

Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

1 **GPSA Resolution 1: Charter and Bylaws Changes for the**
2 **2015-2016 School Year**

3
4 Sponsored by: Nate Rogers
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6 **WHEREAS**, in section 3.03.d.v-vii of the Bylaws of the Graduate and Professional Student
7 Assembly, hereafter referred to as GPSA, reads:

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9 "v. The Chairperson is charged with requesting revisions to the GPSA Bylaws from
10 standing committee chairs.

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12 vi. The revisions are to be incorporated into the GPSA Bylaws.

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14 vii. The revised GPSA Bylaws are to be presented as a resolution at the second
15 meeting of the current GPSA term for approval.”;

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17 **WHEREAS**, Article X of the GPSA Charter provides the procedure for the amendment of
18 the GPSA Charter and GPSA Bylaws;

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20 **WHEREAS**, the committee chairs have made their requests for changes to the GPSA
21 Charter and GPSA Bylaws known to the Chairperson of the Operations and Staffing
22 Committee,

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24 **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that section 5.01.a of the GPSA Charter be amended
25 to read,

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27 “The officers of the GPSA shall be the President, the Executive Vice President, the
28 Vice President for Operations, and the Vice President for Communications.”;

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30 **RESOLVED**, that section 5.02.c of the GPSA Charter be amended to read,

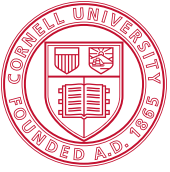
31
32 “The order of election shall proceed as follows: President, Executive Vice President,
33 Vice President for Operations, Vice President for Communications, and Counsel to
34 the Assembly.”;

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36 **RESOLVED**, that within section 5.03 of the GPSA Charter a subsection be added between
37 subsections c. Vice President for Operations and d. Counsel to the Assembly that reads,

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39 “Vice President for Communications

40 i. It shall be the responsibility of the Vice President for Communications to:

41 1. Chair the Communications Committee.



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- 42 2. Oversee and manage the timely and accurate communication between the
43 Executive Committee, the GPSA, the Graduate and Professional Student
44 Community, and Cornell University.
45 3. Chair meetings in the absence of the President, Executive Vice President,
46 and Vice President for Operations.”;

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48 **RESOLVED**, that section 5.03.d.iii.4 of the GPSA Charter be amended to read,

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50 “The Counsel to the Assembly must have previously served as a GPSA President,
51 Executive Vice President, Vice President for Operations, or Vice President for
52 Communications.”;

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54 **RESOLVED**, that section 5.04.b.i.1 of the GPSA Charter be amended to read,

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56 “1. The Executive Vice President shall assume the position of President.”;

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58 **RESOLVED**, that section 5.04.b.iii of the GPSA Charter be amended to read,

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60 “1. The Vice President for Communications shall assume the position of the Vice
61 President for Operations.

62

63 2. If the Vice President for Communications declines the position, the GPSA
64 members will elect a new Vice President for Operations from among the Voting
65 members.”;

66

67 **RESOLVED**, that a section 5.04.b.iv be added to the GPSA Charter that reads,

68

69 “Vice President for Communications

70 1. The GPSA Members will elect a new Vice President for Communications from
71 among the Voting members.”;

72

73 **RESOLVED**, that a section 5.04.b.v be added to the GPSA Charter that reads,

74

75 “Lack of Available Voting Members

76 1. Should all eligible voting members refuse to be nominated to the any of the
77 officer positions, the GPSA Members will elect a new officer from amongst the
78 Field Representatives.”;

79

80 **RESOLVED**, that section 6.02.a of the GPSA Charter be amended to read,

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82 “The standing committees of the GPSA shall be the Executive Committee, Operations
83 and Staffing Committee, Elections Committee, Appropriations Committee, the
84 Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Finance Commission (GPSAFC), the



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85 Communications Committee and other committees as described in the GPSA
86 Bylaws.”;

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88 **RESOLVED**, that section 3.01 of the GPSA Bylaws be renamed “Responsibilities for All
89 Committees”;

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91 **RESOLVED**, that the word “three” in section 3.02.c.i of the GPSA Bylaws be changed to
92 “four”;

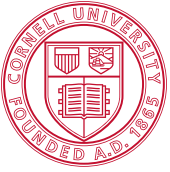
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94 **RESOLVED**, that section 3.03.f.i of the GPSA Bylaws be amended to read,

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96 “By the end of September, the Committee shall set the size of and appoint members
97 to the Appropriations Committee, Communications Committee, Graduate and
98 Professional Student Assembly Finance Commission, Graduate and Professional
99 Student Programming Board, Faculty Awards Committee, Diversity and
100 International Students Committee, and Student Advocacy Committee. These
101 appointments shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.”;

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103 **RESOLVED**, that section 3.03.g.i of the GPSA Bylaws be amended to read,

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105 “The Operations and Staffing Committee shall appoint the following representatives:

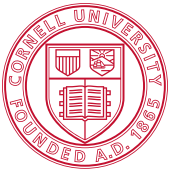
- 106 1. Eight graduate or professional students (two from Biological Sciences,
107 Social Sciences, Humanities and Physical Sciences of which one from each
108 division will be appointed annually for a two year term) to the Academic
109 Integrity Hearing Board,
- 110 2. One graduate or professional student to the Trustee Nominating
111 Committee,
- 112 3. One liaison officer (a current member of the GPSA) each to the Faculty
113 Senate, the Employee Assembly and the Student Assembly as ex-officio,
114 non-voting members,
- 115 4. One graduate or professional student to each of the following Faculty
116 Senate committees,
 - 117 a. Academic Freedom and Professional Status of the Faculty,
 - 118 b. Advisory Committee on Athletics and Physical Education,
 - 119 c. Educational Policy Committee,
 - 120 d. ROTC-University Relations Committee,
 - 121 e. University Faculty Library Board,
 - 122 f. University Lectures Committee,
- 123 5. One graduate or professional student to each of the following Student
124 Assembly committees,
 - 125 a. Dining Services
 - 126 b. Inclusion and Diversity Initiatives Committee
- 127 6. One graduate or professional student to the Cornell Cinema Student
128 Advisory Board,



