a moment of silence for the passing of Shawn West.
 - b. D. Dunham noted that the internal elections for the officer of the Executive Committee would be held at the last meeting along with the Representative to the General Committee of the Graduate School, the GPSA UA representative, and the new Chairs for all of the Standing Committees except for Appropriations and Finance.
- III. Roll Call
 - i. *Present* [26]: C. Anklin, M. Balch, H. Bidigare-Curtis, M. Cantar, M. Chatterjee, H. Cole, N. Danev, C. Day, C. Duell, N. Gonzalez, B. Hayes, M. Keefe, D. Kent, K. Krishnan, K. Laurent, J. Levin, C. Liu, S. López, T. Luttermoser, C. O'Connor, C. Ohenewah, A. Pandey, A. Presher, C. Steingard, P. Vinhage, M. Welch
 - ii. *Absent* [5]: R. Barankevich, A. Cirillo, J. Dotzel, M. Drescher, R. Maloney
- IV. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - a. Monday, March 29th, 2021
 - i. The meeting minutes were **approved** unanimously.
- V. Presentations
 - a. Zebadiah Hall, Director of Student Disability Services (Cornell Health)
 - i. Z. Hall noted that Student Disability Services handled accommodations for all students regardless of association, but added that the office did not service enough Graduate Students. The disparity could either be because of the culture in the professional settings or graduate students not being aware that the office could handle accommodations for them as well.
 - ii. M. Chatterjee asked what Z. Hall meant by accommodations and what was considered under the umbrella.
 1. Z. Hall noted that accommodations was viewed from the standpoint of major life functions being compromised (hearing, thinking, learning, sight, etc.) and that the accommodations available would depend on the student, the health condition, and the program. Some of the types of accommodations the offered included getting research materials in alternative formats and working with students to figure out logistics for participating in exams. Z. Hall also added



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

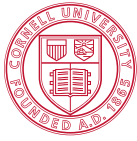
that the accommodations could also be for short-term conditions. Z. Hall also noted that there were also instances where specific accommodations did not manifest, and the office would set means of communication between a student and the Chair or advisors of their Committee to help figure out accommodations and better ways for the student to engage with the content.

- iii. K. Krishnan asked what issues the Student Disability Services office was anticipating as students moved back to campus for research and how SDS would handle those issues.
 - 1. Z. Hall stated that the decisions of the SDS office would be dependent on what decisions the University would make for the following semester and it would also depend on the student's program along with the professor's.
- iv. T. Luttermoser asked if Graduate students in their capacity as Teaching Assistant's or Instructors of Record had the ability to go to SDS to figure out ways to better develop and convey material to students who may need those accommodations.
 - 1. Z. Hall stated that graduate students did have the capability to ask for SDS accommodations for their students. However, he noted two caveats with the first being that with everything occurring on campus, it might take the SDS office to get back to instructors. Additionally, the accommodations could be department specific with some departments having SDS conduct trainings for their instructors to ensure that students in the disabled community were engaged. Another caveat Z. Hall mentioned was that there may be subsets of students that did not have access to medical documentation, and in those cases instructors would need to use real-time information based on the student and their work in the class to determine accommodations that could be available for that student.
- v. B. Harrison asked if there were any ways the SDS office was working with the Covid-19 Compliance team or the OJA to help students that might have not known accommodations were an option to help them fulfill the Covid-19 related requirements.
 - 1. Z. Hall stated that if the OJA referred students to the SDS office or students reached out to the office with legitimate health reasons prohibiting them from meeting the requirements of surveillance testing or any other Covid-19 requirement, the SDS office would work with the student to get them access to those sites at a rate that would be feasible for them.



