



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

109 Day Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853-4203
t. 607.255.3715
f. 607.255.2182
Email: gpsa@cornell.edu
<http://assembly.cornell.edu/GPSA>
www.cornellgpsa.com

MINUTES
Graduate & Professional Student Assembly
April 4th, 2016
Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall
5:30 – 7:00 P.M.

I. Welcome and Introductions

R. Walroth called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

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

Voting Members Present: N. Rogers, T. Bollu, R. Walroth, A. Molitoris, C. Benson, C. Wong, C. Aurand, C. Yao, I. Band, J. Goldberg, S. Hesse, K. Ladha, R. Arbamov, T. Bernard, T. Snider, and W. Nicholson

Voting Members Absent: M. Jodlowski, K. Schlauraf and J. Veintimilla

II. Approval of the Minutes

- There was a **motion** to amend the minutes of March 21st, 2015 on Section 3 to change “likely to me” to “likely to be”. There was a second and the amendment carried.
- There was a **motion** to approve the minutes and the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

III. Presentations

- **TCAT Public Meeting Announcement**
 - G. Cremeens from Cornell Transportation Services introduced himself and stated that TCAT might be making summer service changes.
 - Meetings to inform the public of these potential summer service changes will take place Thursday April 7th from 5:30 p.m to 7:30 p.m in Weill Hall Room 226 and on Friday April 8th from 11a.m to 1p.m in Maplewood Apartments Community Center.
 - If anyone has any further questions G. Cremeens can be reached at grc22@cornell.edu

- **Discussion on Romantic Relationships Between Students and Supervisor**

- A. Waymack introduced Resolution 7. She further explained the reason the Resolution was created.
- A. Waymack stated that she would like for the Faculty Senate to take up the resolution in order to protect graduate students from abuses of power.
- A. Mittman introduced himself and explained the role of his office. He said his office does not normally look into such cases but is happy to review them if needed. He also stated that he reviewed this policy with the other faculty and they reported that there is already a committee for this.
- R. Walroth opened the floor for discussion.
- Dean Hubbell spoke of the investigation process and its consequences. He stated that the Dean has the right to make decisions on the intended consequences if the policy is violated.
- A. Waymack clarified that the Resolution is about consensual relationships. She said issues revolving Appendix C should be discussed separately.
- A. Mittman said though such relationships may be consensual there is a blurry line. N. Rogers asked what results when the policy is violated and the Dean takes action.
- Dean Hubble said such issues are dealt with discretion.
- A. Mittman said each college has its own review process and consequences therefore the consequences are not tabulated in an overall way. He further stated that the result of the policy violation is dependent upon the consequences decided upon.
- A member asked if there is a complainant who reports the policy violation and if so does the process go through the complainant.
- Dean Hubbell affirmed that there is a complainant because such issues affect the Cornell Community.
- A member asked what protections exists for the complainant assuming the complainant is a student.
- A. Mittman said currently there is no explicit protections in place.
- A. Molitoris asked if this applies to the Professional Schools and A. Mittman said yes.
- T. Bollu asked for context and if this policy is not already covered by other policies already in place.
- Dean Hubbell spoke of other universities that have such policies.
- A. Mittman added that this is a conflict of interest.
- Dean Hubbell said Berkley's policy is a model for their policy.
- T. Bollu asked if this policy is not already covered by Policy 6.4.

- A. Mittman said it is separate from Policy 6.4 because when it was part of Policy 6.4 it created confusion. A. Mittman further spoke of the work done by the committee and its results.
- Dean Hubbell stated that the graduate students have the most to lose if the policy permits this type of behavior.

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

- **Executive Committee:** R. Walroth said they discussed Anabel Groceries and they had the Board of Trustee presentation.
- **Operations:** N. Rogers said they elected the GPSA Representative to the Graduate Student College of Business Synergy Group and they will have a meeting tomorrow.
- **Appropriations:** They said they met with Cornell Cinema and Big Red Barn and they are putting a Resolution in place.
- **Faculty Awards:** The Faculty Awards Nomination period ends tonight and they will meet in two weeks to review the nominations. Anyone interested in the committee should contact C. Benson.
- **Finance Commission:** Member said their last review will be this Thursday at 5p.m. Their annual budget is due two weeks from April 4th.
- **Student Advocacy:** Their annual event will take place next Thursday at the Big Red Barn. Those interested should RSVP beforehand. The Student Advocacy Committee will have their meeting on April 5th at 5 p.m. 5
- **Diversity and International Students:** The Diversity and International Student's Committee will host their dinner on April 11th in biotech 110. On April 15th there will be an on campus housing webinar.
- **Programming Board:** A. Molitoris said the Grad Ball on Saturday May 7th at the Johnson Museum. She said tickets will be sold for \$12 but they have a \$2 ticket fee. Also the Wine Tour is on May 10th from 1p.m to 6p.m. There is only 1 Cornell bus. She also spoke of the spin lining event over Beebe lake which is on May 14th and tickets are \$7 via Cornell Tickets. A. Molitoris said they will be having a discussion on sexual assault on Tuesday April 12th.
- **Communication:** There was no updates from the Communication's Committee.

V. Elections, 10 min.

- **Voting Member at Large:** D. Citron was **nominated** for the position of Voting Member at Large, there was a second and D. Citron accepted the position.

VI. New Business

- **GPSA Resolution 8: Resolution Concerning 2014 Tax Issues for International Students**
 - I. Smythe explained the Resolution and the reason why the Resolution was created.
 - R. Walroth opened the floor for discussion.
 - N. Rogers **motioned** for an amendment on line 49 and 51, there was a second and the amendment **carried** by a vote of 13-0-2.
 - There was a call to vote on Resolution 8 there was a second and the Resolution passed by a vote of 14-0-1.
 - There was a motion to extend the meeting meeting by 5 minutes, there was a second and the meeting was **extended**
 - **GPSA Resolution 7: Supervisor-Student Relationships**
 - R. Walroth summarized the amendment made to the resolution.
 - There was a motion to vote on the amendment, there was a second and the amendment **carried** by a vote of 13-0-1.
 - There was a motion to vote on the Resolution, there was a second and the Resolution **passed** by a vote of 14-0-1.

VII. Open Forum

R. Walroth adjourned the meeting at 7:04p.m.