



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Agenda of the November 1, 2021 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

398 Statler Hall

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Late Additions to the Agenda
- IV. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - a. [October 18, 2021](#)
- V. Presentations
 - a. Jennifer Forbes, Director of Big Red Barn
- VI. Breakout Session by Division
- VII. New Business
 - a. Elections
 - i. Arts & Humanities Student Voting Member (2 Vacancies)
 - b. Resolution 6: [Paperless Agendas for GPSA Meetings](#)
 - c. Resolution 7: [GPSA Internal Budget for the 2021-2022 Term](#)
 - d. Resolution 8: [Proposed Charter Amendment for the 2022-2024 Byline Funding Cycle](#)
- VIII. Business of the Day
- IX. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates
 - a. Executive Committee
 - b. Operations
 - c. Appropriations
 - d. Communications
 - e. Finance
 - f. Student Advocacy
 - g. Diversity and International Students
 - h. Programming
 - i. Faculty Awards
 - j. General Committee

The GPSA has elected to hold in-person meetings this semester. Voting members may only cast their vote, hold the floor, and be counted present in-person. Representatives (i.e. nonvoting members) may attend via Zoom and have their attendance recorded. However, representatives may not participate in debate, discussion, or hold the floor viz Zoom as the Assembly has elected to meet in-person. We encourage representatives to join us in-person to voice constituent opinions and caucus with voting members during Assembly breakout sessions.

If you are in need of special accommodations in order to fully participate, please contact Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 or the Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or assembly@cornell.edu prior to the meeting.



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- k. Graduate School
- X. Open Forum
- XI. Adjournment

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Minutes of the October 18, 2021 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

398 Statler Hall

- I. Call to Order
 - a. P. Hanley called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM.
- II. Roll Call
 - a. *Present* [17]: B. Carver, K. Carter-Cram, C. Duell, R. Epstein, A. Inayatali, D. Kent, G. Li, P. Mehta, M. Minelli, C. O'Connor, C. Ohenewah, A. Presher, D. Sharp, C. Steingard, J. Washington, M. Welch, A. Wunsch
 - b. *Absent* [15]: C. Anklin, M. Balch, S. Bright-Thonney, C. Day, J. Dotzel, N. Gonzalez, B. Hayes, A. Khlyustova, D. Lanes, J. Levin, C. Liu, S. Lopez, G. Smits, W. Wang, H. Williams
- III. Late Additions to the Agenda
 - a. N. Danev moved to add “GPSA R5: Calling on Cornell University to Appropriately Recognize and Honor Veterans Day” to the Agenda.
- IV. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - a. September 27, 2021
 - i. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
- V. Presentations
 - a. Liz Davis-Frost, Graduate School Elected-Trustee obo PSAC
 - i. Refer to “Cornell PSAC Feedback Sessions Presentation” on the OA Website
 - b. LaDreana Walton, Assistant Director of Institutional Equity & Investigator
 - i. Refer to “Policy 6.3 – Consensual Relationships Presentation” on the OA Website
 - ii. A member of the assembly asked for clarification on the change from the previous policy.
 1. L. Walton stated that previously, the policy only prohibited sexual or romantic relationships between faculty members and undergraduate students. The change in the policy would now includes staff members and prohibit staff members from having relationships with undergraduate students.
 - iii. N. Danev noted that oftentimes, Graduate students were also employed by the University and asked if it would be possible to have an explicit definition of how Graduate students fit into the policy.
 1. L. Walton noted that the policy defined the identities listed in it, but added that if an individual were both a student and had an



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employment position, then OIETIX would look towards the individual's primary focus on campus. Therefore, student workers would be seen first as students and would fall under the protections of the policy.

2. N. Danev stated that most PhD students in natural sciences had student responsibilities while taking classes, but added that many had primary roles involving carrying out research and were paid by the University. N. Danev asked if the policy laid out a clear definition since PhD students could be seen as staff or students depending on the circumstances.
3. L. Walton stated that if in an individual's capacity as a staff member, they were in a position of authority over an undergraduate student, the policy would prohibit any relationship between the staff and student or at the very least outline a reporting requirement. L. Walton added that if an individual had a question on whether they were a staff or student, they should consult with OIETIX or work to setup a recusal plan.