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

2. B. Harrison asked if there were ways that either the SDS office or communication from the University could make it clear that accommodations for not being able to meet the Covid-19 requirements due to a physical barrier or invisible disability were valid.
 3. Z. Hall noted that if there were pockets or platforms that would be avenues for communicating the information, he would be more than willing to do so.
 4. B. Harrison suggested that the Cornell Compact Compliance Team could have the availability of accommodations mentioned as either part of their general communication or part of their communication to students who have failed to comply with requirements a certain number of times.
- vi. M. Chatterjee noted that he had seen situations where oftentimes accommodations were made, but they were at the expense of graduate students and asked if SDS could help with issues that required students to pay out of their own pocket for better working conditions.
1. Z. Hall stated that the ability for SDS to help with issues of funding depended on whether or not the accommodation was necessary for the student to access lab, do research/their work.
 2. K. Krishnan asked if the Access Fund could pay for some of the accommodations.
 - a. Z. Hall stated that to his knowledge, there are times when the Access Fund could pay for the accommodations but could not guarantee that the accommodation would be approved from the SDS office.
- b. Center for Teaching Innovation (Derina Samuel, Sara Reynolds Davis, Jeff Pea, & Kavya Krishnan)
- i. D. Samuel noted that CTI had programming available to Graduate and Postdoc students to support them in their teaching at Cornell. D. Samuel highlighted several resources offered by CTI including the TA online orientation, teaching guides, and several teaching related workshops.
 - ii. D. Dunham asked if CTI was noticing a wide representation of fields using the resources presented, especially the workshops.
 1. D. Samuel noted that the data showed that there was a fairly good representation of fields using the workshops/resources and added that CTI worked to advertise as much as possible through avenues such as the Graduate School announcements. Additionally, the online format of the workshops this past year had allowed Graduate and Postdoc students from Weill Cornell and Cornell Tech to



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

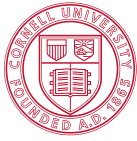
participate. S. Davis added that a lot of the awareness of the resources seemed to be from word-of-mouth so certain fields and departments were sometimes more represented than others throughout the semester.

- iii. A. Pandey asked if students planning on leaving in a shorter span of time (less than 2 years), had resources offered by CTI that could allow them to build their teaching resume.
 - 1. D. Samuel stated that the CTI Teaching Fellowship was a one-year program with fellows being able to apply for a second year if they chose to. D. Samuel added that CTI worked closely with the Graduate School and collaborated with the Future Faculty Program. She noted that the focus of CTI was mainly on supporting on-campus teaching rather than future careers but added that the CTI did also offer the Teaching Portfolio Program.
- iv. D. Dunham asked if CTI had any insights in-terms of how students were learning about the program.
 - 1. D. Samuel stated that CTI normally creates a flyer at the beginning of the semester and would send it to all the departments and fields in hopes of getting the word across. D. Samuel also asked if the flyer could be something that the GPSA would be willing to distribute.
 - 2. D. Dunham noted that in his experience, the GPSA would be extremely useful in informing a broader range of fields and students about the resources offered by CTI through GPSA communication channels.
- c. Drea Darby, Diversity Preview Weekend (Refer to PowerPoint found on the Office of the Assemblies website)
 - i. A. Poon asked how DPW could engage with the Cornell Tech campus and how students from the campus could be involved in the initiative in an effort to improve the environment for students of color or from marginalized backgrounds.
 - 1. D. Darby noted that DPW was currently working on setting up a toolkit of resources for other programs so that they would not need to start from the ground-up.

VI. Elections

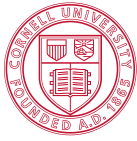
- a. Masters-At-Large Voting Member
 - i. I. Harnick self-nominated for the role.
 - ii. N. Danev called a point of order on the end of the term for the Masters-At-Large Voting member position.
 - iii. I. Harnick was **elected** unanimously.

VII. New Business



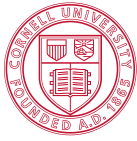
Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

- a. Resolution 16: Conducting Open Elections for Voting Members for 2021-22 Term
(Sponsored by K. Krishnan, VP of Communications)
 - i. K. Krishnan introduced the resolution, noting that normally, elections for the 14 voting members from each division would happen at the penultimate meeting, but with everything moved online, the resolution would push for an online vote. K. Krishnan stated that if the resolution were to pass, an email would be sent to all Graduate and Professional students describing open positions and calling for nominations. The votes for division voting members would then be held for the following 48 hour time period with terms for elected voting members beginning by the final GPSA meeting.
 - ii. The resolution was seconded by T. Luttermoser.
 - iii. N. Danev asked if the resolution applied to Masters voting positions.
 - iv. There was discussion about the term for the Masters-At-Large voting member position.
 - v. D. Dunham called previous question on the resolution.
 - vi. The resolution was **adopted** 18-0-8.
- b. Resolution 17: Creating Campus-Aware Criteria for Byline Funded Organizations
(Sponsored by A. Poon, Cornell Tech PACT)
 - i. A. Poon introduced the resolution noting that it would amend Appendix B which defined eligibility rules for Byline Funded organizations to establish criteria that identified and distinguished which campus a Byline organization served.
 - ii. The resolution was seconded by A. Pandey.
 - iii. D. Dunham relinquished the Chair position to N. Danev for the period of discussion in the resolution.
 - iv. T. Luttermoser asked if the “Be it further resolved” clause regarding the need for signatures from 10% of the students at the campus the organization serves meant 10% of the total body across all campuses served or 10% at each of the campuses served.
 - 1. A. Poon stated that the intent was to have 10% of signatures from each campus the organization claims to serve.
 - v. T. Luttermoser moved to amend the resolution by striking out the phrase “at all campuses” and replacing it with “at each campus” on line 70.
 - 1. The amendment was seconded by A. Poon.
 - 2. The resolution was **amended** by general consent.
 - vi. D. Dunham gave a brief overview of the resolution to the assembly, noting that under the resolution, the student activity fee (minus deductions for Byline Funded organizations already serving Cornell Tech) for Cornell Tech PhD students would be returned to them as was currently for Cornell Tech Masters students.



