



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

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MINUTES
Graduate & Professional Student Assembly
October 26th, 2015
Memorial Room, Willard Straight Hall
5:30 – 7:00 P.M.

I. Welcome and Introductions

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

1. Introduction of voting members, 1 min.

Voting Members Present: C. Aurand, C. Benson, T. Bollu, J. Goldberg, S. Hesse, M. Jodlowski, W. Nicholson, N. Rogers, K. Schlauraff, T. Snider, R. Walroth and C. Yao

Voting Members Absent: R. Abramov, K. Ladha, A. Molitoris, T. St. Bernard, J. Veintimilla and C. Wong

Also Present: G. Borges, G. Giambattista, C. Grumbach, A. Mittman J. Siliciano and U. Smith

II. Approval of the Minutes

1. September 28th, 2015, 1 min.

The minutes were approved as printed.

III. Presentations

1. Updates and Revisions to Policy 6.4, 45 min.

U. Smith introduced himself and explained the point Policy 6.4 is currently at. He explained how Policy 6.4 came about and how the Office of Civil Rights, NYS Passed “Enough is Enough” and their approach to handling sexual violence. He then explained the Interim Policy Change, New Policy Template and the changes made in the timeline of the Policy 6.4. J. Siliciano explained the Revision to Policy 6.4 and the Adjudication Procedure. He went into detail about Policy 6.4: how it was adopted in 2012 and its key feature. He further explained Policy 6.4 Adjudication Procedures. He stated how the Adjudication Procedure is only a part of the process to end sexual violence; the real effort is on the real earlier stages of education and prevention. He further spoke of the Two Chief Concerns from the Review: absence of any hearing and inadequate procedural specificity. C. Grumbach spoke of proposed revisions to the procedure. She said the procedure will be more specific in terms of standards and approaches. They are also redefining the investigator’s role. She also spoke of the guidance provided by the Hearing Chair and how the Panel chair role is to be filled by a Cornell faculty or staff member with legal training. She also spoke of other proposed revisions: how both complainants and respondent can have assistance of trained advisor, temporary suspension standards defined, parties entitled to seek alternative resolution and face to face meetings between complainant and respondent such as mediation not permitted.

R. Walroth then opened the floor for questions. A member had concerns involving how the advisors and judicators are going to be paid. J. Siliciano said what they presented is the basic architecture but the implementation will be twice as difficult. The member wondered how they would fill the seats and roles and the potential conflict between roles and resources. J. Siliciano believed they will fill the position but it will be hard to have the right people and the right practice. Another member asked how they would track the judicator. C. Grumbach said they have not got to the selection process and criteria. She said such problems would be addressed through training. J. Siliciano said they would be in all the hearings in order to provide continuity and guidance, though they don't have this mechanism right now. Another member asked if Cornell is willing to amend funding packages. J. Siliciano said this has not been addressed yet. The student further asked if there is a publicized way of handling staff sexual assault. U. Smith spoke about the funding aspect and publicizing and showing the funding for victims. A member asked how the Policy would incorporate international students. U. Smith said they put this information under the share website.

2. Overview of Appropriations Committee Recommendations for Student Activity Fee, 45 min.

S. Chandrasekaran introduced the GPSAF. He then spoke about the GPSAF Recommendation of the activity fee being \$83. I. Small spoke about the athletics and physical education fee. M. Alexander spoke about the fees of the Big Red Barn and the Cornell Cinema. S. Chandrasekaran spoke about the fees within the Cornell Concert Commission. J. Goldberg spoke about the funds with Cornell's Emergency Medical Service. The S. Chandrasekaran spoke about the fees of the Programming Board. W. Nichols spoke about the fees within GPSA Programming Board. S. Chandrasekaran spoke about the International Student Union. He further spoke of the fees for the Orientation for the Graduate School. I. Small spoke about the funds for the Risk Management: Club Insurance. S. Chandrasekaran further spoke of the conditions the GPSA will have to accomplish towards Cornell Tech and about the Grocery Store. He thus spoke about GPSA allocation toward the Grocery store and the plan needed. He also spoke about the GPSAFC and said there budget needs to be approved. He then stated the GPSAF recommendation for funding.

Member asked the Committee to explain the campus Grocery Store. R. Walroth said this will be addressed in detail in the next meeting. Another member spoke of his concern with the low activity fee towards the Cornell Cinema.

IV. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates, time permitting.

- 1. Executive Committee**
- 2. Operations**
- 3. Appropriations**
- 4. Faculty Awards**
- 5. Finance Commission**
- 6. Student Advocacy**
- 7. Diversity and International Students**
- 8. Programming Board**

Due to time constraints, these items were not discussed.

V. Open Forum, 4 min.

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