

Resolution 18: Postponing Spring 2020 Executive Board Elections and Extending Expiring Seats

Abstract: This resolution postpones 2020 Executive Board elections and also extends the expiring seats of the GPSA Executive Board.

Sponsored by: GPSA Executive Board

Whereas, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted campus-wide operations and modified the timeline of priorities for the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly and other assemblies for the remaining of 2019-2020 academic calendar; and

Whereas, Section 5.02 of the GPSA Charter mandates that officers of the GPSA shall “be elected at the last regularly scheduled meeting of the current GPSA term”¹; and

Whereas, the Student Assembly², the Employee Assembly³, and the University Assembly⁴ voted to postpone and extend the seats of their leadership teams; and

Whereas, the administration has strongly recommended that the current GPSA Executive Board to extend their term until the fall 2020; and

Whereas, the second and last term of the Dean of the Graduate School will expire in the summer; and a new Dean of the Graduate School will start their term mid-summer; and

Whereas, a new GPSA leadership team would not have the resources and institutional knowledge to support the new Dean of the Graduate School and help them navigate the GPSA’s role in shared governance; and

Whereas, the GPSA has advertised elections since early April and has met a lack of interest and/or engagement from the greater student body.

Be it therefore resolved, the election of the GPSA Executive Board be postponed until the Fall of 2020.

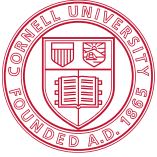
Be it further resolved, that graduating executive members are ineligible and unable to have their term extended and will not be replaced, until a new executive member is elected in the fall.

¹ https://assembly.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/gpsa_charter_2018.pdf

² <https://assembly.cornell.edu/resolutions/sa-r57-election-cancellation-and-fall-election-restructuring>

³ <https://assembly.cornell.edu/resolutions/ea-r6-postponing-spring-2020-elections-and-extending-expiring-seats>

⁴ <https://assembly.cornell.edu/resolutions/ua-r7-postponement-election-university-assembly-officers-academic-year-2020-2021>



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

26 **Be it further resolved,** the election of the GPSA Executive Board must be conducted any time
27 between the first and third regularly scheduled meeting in the next session of the Assembly for the
28 2020-2021 Academic calendar, but not any later than the third scheduled meeting.

29 **Be it further resolved,** the current term of the 2019-2020 GPSA Executive Board be extended up
30 until, but not later than the third regularly scheduled meeting in the next session of the Assembly for
31 the 2020-2021 academic calendar.

32 **Be it finally resolved,** that the 2019-2020 GPSA Executive Board do not have an obligation to
33 serve in their respective roles after the third regularly scheduled meeting in the next session of the
34 Assembly for the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar.

35 Respectfully Submitted,

36 GPSA Executive Board