



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

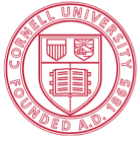
Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student

Assembly Minutes of the October 17, 2022 Meeting

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. P. Hanley called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.
- II. Roll Call
 - a. *Present [22]*: K. Boardman, S. Bright-Thonney, A. Bruce, S. Carrillo, K. Chapman, K. Cram, M. Dew, G. Ewing, B. Hayes, M. Heeney, Y. Joo Kang, K. Karnuta, A. Majumdar, A. Masand, M. Matthews, A. McGraw, N. Moore, C. Ohenewah, A. Patel, N. Perez, G. Smits, D. Stanic, J. Washington, T. Wolford, A. Wunsch, S. Yang
 - b. *Absent [4]*: E. Arnot, Y. Cho, N. Dorvil, S. Graham, M. Minelli, A. Murtha
 - c. *Guests/Non-Voting Members [3]*: P. Hanley, E. Kalweit, J. Zhang
- III. Late Additions to Agenda
 - a. P. Hanley introduced Resolution 3: Amendments to Appendix B of the GPSA Charter
 - i. P. Hanley noted the introduction of a leadership incentive for members of the Executive Committee to account for the large amount of time needed to take on such roles.
 - ii. P. Hanley opened the floor.
 1. A. McGraw stated their committee's desire for a line of accountability and documentation shown. K. Karnuta stated the importance of reviewing and outlining the bylaws, particularly for onboarding new Executive Committee members, and noted that Summer would be a good time to do so.
- IV. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - a. September 26, 2022
 - i. The meeting minutes will be approved next meeting.
- V. Presentations
 - a. No presentations.
- VI. Breakout Sessions by Division
- VII. New Business
 - a. No new business.



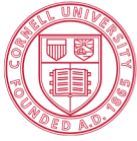
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VIII. Business of the Day

- a. Programming Board Events Update
 - i. M. Matthews introduced herself as Chair of the Programming Committee. M. Matthews stated that the Chair typically presents a schedule of events for the GPSA's year and stated her intention to summarize upcoming events.
 1. Nasa Rocket Launch gathering and the GPSA Retreat were pre-existing events. Upcoming events include monthly Cross-Campus Networking Nites, with 3 scheduled in the Fall and 4 schedule for the Spring. M. Matthews encouraged reaching out should one's own department be interested.
 2. M. Matthews noted Finals Study Kits to incentivize students to nominate friends to win various packages. M. Matthews also noted Self-Care Freebies offered at the Big Red Barn Write-In.
 - a. M. Heeney noted that it might be helpful to indicate that the submissions will be sent out.
 3. M. Matthews stated the tentative date for the Spring 2023 Grad Student Gala on May 6th.
 4. M. Matthews stated that a generated list on department contacts will be maintained through the years for different groups, as getting into contact with these representatives is typically quite difficult.
- b. GPSA Retreat Summary/Report
 - i. N. Moore stated her appreciation and outlined the events from the Retreat, emphasizing its role.
- c. GPSA Guidebook
 - i. N. Moore emphasized that documentation from the planning and implementation of the Retreat would be kept for use in later years.

IX. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. P. Hanley questioned if anyone was interested in acting as a GPSA representative to the CJC committee and the (Student Advocacy Committee?) to cover issues on student conduct, mental health, the Student Code, and more to work through larger campus issues. P. Hanley noted that members of the community should also serve on the committee and that the role would be published soon.



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- ii. Dean Boor introduced a role for international student representation
 - 1. K. Karnuta questioned if the representative would specifically be an international student, to which Dean Boor clarified no but that it would be more fitting.
 - 2. M. Matthews questioned if other groups were also reached out to, expressing belief in others' interest.
- b. Operations
 - i. J. Washington asked that after any meetings, Committees would submit their minutes into the Box folder created.
- c. Appropriations
 - i. No updates.
- d. Communications
 - i. K. Cram stated that should anyone want any other content to go onto the newsletter to contact her, also highlighting the survey inside the newsletter that would be sent out with the opportunity for a survey-taker to win a prize.
- e. Finance
 - i. No updates.
- f. Student Advocacy
 - i. A. McGraw outlined the major goal-setting that occurred at the Retreat including Town Hall meetings, an anonymous submission box, greater committee efficiency in terms of enough meetings and members and ensuring diverse perspectives on the committee.
- g. Diversity and International Students
 - i. N. Perez stated her desire to move forward with the town hall after returning from Fall break.
- h. Programming
 - i. M. Matthews stated that there was the first cross networking event with around 60 participants. M. Matthews said next one was MPH and plant sciences.
 - ii. M. Matthews stated the Committee's desire to have a list of leadership for all the graduate organizations on campus.
 - iii. Question raised if it would be possible for graduate societies to have a requirement for a dedicated organization email.
 - 1. M. Matthews stated that this is already a requirement in Campus



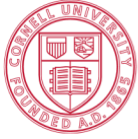
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Groups.

- i. Faculty Awards
 - i. A. Majumdar stated that an announcement on the Faculty Awards would be released this week in conjunction with the Communications Committee.
- j. General Committee
 - i. G. Smits stated her hope in receiving written perspectives from other members and stated that currently, PhD funding is typically guaranteed for 5 years, though many do not graduate in that time. G. Smits stated her desire to find a way to gauge how long one's funding period should last.
- k. Graduate School
 - i. Dean Boor stated her hope that everyone would receive their Ful Shot, noting anticipations for a rough Flu Season, and noted the presence of Covid-19 still on campus. Dean Boor noted that coffee hours and happy hours at the Big Red Barn, as well as participation in different disciplinary seminars, would be available for students to connect with her on issues important to them to increase accessibility.

X. Open Forum

- a. P. Hanley stated that Elections for VP of Finance and Chair of the Finance Commission would definitively take place. P. Hanley noted that the position of Chair would first be moved through the Executive Committee before becoming open for election. P. Hanley noted that this would be the first use of the new election procedures that were implemented the previous academic year.
- b. K. Karnuta questioned how elections would work for Committee Chair positions and clarified her hope that marketing and clear guidelines could be available for new students to enter GPSA roles. A. McGraw concurred, noting that due to much overturn in many key GPSA positions, earlier preparation would be extremely helpful.
- c. P. Hanley noted how expensive Cornell Catering is and expressed frustration at how Cornell Catering is the only provider allowed for the Big Red Barn. P. Hanley expressed his hopes that the Student Activity Fee could be applied to more activities rather than the expensive Cornell Catering fees.
- d. E. Kalweit noted that for catering GPSA meeting, there are around 20 vendors on file to be able to pay with the GPSA account. K. Karnuta noted that for any on-campus events, Cornell Dining regulates that Cornell Catering should be used, and



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asked that examination of prices could be done.

- e. Dan Bromberg introduced himself as the Graduate Student Trustee and introduced someone to contact.
 - i. K. Karnuta noted her support of the idea and noted her own frustrations when attempting to organize an event at the Big Red Barn.

XI. Adjournment

- a. P. Hanley motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer J. Zhang

Clerk of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly