

**Cornell University**  
**Graduate and Professional**  
**Student Assembly**

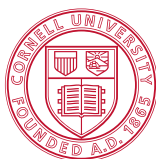
**Cornell Graduate and Professional Student University Assembly**

Minutes of the October 31, 2022 Meeting

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

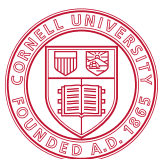
401 Physical Sciences Building

- I. Call to Order
  - a. Chair P. Hanley called the meeting to order at 5:00pm
  - b. *Members Present: K. Boardman, S. Bright-Thonney, A. Bruce, K. Chapman, Y. Cho, K. Cram, N. Dorvil, B. Hayes, M. Heeney, Y. Joo Kang, K. Karnuta, A. Massand, M. Matthews, A. McGraw, M. Minelli, N. Moore, C. Ohenewah, A. Patel, G. Smits, J. Washington, T. Wolford, S. Yang.*
  - c. *Members Absent: S. Carrillo, M. Dew, G. Ewing, S. Graham, A. Majumdar, A. Murtha, D. Stanic, A. Wunsch.*
  - d. *Also Present: D. Samuel, B. Zgruich.*
- II. Late Additions to the Agenda
  - a. There were no late additions to the agenda.
- III. Approval of the Meeting minutes
  - a. The September 26 minutes were approved unanimously. The October 17 minutes were approved unanimously.
- IV. Presentations: Dr. Derina Samuel, CTI Associate Director
  - a. Presentation
    - i. D. Samuel stated that the Center for Teaching Innovation partners with the Cornell teaching community to foster good teaching practices by facilitating learning experiences.
    - ii. The CTI offers many resources for graduate students including Get Set Institutes, the CTI Fellows Program, CTI Courses, and more.  
B. Zgruich noted 2022-2023 CTI Programs such as the TA Online Orientation to give graduate students insights into topics such as a Teaching Portfolio.
    - iii. D. Samuel noted that if interested, one could represent the GPSA on the Advisory Committee.



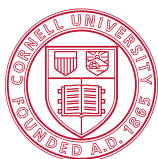
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- b. K. Karnuta asked about training for TAs and whether it was standardized or required, questioning if there was action within the University to standardize the training, particularly around communication and student well-being.
  - c. D. Samuel stated that these trainings are available across all departments and to all deans, noting hope that GPSA would publicize them more widely and think of ways to make them available to more people.
  - d. M. Matthews suggested sending notifications for training opportunities through graduate field assistants and representatives.
  - e. D. Samuel stated that CTI office has received feedback that the e
  - f. B. Zgurich stated that the CTI has a newsletter that people can sign up for that goes out twice per year.
  - g. D. Samuel invited members to apply for CTI fellowships and ITAP advisory committee representatives.
- V. Breakout session by division
- VI. New Business
  - a. There was a motion to untable Resolution 3: Amendments to Appendix B of the GPSA Charter. The motion **passed**.
  - b. There was a motion to end debate and vote. The motion passed.
  - c. Resolution 3 was **not approved**.
- VII. Business of the Day
  - a. Ivy+Summit recap
    - i. P. Hanley stated that universities are working to support international students with international spouses, as well as support and advocate for increased accessibility, and more. In reflection, P. Hanley summarized that the GPSA delegation should host a townhall with their constituency prior to attending Ivy+, and that internal communication and commitment to attending needs to be stronger.
    - ii. M. Heeney asked about gym access using Cornell Health Plans. A. McGraw states that information is available in benefits package information.



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- iii. A. McGraw stated that local landlords have an opt-in program for listings, discussion of whether this also includes student reviews as Brown's program does.
- iv. M. Heeney stated that summer classes should be added and financially supported for graduate students, particularly courses that offer certifications.
- b. Position vacancies and elections procedure information
  - i. N. Moore stated that P. Hanley's replacement will take over until Spring 2023, at which point there is a formal election.
  - ii. K. Karnuta stated that there is one more TGIF takeover at the Big Red Barn which can be used as an election event if necessary.
  - iii. K. Karnuta suggested a coffee hour/information session at the BRB to increase visibility of election and answer questions about duties of President's position.
  - iv. P. Hanley stated the GPSAs action items leading up to the election and changing leadership for his role.
  - v. K. Karnuta stated a desire to increase visibility for different roles and time elections so that students would only vote once. K. Karnuta emphasized the importance of highlighting this shift in leadership. K. Karnuta further noted her desire to push the timeline forward, though the bylaws are written in a certain way for scheduling when changing roles.
- c. Discussion of Committee Representation
  - i. The ITAP Committee has 1 representative position available.
  - ii. The Privacy Pod Working Group has 1 representative position available.
    - 1. J. Lamey explained the purpose of Privacy Pods, looking for a rep to make recommendations to VP Lombardi for implementation in Spring 2023.
  - iii. The SHBAC Committee has 2 representative positions available.
    - 1. A. McGraw stated that she is planning with the SHBAC Committee.
  - iv. University Assembly Committees-



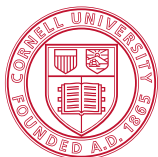
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1. K. Karnuta suggested a BRB takeover to attract graduate students from community to committee, and this can be tied into the election season as well-K. Karnuta stated that elections should be prioritized.
2. M. Heeney asked how GPSA can be more marketable for PhD students. M. Heeney asked if this is related to a reward/cost issue that makes it difficult for PhD students to see career value in GPSA participation.
3. P. Hanley stated that there are 2 openings o the wellness committee and one for CJC. A. McGraw volunteers for Wellness Committee.
4. P. Hanley stated that committees do not have a large time commitment and wants to enable more PhD student voices. P. Hanley stated that most UA committees meet monthly. P. Hanley noted that while this differs from other universities, there is low PhD engagement with the GPSA.

#### VIII. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates

- a. Executive Committee
  - i. No new updates.
- b. Operations
  - i. No new updates.
- c. Appropriations
  - i. No new updates.
- d. Communications
  - i. No new updates.
- e. Finance
  - i. No new updates.
- f. Student Advocacy
  - i. A. McGraw sent out a Doodle pool everyone should fill out with their availability.
- g. Diversity and International Students
  - i. No new updates.
- h. Programming



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- i. M. Matthews stated that the next cross-campus networking event will occur at the Big Red Barn in two weeks. M. Matthews noted open slots all of next semester for different programs to have a cross-networking event. M. Matthews noted that there would be a Write-In takeover at the Big Red Barn before finals.
  - i. Faculty Awards
    - i. A. Patel stated that he is currently working out a budget for an award ceremony for the 7 awards.
  - ii. General Committee
    - i. No new updates.
  - iii. Graduate School
    - i. No new updates.
- IX. Open Forum
  - a. There were no new statements.
- X. Adjournment
  - a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer J. Zhang  
Clerk of the Assembly