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

- vii. N. Danev asked how the resolution would differentiate Cornell Tech from any other field at Ithaca or Geneva that might want to have their fees returned too after deductions.
 - 1. A. Poon stated that the justification for Cornell Tech was that it was physically distinct whereas fields at Ithaca had the realistic ability to attend activities.
- viii. D. Dunham moved to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to 7:15 PM. The motion was seconded and **approved** by general consent.
- ix. C. Steingard noted that in addition to the physical distance, a lot of groups were moving towards virtual events even for the future and asked what language in the resolution would define involvement in online events.
 - 1. A. Poon stated that whether an event was virtual, or in-person would not warrant a change in the language of the resolution and as long as the virtual events were accessible to the broader population, they were not excluded from the arrangement.
 - 2. D. Dunham noted that the proposed provision would not necessarily be permanent. Additionally, he noted that under the current engagement, the Byline organization would have to declare which campus they were operative at and could potentially say that since the events offered were virtual, they were operative at all campuses. It would then fall on the Appropriations Committee to determine whether or not that was sufficient for them to say that they were a University-wide organization or only operating at one campus.
- x. D. Dunham moved previous question.
 - 1. N. Danev stated that in his interpretation of the resolution constituting a Charter amendment, he would like to postpone it to the next meeting per Article 10, Section 2, lines 454 to 456. However, he added that if the assembly members wanted to vote on the resolution at the current meeting, it would require a simple majority to overcome the Chair's decision to not vote on the resolution at the current meeting.
 - 2. N. Danev stated that since he was temporarily chairing the meeting, he would go with D. Dunham's interpretation of the resolution not amending the Charter but rather an Appendix and would therefore just require a simple majority vote.
 - 3. The motion for previous question by D. Dunham was seconded by M. Welch.
 - 4. The resolution was **approved** 14-0-12.
 - 5. N. Danev returned the Chair position to D. Dunham.



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

VIII. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates

- a. Executive Committee – N. Danev
 - i. N. Danev noted that the assembly would have a response from the Provost at the next meeting and that he would reintroduce GPSA R13 pertaining to the ITAP at the next meeting as well. N. Danev also noted that the Executive Committee was strongly urging individuals to run for positions in the upcoming elections.
- b. Communications – K. Krishnan
 - i. K. Krishnan noted that she would be sending more information about elections in emails along with social media and encouraged members to inform their constituents of the upcoming elections.
- c. Operations – M. Chatterjee
 - i. *No Updates*
- d. Finance – C. Steingard
 - i. C. Steingard noted that the assembly was accepting applications for tier increases and that the last committee meeting would be on May 4th.
- e. Appropriations – A. Pandey
 - i. *No Updates*
- f. DISC – A. Presher
 - i. *No Updates*
- g. Faculty Teaching – C. Duell
 - i. C. Duell stated that the call for nominations would be going out soon and at that point, the committee would need help with going through the nomination letters.
- h. Programming – K. Laurent
 - i. *No Updates*
- i. Student Advocacy – D. Kent
 - i. D. Kent stated that the next committee meeting would be on the upcoming Wednesday at 5pm and the agenda along with the Zoom link would be sent out tomorrow.

IX. Open Forum

- a. N. Danev encouraged members to reach out to constituents to inform them of the upcoming elections and encourage them to run for positions. N. Danev emphasized the importance of staffing all of the positions and expressed his hope of finding members interested to take over the positions down the line.
- b. D. Dunham echoed N. Danev's sentiments, adding that it would be helpful to find members to fill the vacancies so that they can have the entire summer to think about what they would like to accomplish and how they could go about implementing the change they would want to see.