VI. Breakout Session by Division

- a. Arts & Humanities Student Voting Member (2 Vacancies)
- b. N. Danev stated that the purpose of Division Breakouts was for field representatives to have an opportunity to talk to their voting members about the agenda and the topics that were up for discussion in the meeting. Therefore, the Division Breakouts would allow voting members to hear from field representatives on meeting items that needed to be voted on. N. Danev also spoke on the distinction between the Divisions.

VII. New Business

- a. Elections
 - i. Graduate and Professional Student Programming Board Chairperson
 1. P. Hanley noted that the Chairperson would be a voting member and stated that the goal of the committee was to help plan events for Graduate and Professional students.
 2. *No Nominations*
- b. GPSA Resolution 5: Calling on Cornell University to Appropriately Recognize and Honor Veterans Day
 - i. Abstract: This resolution calls on University Administration to establish Veterans Day as a University-holiday where courses are canceled, and University affiliates are not required to work.
 - ii. R. Molina introduced himself, noting that he was President of the Cornell Undergraduate Veterans Association (CUVA) and asked for the GPSA to



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support R5 which would appropriately honor and recognize Veterans Day. R. Molina stated that Veterans Day was originally recognized by Congress as Armistice Day to mark the end of WWI and noted that Veterans Day was recognized nationally each year on November 11th. The University was currently home to more than 400 Veterans and without official University recognition, members of Cornell's Veteran community were required to use vacation or personal time to participate in Veterans Day events. He stated that the resolution co-sponsors believed that the sacrifices of Cornell's Veterans and their families should be honored by the University and Veterans should be afforded the time and opportunity to celebrate the day that honors them. Additionally, recognizing Veterans Day would give those without military affiliation a day of rest made possible by the sacrifices of Veterans. Therefore, the resolution asks University Administration to cancel course attendance for students and required work for staff each academic year on November 11th.

- iii. N. Danev moved to amend the resolution to state "the Cornell University Administration will cancel both course attendance and required work for University affiliates each academic year on November 11th, the date of the nationally recognized holiday" on Lines 48-50 and in the abstract.
 1. The amendment was seconded and approved 17-0-0. The resolution was amended.
- iv. C. Duell moved Previous Question on the resolution; the motion was seconded.
- v. The resolution was approved 17-0-0.

VIII. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates

- a. Executive Committee – D. Sharp
 - i. D. Sharp reminded voting members that they were also required to be in a committee and noted that the Executive Committee would send out an email later in the week soliciting committee choices for voting members. Voting members that do not notify the Executive Committee of the committee they wish to join would be assigned to a committee. Additionally, he noted that voting members were required to attend the meeting in-person to vote and stated that field representatives could join via Zoom. Additionally, D. Sharp asked field representatives to email K. Carter-Cram so that they could put together a list of fields that still needed field representatives.
 - ii. P. Hanley stated that regarding GPSA R4, the Executive Committee had been able to meet with Dean Boor and gained another use of the Listserv.



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- b. Operations – K. Carter-Cram
 - i. *No further updates*
- c. Appropriations – B. Carver
 - i. B. Carver stated that the dates for the application process for Byline-funded organizations had been moved back since he was appointed into the role later in the process.
 - ii. B. Carver also encouraged members to reach out to individuals that might be interested in the committee.
- d. Communications – G. Li
 - i. G. Li noted that she had recently sent out an email to committee chairpersons to get their input for the newsletter and any items they wanted to include for the month. G. Li noted that she was currently working on the newsletter in conjunction with other members of the Executive Committee and the Office of the Assemblies.
 - ii. G. Li also noted that C. Steingard had reached out to her to advertise for a project she was working on and G. Li informed members to keep an eye out for that in the newsletter.
- e. Finance - C. Steingard
 - i. *No Updates*
- f. Student Advocacy – D. Kent
 - i. *No Updates*
- g. Diversity and International Students – P. Mehta
 - i. P. Mehta stated that the committee was currently working on drafting a resolution. Additionally, P. Mehta encouraged members to reach out to him if they knew who was running the existing DISC Facebook Page.
- h. Programming - Vacant
 - i. *No Updates*
- i. Faculty Awards – C. Duell
 - i. *No Updates*
- j. General Committee – N. Danev
 - i. N. Danev stated that the General Committee had recently met and approved several new degrees and several Graduate faculty members.
- k. Graduate School
 - i. J. Allen encouraged members to ask her or Dean Boor any questions they might have about updates from the Graduate School.
 - ii. *No further updates*

IX. Open Forum

- a. B. Carver noted that in moving to 398 Statler Hall, one item that came up was the fact that the room would cost \$300 per meeting, and it was not budgeted. B.



