



**Cornell University**  
**Graduate and Professional**  
**Student Assembly**

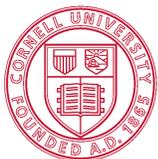
**Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly**

Minutes of the September 11, 2017 Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

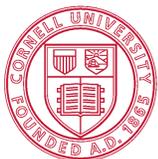
Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order
  - a. E. Winarto called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
  - b. *Members Present:* K. Angierski, R. Boylan, C. Cannarozzo, A. Gagnon, J. Goldberg, R. Harrison, J. Hernandez, S. Hesse, M. Jodlowski, C. Little, A. Loiben, T. McCann, E. Michel, D. Moon.
  - c. *Members Absent:* A. Schofield, C. Stambuk.
- II. Approval of the minutes
  - a. **Tabled** until the September 25th meeting by unanimous consent.
- III. Elections
  - a. 2 Master's Students Voting Members (1 M. Eng and 1 Non-M. Eng)
    - i. Ranissa Adityavarman was elected as Non-M. Eng Voting Member.
    - ii. Only the Non-M. Eng was elected as there were no M. Eng students present.
  - b. At-large Voting Member (replacing E. Winarto in Social Sciences)
    - i. Wendy Zhang was elected the new social sciences voting member.
- IV. Reports of Officers and Committee Updates
  - a. Voting (and vote counting) was held during reports and updates.
  - b. Executive: nothing to report.
  - c. Operations: applications are still open for internal and external committees. Email A. Loiben (aml372) if interested.
  - d. Communications: added more posts to the GPSA facebook about open committee positions. Follow @CornellGPSA. Communications is excited to start a new series to promote GPSA funded organizations.
  - e. Appropriations: meeting in Plant Science 336 this Friday (9/15) 3:30pm to 5pm.
  - f. Finance: finance distributes funding to student groups. Email T. Bollu (tb387) if you're interested in helping out or have questions.



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- g. Student Advocacy: SAC will meet at 4:30 pm on the days the GPSA has meetings (the next one is September 25th). Meetings will be in the Martha Van Rensselaer (MVR) courtyard (until it gets too cold). This term the committee will be discussing a Town Hall (to hear from the community), what action the GPSA should take about the recent DACA decision, and the Consensual Relationships policy debate from last term. If interested in joining SAC, email D. Moon (dm793).
  - h. Diversity and International Students: the Graduate School has acquired membership to the New York Academy of Sciences for all graduate students. Email E. Law (epl49) if you want to know more.
  - i. Programming: email C. Cannarozzo if you're part of programming board and you haven't heard from her (to make sure you're on the listserv). The first meeting should be by the end of the month.
  - j. Faculty Awards: email A. De Micheli (ad689) if interested. The first meeting will probably be in October.
  - k. General Committee: at later GPSA meetings R. Harrison and A. Natarajan will explain what GC is and what the Code of Legislation is.
  - l. Graduate School: the Graduate School is beginning to plan orientation for fall 2018. J. Allen wants to hear from you about your experiences with orientation to get a feel for what can be done to improve it. Fellowship writing workshops start this week.
- V. Open Forum
- a. A Cornell Tech representative introduced himself.
- VI. Breakout Session by Division
- a. Voting (and vote counting) was held during division breakouts as well.
- VII. New Business
- a. Introduction of **Resolution 2**, A. Loiben. QA to follow.
    - i. Bylaws give structure to the assembly. They specify what committees the GPSA has and what they do. A number of things are being considered that aren't in the bylaws attached. The amendments we are focusing on in this resolution are relatively minor (see meeting packet). Reach out if you have ideas about how to make the bylaws or the voting structure better.
    - ii. T. Bollu asked for clarification on section 3.10.d.vi.



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- iii. A. Loiben: at the request of the current chair, the budget should include funds for publicizing nominations.
  - iv. A. de Micheli: asked if budget goes into the gifts for faculty awards. It does.
  - v. J. Goldberg: asked for clarification on voting member structure changes.
  - vi. T. Bollu: the GPSA added T3 and T4 groups to meetings (as field representatives). Maybe we should give them a voting voice too.
  - vii. J. Goldberg asked if someone could send that out as a formalized prompt so people are prepared to discuss this next meeting.
  - viii. A. Loiben responded yes (someone can send that out), and that this resolution does not address voting structure.
- b. Introduction of **Resolution 3**.
- i. Presentation by the Director of Anabel's Grocery. Anabel's Grocery is located in Anabel Taylor Hall (by the Law School). Website: [anabelsgrocery](http://anabelsgrocery.com)
    - 1. Anabel's had a soft launch in May and reopened last Tuesday. Anabel's focuses on providing affordable, nutritious food to undergraduate, graduate and professional students. Focused on fighting food insecurity on campus. 99% of their team is composed of undergraduates, they would like graduate/professional student input. Email [kjm288](mailto:kjm288) if interested.
    - 2. M. Battaglia asked if graduate students are using Anabel's.
    - 3. There were no hard stats to give as the store has only been open for six days, but they hope to have numbers after this semester.
    - 4. A. Gagnon asked if Anabel's has a site that displays what they sell.
    - 5. The site doesn't explain line by line what they sell, but it does explain what they sell in general. They don't sell local really; they focus on affordable nutrition.
    - 6. Anabel's sells groceries at a 15% markup, compared to Wegmans' 30-35%.
    - 7. Hours are on the website.
    - 8. A. Gagnon asked when GPSA support ends in 4 years will graduate/professional students still be able to go.
    - 9. Anabel's can't answer that question right now, they don't know.