X. Adjournment



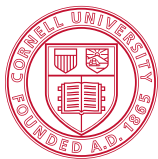
Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Auriol C. R. Fassinou
Clerk of the Assembly

DRAFT



Resolution 12: Addressing the ITAP and University Policy 1.3

Abstract: This resolution approves the Memorandum between the Office of the Provost, the Dean of the Graduate School and the GPSA regarding the International Teaching Assistant Program.

Sponsored by:

Nikola Danev, Executive Vice President;

Kavya Krishnan, Vice President for Communications;

Liz Davis-Frost, Student-Elected Trustee and ex-officio member;

Christine Ohenewah, Voting Member

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 03/24/2021

Whereas the sponsors of this resolution were tasked with meeting with the Provost and the Dean of the Graduate School regarding the International Teaching Assistant Program (“ITAP”) and the issues regarding the program identified in the Graduate and Professional Community Initiative of 2020 and the GPSA ITAP survey,

Whereas the sponsors have presented to the GPSA the memorandum that they agreed upon with the Provost and Dean,

Whereas the memorandum of understanding outlines a short-term strategy and guarantees the involvement of graduate and professional students, as well as the GPSA in future ITAP restructuring committees and actions,

Be it therefore resolved, the attached Memorandum is adopted, and the Executive Vice President is authorized to sign it on behalf of the GPSA;

Be it also resolved, the students who have worked on this issue or have spoken about it to stakeholders, including the GPSA, in the past, made this outcome a possibility;

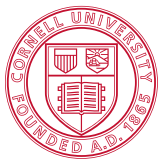
Be it finally resolved, the continued collaboration between the GPSA, the Dean of the Graduate School and the Provost is recognized and appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikola Danev

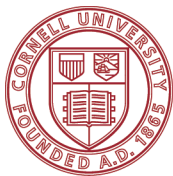
Executive Vice President

Kavya Krishnan



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

- 30 Vice President for Communications
- 31 **Liz Davis-Frost**
- 32 Student-Elected Trustee and Ex-Officio Member
- 33 **Christine Ohenewah**
- 34 Voting Member from the Law School



Cornell University

Kathryn J. Boor
Dean of the Graduate School
and Vice Provost for Graduate Education

Cornell University
350 Caldwell Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853

Telephone: 607 255-5864
Fax: 607 255-5822
E-mail: kjb4@cornell.edu

April 26, 2021

Summary of the March 11, 2021 meeting to discuss the International Teaching Assistant Program (ITAP) among Provost M. Kotlikoff, members of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, and Dean K. Boor

The Graduate and Professional Community Initiative (GPCI) of 2020 reported issues associated with the International Teaching Assistant Program (ITAP) that negatively affect graduate and professional students. Consequently, the Provost and Graduate School representatives met with Cornell Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GPSA) representatives on March 11th, 2021 to discuss the ITAP and the findings of the GPCI, the GPSA ITAP Survey, and the experiences shared in GPSA meetings.

After the March 11 meeting, Dean Boor held follow up conversations with Dr. Mathew L. Ouellett, Executive Director of the Center for Teaching Innovation and Dr. Julia Thom-Levy, the Vice Provost for Academic Innovation. Collectively, all agreed to undertake the following steps:

1. The Graduate School will ensure that proper information regarding the ITAP requirement is communicated in a timely and clear manner from the graduate fields to incoming students, including the class joining Cornell in the Fall of 2021.
2. The Graduate School will create clear and public guidelines, to be implemented consistently, outlining who is required to participate in the ITAP and will communicate them prior to enrollment of incoming admitted students in Fall 2021.
3. The ITAP office will provide clear feedback if a student places below the Intermediate High level in any of the ILA assessments or any of the associated ITAP courses starting with the incoming class joining Cornell in the Fall of 2021.
4. The GPSA will maintain a clear line of communication with stakeholders, including international students, the Provost and the Graduate School, as well as any other involved parties, regarding the evolving ITAP.
5. The GPSA will identify and appoint graduate and/or professional students to the ITAP advisory committee. There shall be at least one graduate and/or professional student representative on this committee.
6. The GPSA will continue to collect feedback from stakeholders and will take an active role in assisting the Graduate School and the Provost or their designees in communicating and implementing the aforementioned points and any additional tasks that may result from the discussions of the advisory committee, subject to a vote of the assembly.

This document reflects outcomes from the work of the graduate and professional students involved in collecting and processing data about the ITAP, the sponsors of GPSA resolution 12 of AY 20/21, the students who wrote the GPCI of 2020 and any students who came forward and spoke to the GPSA about their ITAP experiences.

