**Cornell Graduate and Professional Student University Assembly**

Minutes of the October 30, 2023 Meeting

5:00 PM – 6:15 PM

401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

1. Call to Order
   1. M. Matthews called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.
      1. *Members Present*: N. Brennan, D. Browne, E. Forcier, A. Garcia-Ortiz, B. Hayes, M. Heeney, K. Jaffry, S. Karim, A. Koyyada, A. Lagressa, Z. Lynch, M. Matthews, A. McGraw, D. Parekh, B. Patel, O. Perkins, S. Sepp, G. Smits, R. Thakore
      2. *Members Absent*: K. Ferrell, A. Iqbal, S. Karaikal, M. Liqa, J. Lopez, B. Sarmah, V. Yeh
      3. *Also Present*: J. Withers
2. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogo̱ho꞉nǫ (Cayuga Nation)
   1. M. Matthews stated the UA’s acknowledgment of the Cayuga Nation.
3. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
   1. Approval of minutes was removed from the agenda.
4. M. Matthews stated an overview of the business of the day.
5. Breakout Session by Field
   1. The GPSA divided into breakout sections by field and discussed the business of the day.
6. Business of the Day
   1. M. Heeney introduced [Resolution 3: Solidarity with Cornell Graduate Students United](https://cornell.box.com/s/zqqmxjm56x8x7krx8enxevkwio2r9lvm).
      1. S. Karim motioned to move the previous question. Resolution 3 adopted with a vote of 19-0-1.
   2. Call to fill open GPSA voting member positions
      1. D. Ghimire was elected as Physical Sciences Representative.
   3. Call to fill open University Committee positions
      1. E. Forcier was appointed to the Transportation Hearing and Appeals Board.
      2. A. McGraw and D. Parekh were appointed to the Campus Planning Committee.
7. Officer Reports and Committee Updates
   1. Executive Committee
      1. M. Heeney stated that they met with Dean Boor who is trying to standardize departmental handbooks.
   2. Operations
      1. A. McGraw stated that they were in the process of revising the current bylaws and charter. A. McGraw will also reach out to new members regarding committee service.
   3. Appropriations
      1. D. Browne stated that they have been working on the student activity fee and will be presenting it at one of the next meetings and that it is crucial for members to attend the next two meetings.
   4. Communications
      1. A. Garcia-Ortiz stated that the deadline for submissions to the Communique is Thursday at 5 p.m.
   5. Finance
      1. None.
   6. Student Advocacy
      1. None.
   7. Diversity and International Students
      1. D. Parekh stated that they met with Derina Samuel, the association director for graduate student development at CTI; they are working on bringing awareness to their resources and in presenting to the GPSA. Discussion ensued regarding supporting a Diwali event and Renaissance Ball.
   8. Programming
      1. None.
   9. Graduate School
      1. G. Smits gave an update on the Graduate School General Committee.
8. Open Forum
   1. Members discussed collaborations with other graduate student organizations, history behind the unionization vote, and discounts and cross-contamination in dining services.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Withers

Director of the Office of the Assemblies