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Carver asked for feedback on the room and whether spending the \$300 on it was justified.

- i. A member of the assembly expressed that they liked the room better because it had better acoustics and allowed for members to be heard easier.
- ii. N. Danev asked for P. Hanley to provide clarification on Zoom participation because from his understanding, members had to physically attend the meeting in order to participate.
- iii. P. Hanley echoed what D. Sharp had stated in the Executive Committee address, noting that members needed to be in-person if they wanted to participate in the meetings. The Zoom was setup for individuals to watch the meeting if they could not physically attend, but currently Zoom participation was not allowed.

X. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Auriole C. R. Fassinou
Clerk of the Assembly



Resolution 6: Paperless Agendas for GPSA Meetings

Abstract: This resolution ends the printing and distribution of paper agendas, resolutions, and minutes for regular GPSA meetings and establishes a means by which members may request such printing if it is necessary or helpful in order to enable meeting participation.

Sponsored by: Ben Carver, Appropriations Committee Chair

Whereas, the printing of agendas, resolutions, and minutes for regular GPSA meetings is a standard and accepted practice, and

Whereas, the same documents are circulated through email before meetings, and

Whereas, the environmental impact of printing many copies is small but meaningful, and

Whereas, the work of printing and carrying the agendas is likewise small but meaningful,

Be it therefore resolved, that printed agendas for regular GPSA meetings may be made available only upon request, and

Be it further resolved, such requests may be made to the Senior Coordinator of the Office of Assemblies no later than the 9 am the day of the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ben Carver

Appropriations Committee Chair



Resolution 7: GPSA Internal Budget for the 2021- 2022 Term

Abstract: This resolution establishes the GPSA Internal Budget for the 2021-2022 term.

Sponsored by: Ben Carver, Appropriations Committee Chair

Whereas, The GPSA Bylaws require that the Appropriations Committee recommend an internal budget in the form of a resolution (3.05(D)(vii)); and

Whereas, the recommended internal budget for the 2021-2022 term shall include allocations for all previously established committees and budgets based on intended and historic use of funds, and

Whereas, past years budgets allocated money to Anabel's Grocery that were never provided, and

Whereas, these moneys remain in the GPSA reserve fund, and

Whereas, upon completion of last year's payment to Anabel's Grocery the previous agreement with that organization will be complete and any further funding shall flow through the byline funding process, and

Whereas, the stress of the pandemic continues to impact both students and campus organizations, and

Whereas, a tentative version of this internal budget has been reviewed by heads of each internal committee, and

Whereas, a simple spread sheet version of the following is presented as an attachment to facilitate review, and so:

Be it therefore resolved, that a payment to Anabel's Grocery representing the previously allocated sum of \$20,000 be budgeted for and paid as quickly as is feasible, and

Be it further resolved, that a revenue from reserves of \$20,000 shall be used to off-set the payment to Anabel's Grocery to prevent any impact on the total budgeted amount in this fiscal year, and

Be it further resolved, that a needs-based support line be created and budgeted at \$35,000 to support students and organizations that are experiencing financial stress, and

Be it further resolved, that use of this fund shall administered by the Executive Committee and funds allocated only by a majority vote of the same, and



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31 **Be it further resolved**, that the duty of securing a functional and comfortable room for regular
32 meetings is hereby assigned to the Executive Committee, for whom a budget of \$10,750 will be
33 used for this purpose in addition to their accustomed duties and obligations, and

34 **Be it further resolved**, that the remaining lines of the budget shall be as follows:

35 Administrative: \$5,000

36 Communications: \$900

37 Operations and Staffing: \$500

38 Appropriations: \$500

39 Finance Commission: \$1,000

40 Student Advocacy: \$1,500

41 Ivy Summit: \$1,5000

42 NAGPS: \$1,000

43 Faculty Awards: \$800

44 Diversity Committee: \$1,500

45 Travel: \$500

46 **Be it further resolved**, that the total internal budget for the GPSA for the current fiscal year
47 shall be \$45,450, and

48 **Be it finally resolved**, that the total byline funding request for the GPSA's internal budget shall
49 remain the same as in the last funding cycle at \$4.9 per student.

50

51 Respectfully Submitted,

52 Ben Carver

53 Appropriations Committee Chair



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54

Attachment 1: Budget

55

FY 2021 Graduate & Professional Student Assembly Tentative Operating Budget		
G943704		
G943704	Income Categories	
	Income from GPSAF	\$45,450.00
	Transfer from GPSA Reserve	\$20,000.00
	Total Income	\$65,450.00
G943704	Expense Categories	2020-2021 Budget
	10000 Administrative	\$5,000.00
	10001 Executive	\$10,750.00
	10002 Communications	\$900.00
	10003 Operations & Staffing	\$500.00
	10004 Appropriations	\$500.00
	10005 Finance Commission	\$1,000.00
	20001 Student Advocacy	\$1,500.00
	30001 Ivy Summit	\$1,500.00
	30002 NAGPS	\$1,000.00
	30003 Faculty Awards	\$800.00
	30004 Diversity Committee	\$1,500.00
	Travel	\$500.00
	Anabel's Grocery (previously committed)	\$20,000.00
	Needs-based Support Fund	\$35,000.00
	TOTAL Expenses	\$45,450.00
	Resulting byline funding per student, assuming an increase to 9260 students	4.908
	Previous	4.900
	Percent Change	0%

56



Resolution 8: Proposed Charter Amendment for the 2022-2024 Byline Funding Cycle

Abstract: This resolution amends the GPSA Charter Appendix A for the 2022-2024 Byline Funding Cycle. The change allows the Chair of the Appropriations Committee to act without a committee, in coordination with the Executive Committee. This is necessitated by unforeseen delays in the election of the Chair and no committee members as yet appointed.

Sponsored by: Ben Carver, Appropriations Committee Chair

Whereas, Appendix A: The GPSA Byline Allocation Procedures of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Charter outlines the process for the allocation of the Student Activity Fee to Byline funded organizations;

Whereas, due to delays caused by the ongoing Covid pandemic and a change in GPSA leadership early in the semester, the Byline funding process was stalled until the election of a Chair to the Appropriations Committee;

Whereas, the Chair of the Appropriations Committee was elected at the regular meeting of the GPSA on September 27, 2021;

Whereas, Section 4 of Appendix A describes the timeline for Byline funded organizations and other interested applicants;

Whereas, lines 143-153 under Section 4 of Appendix A read as follows:

1. Deadlines for the initial and final application materials will be determined in the Fall of non-fee-setting years by majority vote of Appropriations Committee.
2. Currently funded byline organizations shall attend a meeting of the Assembly or Appropriations Committee upon request to provide an update on their operations, usually conducted, but not required to be done, during the Fall of non-fee-setting years.
3. The Chair of Appropriations Committee will distribute application materials within 1 week of the final application deadline among the Appropriations Committee members for evaluation and summary reports.
4. The Appropriations Committee will schedule public hearings for each organization as described in Appendix B Item IV §4.03.
5. The Appropriations Committee shall present its initial recommendations, along with summary report and justification for each organization, no later than the fifth regular GPSA meeting of the Fall semester.



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38 **Whereas**, to meet the deadline established as, “the last day of classes of the Fall semester”
39 (line 154), the Chair of the Appropriations Committee began meeting with organizations
40 immediately following his election,
41

42 **Whereas**, other than the chair of the committee, there are no other members of the GPSA
43 Appropriations Committee, and adding members at this point in the process would cause undue
44 delays risking missing the “last day of classes of the Fall semester” deadline;
45

46 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Chair of the GPSA Appropriations Committee be authorized to act
47 as the committee, in coordination with the Executive Committee, in making a recommendation
48 for the Student Activity Fee for the 2022-2024 Byline funding cycle;
49

50 **Be it further resolved**, the chair of the GPSA Appropriations Committee shall submit notes,
51 records and minutes of any and all public hearings with organizations seeking funding through
52 the Byline funding process to the Office of the Assemblies;
53

54 **Be it further resolved**, the deadline established in line 153 of Appendix A, “The Appropriations
55 Committee shall present its initial recommendations, along with summary report and justification
56 for each organization, no later than the fifth regular GPSA meeting of the Fall semester” be
57 amended to read:

58 “The Appropriations Committee shall present its initial recommendations, along with
59 summary report and justification for each organization, no later than the **final meeting of**
60 **the GPSA in the Fall semester**”
61

62 **Be it finally resolved**, this Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Charter amendment is
63 temporary and will only affect the 2022-2024 Byline Funding Cycle.
64

65 Respectfully Submitted,
66

67 Ben Carver

68 Appropriations Committee Chair