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- 129 7. Two graduate or professional students to the Gorge Safety Committee,
130 8. One graduate or professional student to the Learning Technologies
131 Governance Committee,
132 9. One graduate or professional student to the President’s Sustainable
133 Campus Advisory Committee,
134 10. One graduate or professional student to the Public Safety Advisory
135 Committee,
136 11. Two graduate or professional students to the Student Health Plan Advisory
137 Committee,
138 12. One graduate or professional student to the Student Library Advisory
139 Council,
140 13. Three graduate or professional students to the University Council on
141 Mental Health and Welfare,
142 14. One graduate or professional student to the University Diversity Council,
143 15. One graduate or professional student to the University Neighborhood
144 Council,
145 16. Two representatives to the Family Life Advisory with one position
146 reserved for a graduate or professional student with a child or children
147 and the other reserved for the partner of a graduate student,
148 17. Three graduate or professional students to the Big Red Barn Advisory
149 Board,
150 18. Two graduate or professional students to the Campus Planning
151 Committee,
152 19. Two graduate or professional students to the Transportation Hearing and
153 Appeals Board,
154 20. One graduate or professional student to the Council on Hazing
155 Prevention,
156 21. Two graduate or professional students to the President’s Council on
157 Alcohol and Other Drugs,
158 22. One current GPSA member to each of the following University Assembly
159 committees,
160 a. Campus Infrastructure Committee,
161 b. Campus Welfare Committee,
162 c. Codes and Judicial Committee,
163 23. One graduate or professional student to each of the following University
164 Assembly committees,
165 a. Campus Infrastructure Committee,
166 b. Campus Welfare Committee,
167 c. Codes and Judicial Committee.
168 24. At least two and no more than three graduate or professional students to
169 the Student Health Fee Advisory Committee.”;

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171 **RESOLVED**, a section 3.03.g.iii of the GPSA Bylaws should be added that reads,
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- 173 “General Committee of the Graduate School
174 1. Following the election of the GPSA officers each year, but preceeding the
175 election of the standing committee chairs, a representative for the General
176 Committee of the Graduate School shall be elected.
177 2. The elected representative shall serve a two year term so that there are at
178 any time no more than two elected representatives from the GPSA.
179 3. Should either of these seats become vacant before the end of their term, the
180 Vice President for Operations may appoint an interim representative until an
181 election can be held for a new representative to complete the term.
182 4. An interim representative to the General Committee, appointed by the Vice
183 President for Operations is subject the approval of the Executive Committee.
184 5. These seats are not transferable.”;

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186 **RESOLVED**, that Tiffany St. Bernard be allowed to complete her term (set to end in 2016)
187 as a representative to the General Committee of the Graduate School, at which time the seat
188 will be open to an elected representative. If Tiffany St. Bernard vacates her seat prior to the
189 completion of her term, the seat will immediately become an elected position with the
190 procedure for filling the seat being such as outlined in the GPSA Bylaws. Tiffany St.
191 Bernard’s seat on the General Committee is not transferrable;

192
193 **RESOLVED**, that section 3.05.e.ii of the GPSA Bylaws be amended to read,

194
195 “Meetings of the Committee shall generally be open to the graduate and professional
196 student community. However, the Chairperson, in consultation with the Committee,
197 may decide to close parts of the meetings in order protect sensitive information from
198 being made public.”;

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200 **RESOLVED**, that section 3.05.e.iii of the GPSA Bylaws be removed;

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202 **RESOLVED**, that section 3.05.e.v of the GPSA Bylaws be amended to read,

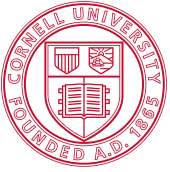
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204 “Meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public. However, the Chairperson or
205 any of the commissioners may call for a vote to be taken by secret ballot,”;

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207 **RESOLVED**, that section 3.06.b.i of the GPSA Bylaws be amended to read,

208
209 “The Vice President for Communications shall serve as the chairperson of the
210 Communications Committee.”;

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212 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that a section 3.06.d.vi be added to the GPSA Bylaws that
213 reads,

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215 “Chiefs of Communication



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1. Each division caucus will elect from amongst themselves a Chief of Communication.
 2. A Chief will be a voting member that is not a member of the Executive Committee.
 3. If a Chief of Communication is elected to a position on the Executive Committee or the position is otherwise vacated, then a new Chief of Communication will be elected by the division caucus as soon as arrangements can be reasonably made.
 4. The Vice President for Communications may appoint interim Chiefs as necessary. These appointments are subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
 5. Each Chief of Communication is a member of the Communication Committee.
 6. Each Chief of Communication is the primary person responsible for transmitting information between the GPSA and the Field Representatives, Field Organizations, Deans, students, and other members of their respective division.
 7. Each Chief of Communication is encouraged to make themselves known to, and meet periodically with the Field Representatives, Field Organizations, and other members whom they are responsible to.
 8. Chiefs of Communication are to assist the Vice President for Communications in any other way as needed.
 9. Chiefs of Communication can be removed from their position by a majority vote of their division caucus.”.

240 **Respectfully submitted,**
241 **Nate Rogers**
242 *Vice President for Operations, GPSA*
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