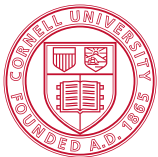
Nikola Danev
Executive Vice President of the GPSA¹



Kathryn J. Boor
Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate Education



Michael I. Kotlikoff
Provost



Resolution 18: Adopting Standing Rules

Abstract: The GPSA adopts the appended Standing Rules, which lays out the administrative rules and ethical conventions in which meetings are conducted.

Sponsored by: David Dunham, President

Whereas, under Robert's Rules, Standing Rules are one type of governing document that outlines the non-procedural administrative rules of an assembly; and

Whereas, the GPSA currently lacks such a document; and

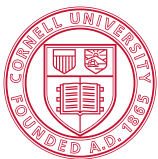
Whereas, the GPSA lacks a document that embodies the informal conventions of the assembly;

Be it therefore resolved, that the GPSA adopts the appended Standing Rules, which upon adoption shall go into effect until amended or rescinded by a majority vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Dunham

President



Standing Rules Cornell University Graduate & Professional Student Assembly

1 Preamble

2 The purpose of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly is to ensure a direct focus for the
3 continued involvement of graduate and professional school students in the governance of non-
4 academic affairs and in the life of the University, as well as to foster an increased sense of community
5 among all constituencies through shared responsibilities.

6 These Standing Rules shall serve as guidelines for the GPSA's administrative procedures and shall
7 supplement the assembly's charter, bylaws, and established rules of order. Furthermore, these rules
8 shall embody the conventions of effective leadership and aide the efficiency of a functioning assembly.

9 All Graduate & Professional Student Assembly members shall adhere to these Standing Rules.

10 These Standing Rules shall be utilized with the following prefaces:

11 *Rule 1:* In the event of a conflict, the Charter and Bylaws shall supersede the Standing Rules.

12 *Rule 2:* The Standing Rules shall take effect upon their approval by a majority vote of the assembly.
13 Thereafter, the Standing Rules may be amended during any regular meeting by a majority vote of the
14 assembly. Upon adoption, the Standing Rules shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded.

15 *Rule 3:* Rules applicable only within the context of a single meeting may be suspended by a two-thirds
16 vote of members. Rules that have any application outside a meeting context, however, may not be
17 suspended.

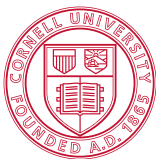
18 Section 1: Meetings

19 Article 1.1: Term of Session

- 20 A. Each meeting shall comprise a single session of business.
- 21 B. Regular meetings are held on every first and third Mondays of the month, from 5:30 – 7 PM,
22 while the university remains in session.
- 23 C. Regular meetings shall take place in Mallott Hall, unless unforeseen circumstances require the
24 Executive Committee to schedule another temporary time or location with the consultation
25 of the Office of the Assemblies.
- 26 D. The President may call *special meetings*, which may only consider business that is expressly
27 outlined in the special meeting agenda. Attendance at such meetings is mandatory, provided
28 that the special meeting is announced at least 72 hours in advance of the call to order.

29 Article 1.2: Authorization of Electronic Meetings

- 30 A. Upon a two-thirds vote of members, the GPSA may choose to conduct certain meetings
31 electronically.
- 32 B. The GPSA will conduct certain meetings electronically if applicable laws prohibit gatherings
33 equal to or greater than the requirements for quorum.



Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Section 2: Ethical Standards

Ethical conduct is expected of all members at all times. The following rules of conduct shall constitute the GPSA's common ethical standards and expectations, which all members shall strive to uphold.

Article 2.1: Attendance

- A. Attendance is required of all regularly scheduled meetings for all voting members.
- B. Attendance will be taken verbally at the designated Roll Call of each meeting, when each member present will answer with "here" or "present." The Chair will verify "excused" (chair was notified member is unable to attend the meeting) or "Not excused" (member is not present and no notification was sent to chair).

Article 2.2: Agendas

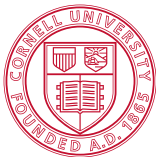
- A. All newly submitted resolutions shall be included under New Business, the order of which the President shall determine.
- B. Any resolution that is not introduced before the adjournment of the meeting shall be added to Unfinished Business of the following meeting. The Unfinished Business section shall take place before New Business, unless a motion is adopted to change the order of business.
- C. All members have the right to introduce new business in the course of a regular meeting, even if that business is not included on the agenda. However, special meetings shall be limited to the business explicitly stated on the agenda (See §1.1.D).
- D. Resolutions may be introduced by either individual members or committee chairpersons on behalf of the committee. If a resolution is introduced on behalf of a committee, the resolution should be adopted by a majority of committee members, or as required by the adopted parliamentary authority.
- E. All agendas must be approved by the President and distributed by the Executive Vice President no later than 24 hours before the meeting is called to order.

