



GPSA Resolution 8: Cornell Investment and Divestment Strategies for a Sustainable Future

1 WHEREAS there is overwhelming evidence that the use of fossil fuels is disrupting the Earth's
2 climate system and acidifying its oceans, and that such disruptions will create significant
3 challenges for Cornell University, the state of New York, the United States, and all countries for
4 the next millennium; and

5 WHEREAS Cornell has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2050 and has made
6 significant progress in achieving this goal; and

7 WHEREAS many other colleges and universities have also committed to achieving this goal,
8 with some having established an even more ambitious goal of eliminating fossil fuel use of 2025;
9 and,

10 WHEREAS reducing the use of fossil fuels will reduce the value of investments in companies
11 holding large fossil fuel reserves; and

12 WHEREAS Cornell is a leading research and public education institution with significant impact
13 within New York, the United States, and the world; and

14 WHEREAS the Cornell Student Assembly and Faculty Senate have passed by overwhelming
15 majorities resolutions calling upon the University to adjust its investment practices to draw further
16 attention to the detrimental effects of fossil fuel use; therefore be it

17 RESOLVED that Cornell graduate and professional students, responsible university offices and
18 officials should seek a more aggressive reduction in the use of fossil fuels that will achieve
19 carbon neutrality by 2035; and,

20 RESOLVED that Cornell investments in companies producing such fuels be reduced consistent
21 with Cornell's progress toward carbon neutrality so as to achieve full divestment by 2035; and,

22 RESOLVED that this should be done by a schedule that prioritizes divestment from those
23 companies holding the largest fossil fuel reserves; and,

24 RESOLVED that the President of Cornell will submit an annual report to the Student Assembly,
25 Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, and the Faculty Senate describing the progress that
26 the University has made in becoming carbon neutral and divesting from companies holding the
27 largest fossil fuel reserves; and,

28 RESOLVED that this Resolution be sent to David Skorton, President of Cornell; Robert
29 Harrison, Chair of the Board of Trustees; Kent Hubbell, Dean of Students; Susan H. Murphy,
30 Vice-President for Student and Academic Services; Kent Fuchs, Provost; Barbara Knuth, Vice
31 Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

32 Respectfully submitted,
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34 Field Representative for Mathematics
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36 Tim Sorg
37 Humanities Voting Member
38 Liaison to the Faculty Senate
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40 Christine “Xine” Yao
41 Vice-President of Operations, GPSA
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44 Nicole Baran
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48 Voting Member At Large
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51 Gregory Fedorchak
52 Field Representative for Biomedical Engineering
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54 Jay Mahat
55 Field Representative for Biochemistry, Molecular & Cell Biology
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57 Lucia Munguia
58 Field Representative for Philosophy