



**MINUTES**  
**Graduate & Professional Student Assembly**  
**February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall**  
**5:30 – 7:00 P.M.**

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**I. Welcome and Introductions**

**1. Introduction of voting members, 1 min.**

*Voting Members Absent: C. Aurand*

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

**1. December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 1 min.**

Minutes approved as presented.

**III. Presentations**

**1. Provost Michael I. Kotlikoff, 30 min.**

Annie O’Toole, the graduate student trustee, introduced the topic of tuition that was discussed at the Board of Trustees meeting over break. The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting tuition for students at the beginning of every academic year. This year, the trustees want to involve the student body in the discussion process for students to gain a better understating of the process. Provost M. Kotlikoff presented the Board approved plan tuition and financial aid. Present what trustees approved for tuition and financial aid. In the future, the administration would like to move this presentation and discussion to before the Board meeting. Since the undergraduate plan is more complicated due to broad university initiative and historical basis, it will be presented at the Student Assembly meeting later that week.

There was a tuition increase for MS Information Systems and a decrease by \$11,500 for doctoral student tuition. Profession Degree Tuitions will increase by 3.70 or 3.75% which is a reflection of increasing costs of individual colleges since they are putting more funding into these programs compared to other programs in the schools.

As for financial aid, 95% students have full student support and a stipend. 66% Research Masters Students have a fellowship or assistantship or receive some other stipend support. 43% of professional masters students have some stipend assistantships. Stipends will increase by a minimum of 2%.

M. Kotlikoff then transitioned into discussing the College of Business and the decision-making behind it. It is an issue that has been studied many times and weighed in on by leadership and faculty. The discussion began in 2009 with a management task force with faculty. 5 different studies have identified fragmentation of business programs as a liability, since each is a separately accredited program. The Board passed a legislation that would serve as an empty vessel to be forwarded to faculty who will then fill that vessel. Step 1 was the trustee vote, Step 2 is engaging student, staff, faculty, and alumni to decide legislation for governing the new school.

#### **IV. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates, 10 min.**

##### **1. Executive Committee**

No updates.

##### **2. Operations**

No updates.

##### **3. Appropriations**

No updates.

##### **4. Faculty Awards**

No updates.

##### **5. Finance Commission**

The deadline for funding is soon. The committee has \$15,000 to allocate for the rest of the semester and there a lot of requests for large-scale events.

##### **6. Student Advocacy**

The first meeting of the committee is on February 16<sup>th</sup>, talk to Chair if interested in the committee.

##### **7. Diversity and International Students**

Let's Talk Diversity and Inclusion Dinner will be on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The committee will meet on Thursday.

##### **8. Programming Board**

The chair will send an email about mixer dates.

##### **9. Communications**

No updates.

#### **V. Elections, 10 min.**

##### **1. Finance Commission**

Moved to next meeting.

##### **2. Appropriations Committee**

Nominated Mariko Alexander for Appropriations Committee Chair who was appointed as the new chair unanimously.

#### **VI. New Business, 35 min.**

##### **1. GPSA Resolution 4: Endorsement of the Best Practices for Faculty Advisers Document**

R. Walroth began working on faculty advising last year when he became President. Some of the practices he detailed in the resolution are:

- Research interests: Advisors should take students' research interests into account
- Professional development: Students should be made aware of programs offered by Cornell
- Mental Health: advisors are the best people to notice a deterioration in mental health and should be trained to handle it in an appropriate manner.
- Diversity and Inclusion: Advisors should be responsible for self-examining and should not harbor unconscious biases.

The resolution states GPSA endorsement for these practices.

There was a motion to amend the resolution and add a clause that the GPSA will be tasked with updating the document regularly to reflect the changing nature of the adviser-advisee relationship over time. A motion to table the resolution was passed unanimously.

**2. GPSA Resolution 5: Sense of the Body Concerning the Creation of the College of Business**

The Board of Trustees made a decision on January 30<sup>th</sup> to combine the Decision made by Board on January 30<sup>th</sup> to combine School of Hotel Administration, Dyson School of AEM, and the Johnson Graduate School of Management into a single college of business. The resolution calls for more graduate student inclusion when matters concern them. The sponsor of the resolution, Alex Brown, believes it is striking that step 1 of the process was the trustee vote, and not feedback from shared governance. There was an amendment to extend the meeting by 10 minutes which passed unanimously. One of the AEM representatives, M. Jodlowski, proposed an amendment to change Dyson's name in the resolution to Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management. Another amendment was proposed to consult the graduate student faculty in the AEM department for their input on the matter. The resolution was tabled till the next meeting.

**VII. Open Forum, 4 min.**

EARS training starts February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and there is an effort to get more graduate students involved. Training will be held in RPCC. If want more information, email Amy Molitoris.

R. Walroth adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.

*Sincerely submitted,  
Aastha Wadhwa*