Article 2.3: Ethics of Debate and Moderation

- A. Although votes are limited to members, no member of the public may be excluded from participation in discussion.
- B. No person may be privileged in or excluded from discussion on the basis of their race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, age, physical disability, or veteran status.
- C. When multiple people raise their hands seeking the floor to speak, the Chair shall, to the best of their ability, acknowledge persons such that both sides of the question are fairly represented. The Chair may not force the conclusion of debate, as long as there are persons remaining who wish to speak, provided that the motion for the previous question has not been adopted, and provided that the assembly has not moved to limit debate.

Article 2.4: Voting

- A. For all votes on motions, the default method of voting shall be a *raise of hands*, unless an appropriate motion is made to change the method of voting.
- B. For all elections, the default method of voting shall be a *ballot*, unless an appropriate motion is made to change the method of voting.

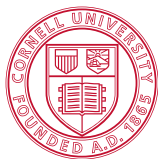


Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

- C. Every member shall have the right of abstention. Thus, during any vote, the Chair may not require that those abstaining identify themselves.
- D. All votes on motions must take place while a meeting is in session. Votes may not be held on electronic platforms (e.g., email), except as required during officially authorized meetings (Article 1.2), as all votes must take place in an environment in which members may raise points of order without obstruction or delay.

Article 2.5: Presentations and Reports

- A. The President may invite individuals to present to the GPSA, who shall be identified on the agenda. The agenda shall state the amount of time allocated for the presentation, and the Chair shall ensure that these limitations are enforced. Upon request, the President shall privilege the presentations of byline-funded organizations.
- B. Following any presentation or report, members have the right to discuss the content (Q&A), provided that the discussion does not exceed the time allocated on the agenda. The Chair shall moderate discussion in accordance with the ethical standards of debate.
- C. Committee chairpersons may present official committee reports as presentations to the GPSA, provided that those reports are approved by the majority of committee members. These reports may propose resolutions or amendments, which the assembly may move to consider immediately following the presentation.
- D. Committee members have the right to present a minority report as a presentation to the GPSA, in which a minority of committee members dissent from the conclusions of the committee report. The GPSA should first receive the committee report followed by the minority report. Then, the GPSA may consider the committee report's recommendations. Similarly, the minority report may present recommendations, provided that they relate to the committee report's recommendations (e.g., rejecting, amending, or postponing it; but not introducing a different set of recommendations). Regardless of any minority report, members may always speak in opposition to the committee report when it is considered.



Resolution 19: Committing GPSA Funds to Global Pandemic Efforts

Abstract: In response to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic around the world, the following GPSA committees resolve to commit their surplus funds to the global effort.

Sponsored by: David Dunham, President

Whereas, the GPSA is tasked with the administration of Student Activity Fee funds in a manner consistent with the values of our community, striving to support activities of value to the community whose funds were trusted in our care; and

Whereas, due to the lack of in-person activities, little of the appropriated \$36,850 was spent this year on activities benefiting the graduate & professional community; and

Whereas, the GPSA ought to avoid excessive surpluses of funds carrying over from year-to-year, as these funds are appropriated with the expectation of addressing immediate needs of the community; and

Whereas, the world's fight against the global pandemic transcends any immediate needs of the Cornell community, and the GPSA ought to materially support efforts to prevent the loss of life, wherever in the world it may occur; and

Whereas, Direct Relief is one of the world's top rated humanitarian non-profits, delivering cash funding and medical supplies to places most in need, and recently donated \$5 million for oxygen concentrators around the world¹, including India, which is currently experiencing a medical crisis;

Be it therefore resolved, that the GPSA donates the surplus funds of the following internal budget items to Direct Relief's coronavirus pandemic response:

1. Administrative Budget (\$6,800)
2. Travel Budget (\$300)
3. Executive Budget (\$150)

Be it further resolved, that the GPSA encourages its standing committees to consider donating their surplus funds to a similar purpose.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Dunham

President, Graduate & Professional Student Assembly

¹ <https://www.directrelief.org/2021/04/direct-relief-commits-5-million-to-mobilize-medical-grade-oxygen-for-india/>