

# 1 Resolution 16: Conducting Open Elections for Voting 2 Members for 2021-22 Term

3 **Abstract:** While the GPSA Charter §4.05.A requires that voting members are elected in the second-  
4 to-last meeting of the semester, the pandemic has severely restricted the ability of the graduate and  
5 professional community to participate in elections. Therefore, the GPSA agrees to hold elections of  
6 voting members according to an alternative procedure than that which is outlined in the charter, as it  
7 is unable to fulfill these instructions as provided.

8 **Sponsored by:** Kavya Krishnan, Vice President of Communications

9 **Reviewed by:** Communications Committee, 4/9/2021

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10 **Whereas,** the GPSA Charter §4.05.A.i states that “The 14 Voting members who represent the  
11 divisions of the Graduate School will be elected at the second to last GPSA meeting of the current  
12 GPSA term.”; and

13 **Whereas,** the GPSA Charter §4.05.A.ii states that “At this meeting, field representatives and Voting  
14 members shall form caucuses by Division to elect new Voting members from constituent fields.”;  
15 and

16 **Whereas,** the restrictions of the pandemic have made it unfeasible for candidates to effectively  
17 caucus in the manner prescribed in the GPSA Charter; and

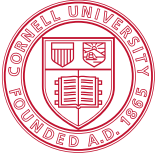
18 **Whereas,** the GPSA is committed to the adherence of prior convention, such that the entire  
19 graduate and professional student community may have the opportunity to elect their voting  
20 members.

21 **Be it therefore resolved** that the GPSA declares that it is unable to fulfill the entire election  
22 procedure as outlined in the Charter §4.05.A and is therefore inapplicable during this academic term;  
23 and

24 **Be it further resolved** that the GPSA agrees to pursue an alternative election procedure outlined  
25 below:

- 26 1. An email to all graduate and professional students describing open positions and calling for  
27 nominations will be sent on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Nomination period remains opens through 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 28 2. An email to all graduate and professional students inviting them to vote for their division  
29 voting members will follow. Voting period will be open 4/27-4/29.
- 30 3. New voting members will begin their term by the final GPSA meeting (5/3).

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**Cornell University**  
Graduate and Professional  
Student Assembly

- 32 Respectfully Submitted,
- 33 Kavya Krishnan
- 34 Vice President of Communications