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10. Email Director, or write website comments, or use in store comment cards if you'd like to get in touch. (Director email: [kjm288](mailto:kjm288)).
- ii. Presentation by T. McCann
  1. T. McCann gave a presentation on last year's spending. Appropriations wants to decrease roll over funds. Last year rollover funds paid for ASAP's buses to the March for Science, and the BRB's 25th anniversary improvements.
  2. Historically, rollover has been a buffer for unexpected expenses of committees or to support the graduate/professional community through events. In 2016, the GPSA decided to support Anabel's for four years, with \$20,000 a year (50% to depreciation 50% to subsidy fund).
  3. The budget for this year is \$42,529.94.
  4. The breakdown of expected spending by committees was shown. Total expenses are estimated to be \$36,100.
  5. D. Geisler: income was greater than expenses, will it just go into rollover. Why is rollover lower?
  6. T. McCann: the bulk of the rollover was spent on ASAP buses and the BRB. He is not concerned about the imbalance for now (because we want to bring down the rollover), but in the long term yes.
  7. S. Bossert asked if there was a piano before the renovations.
  8. Yes, there was a piano.
  9. E. Michel: the cost of moving and refurbishing the piano was greater than getting a new piano.
  10. M. Battaglia: is it possible that we could get a contract with Anabel's to say we can decrease our amount but they can't get rid of graduate/professional student access?
  11. T. McCann: no reason why we couldn't pass a resolution about this.
  12. C. Rose: will we get an estimated itemized breakdown of committee spending?



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13. T. McCann: that was discussed within the committee. If anyone is interested in those numbers now, they can ask committee chairs, or they can ask him.
14. D. Geisler asked for clarification on the travel budget.
15. N. Rogers: we're told by the host school (Ivy Summit) how many delegates we can send. We usually send executive committee members based on items on the conference agenda. The new travel category in the budget would be good leadership development for other members.

VIII. Old Business

a. **Resolution 1**

- i. An organization's constitution is its permanent identity, its bylaws are part of its identity but not permanent, and its standing rules are its procedural quirks that are different from other institutions.
- ii. J. Goldberg **motioned to amend** by removing the joke clause (section 3.01.ii part A) and to amend section 3.04.b by adding a third option to "raise a fist" because standing is not available to all people. **Passed** by unanimous consent.
- iii. P. Vaghela asked what happens if there are conflicts between the bylaws and the standing rules.
- iv. The bylaws supersede the standing rules.
- v. N. Rogers **motioned to amend** by adding the word "seated" to various parts in sections 4 and 5 (highlighted in 11th Sep. 2017 meeting packet).
  1. There are a fixed number of voting member seats, and "seated" simply means that these seats are currently filled by actual people.
  2. T. Bollu: if you have quorum does it make sense to have super majorities of members present vs. seated?
  3. N. Stetson noted that that is not how it works for the GPSA currently.
  4. E. Cecchetti: a supermajority of seated members is important for big changes to governing documents.



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5. A motion was made to call the question on N. Rogers' amendment, there was no dissent to calling the question. The amendment passed 12-0-6.
- vi. E. Law motioned to amend by striking section 3.03 (friendly amendments) from the standing rules.
  1. A. Waymack noted the GPSA is under no obligation to follow Robert's Rules here.
  2. N. Stetson: I think we have given enough remedies in case people object to friendly amendments.
  3. E. Law: it takes the same amount of time to do unanimous consent. Motions belong to the assembly, not the individual.
  4. E. Cecchetti: structurally this is very close to unanimous consent. However, friendly amendments put the onus on objecting on the individual, instead of asking if anyone objects like under unanimous consent.
  5. A motion was made to call the question on E. Law's amendment, there was no dissent. The amendment failed 1-8-9.
- vii. N. Rogers motioned to amend by adding a sponsored line and N. Stetson's title to the resolution document.
  1. A motion was made to extend the meeting by 5 minutes, no dissent.
  2. A motion was made to call the question on N. Rogers' amendment, there was no dissent. The amendment passed 12-0-6.
- viii. N. Rogers motioned to call the question on the resolution but the motion was withdrawn.
- ix. E. Law motioned to amend section 4.1.b.ii to strike the language after the comma, and add "each member will be given a maximum of three opportunities to speak during debate."
  1. A motion was made to call the question on the amendment, there was no dissent. The amendment failed 8-0-10.
- x. A motion was made to extend the meeting by 5 minutes, no dissent.



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- xi. E. Law **motioned to amend** section 3.04 by adding a section c: “non voting members of the assembly have the same right to debate as voting members unless otherwise limited by the charter, bylaws, or standing rules.”
  - 1. A motion was made to extend the meeting by 5 minutes, however there was dissent. By 9-1-8, the meeting was NOT extended.
  - 2. A **motion** was made to **table** the resolution until the next meeting, there was no dissent.
  - 3. [Because the Resolution was tabled, the amendment **failed.**]
- xii. Time expired at 7:10pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew Ferraro  
Clerk of the Assembly