

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

**Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly**

Minutes of the March 26th, 2018 Meeting

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Bache Auditorium, Malott Hall

**I. Call to Order**

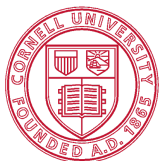
- a. E. Winarto called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.
- b. *Members Present:* K. Angierski, C. Cannarozzo, A. Gagnon, R. Harrison, S. Hesse, G. Kanter, C. Little, A. Loiben, T. McCann, E. Michel, A. Schofield, C. Stambuk, A. Viarruel, W. Zhang.
- c. *Members Absent:* J. Goldberg, M. Jodlowski.
- d. M. Kalaji was elected as an At-Large Voting Member later in the meeting and took part in the votes after his election.

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

- a. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the March 12th meeting, there was no dissent.
- b. A motion was made to amend the agenda by adding two elections (an At-Large Voting Member and a UA Delegate) during the Executive Committee update, there was no dissent.

**III. Presentations**

- a. B. Yarze then made her presentation on Finance Commission updates.
- b. The guideline changes from 2017 brought in the Tier system (1-4 tiers) and further clarified what can/cannot be funded. Organizations must spend money on what they were approved for in order to be reimbursed
  - i. Progress: these changes incentivize organizations to keep track of usage and membership, and increases efficiency and organization. FC is seeing more detailed planning by organizations.
  - ii. Issues: the changes are unclear about the amount of detail necessary for budget requests to be approved; the reimbursement process is complicated (they are looking at getting PCards); and FC's jurisdiction remains unclear sometimes. They will use OrgSync through May 2019, but they are looking



## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

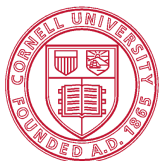
into new platforms/changes that OrgSync can implement to improve the system.

- c. FC will host several town halls soon. The one for the Law School is on March 27th, in Myron Taylor 285, from 4:30-6pm.
  - i. Johnson and Vet School town halls to come.
- d. FC is beginning the guideline revision process.
- e. Email B. Yarze (by243) with questions.
- f. T. McCann asked if there is a plan to have virtual access to the town halls. The answer was yes.
- g. M. Battaglia asked if there is anything this assembly can help FC with in publicizing anything or in any other way.
- h. B. Yarze: letting organizations know that they don't have to pay out of pocket for some reimbursement things would be helpful.
- i. E. Michel asked how will FC involve organizations and GPSA members in the revision process for guidelines.
- j. B. Yarze: hopefully by publicizing town halls people will come so she and FC can hear directly from them about what issues exist with the current guidelines.
- k. M. Munasinghe asked if groups are requesting more or less funding.
- l. B. Yarze: people are staying pretty on target, people know more of what to budget and expect with the tier system. It seems to be working well.
- m. A. Schofield asked what is FC's process for helping organizations that submit incorrect requests.
- n. B. Yarze: FC comments on budgets so organizations can fix the problem.
- o. T. McCann asked if FC is spending more than with the non-tier system.
- p. B. Yarze will look into that.

#### IV. Division Breakouts

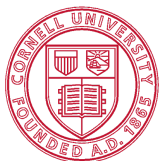
#### V. Committee Updates

- a. Executive: in collaboration with SAC they are holding Notice and Respond training and there is still space available for training.
  - i. Election for the At-Large Voting Member seat.
    - 1. Motasem Kalaji was nominated and subsequently elected by unanimous consent.



## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

- ii. Election for a delegate to the University Assembly.
  - 1. Gautham Madhira was nominated.
  - 2. Alexa Cohn was nominated.
  - 3. A. Cohn was elected by a secret ballot vote of 32-23.
- b. Operations and Staffing: there is a meeting this Friday (3/30) at 2pm, in ILR library 231a. There will be a virtual link. They've been thinking of having Field Reps be eligible to be counted for attendance at committee meetings. Committee chair elections are coming up.
  - i. It was raised that an evening meeting time for the committee might be beneficial for committee attendance.
  - ii. B. Kisselstein asked a question about voting on structural changes.
    - 1. A. Loiben: Operations and Staffing will vote on any changes and then they will be brought to the assembly.
- c. Communications: nothing to report.
- d. Appropriations: they have been working on finalizing obligations for by-lined funded organizations. They will talk to specific organizations about the obligations before they are brought to the assembly (probably at the next meeting).
- e. Finance: see presentation above.
- f. Student Advocacy: there will be no meeting next week because of spring break. The Notice and Respond training is for any Cornell graduate TA. The training covers how to identify a student in your class who is having an emotional crisis. They are meeting with Cornell Health on Friday to discuss satellite students, at 9:30am, in Norman Moore library, level 6 of Cornell Health. There will be a zoom link too.
- g. Diversity and International Students: the Presidential Task Force sent out a survey, please complete it and tell your friends to do so as well. A community lunch dialogue is scheduled for Wed., April 18th, 1:30-2:20pm, in 133 Emerson Hall. The Dean of Students will be at the What's Your Story Luncheon (Wed., April 25th, 12-1:30pm). Invitations and RSVP forms will be sent out after spring break.
- h. Programming: Grad Ball is May 5th, 7-11pm, at the Museum of the Earth. Agava is catering. The current working theme is land before time.

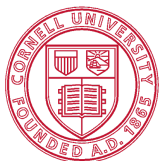


## Cornell University Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

- i. Faculty Awards: nominations have opened. They've updated the website and created an online voting form. Nominations will be open until April 9th, and please publicize this. Email ad689 with questions.
- j. General Committee: nothing to report.
- k. Consensual Relationship Policy Committee: nothing to report.
- l. Graduate School: J. Allen passed out a flier on the Inclusive Teaching Institute for graduate students and postdocs.

### VI. Old Business

- a. **Resolution 9** (line numbers make reference to the version of the Resolution attached to the three amendments under Resolution History on [assembly.cornell.edu](http://assembly.cornell.edu))
  - i. The sponsors had a sit down with VP Lombardi, Dean Pendakur, and two HR officers. Their understanding is there was a huge slew of miscommunication between the EA and President Pollack's response to EA Resolution 8.
  - ii. A motion was made to amend by striking a whereas clause (lines 102-103) and adding the two subsequent whereas clauses (lines 105-113).
    - 1. A. Schofield asked for clarification on programming vs. training.
    - 2. M. Munasinghe: programming is more like gatherings for the community to get together while training is more about what is ok behavior in professional situations.
    - 3. E. Michel motioned to amend the amendment and strike "and support services" from line 112.
      - a. A motion was made to call the question on the amendment to the amendment, there was no dissent. The amendment to the amendment passed with unanimous consent.
    - 4. T. McCann asked if bias incidents were being reported to the LGBTRC prior to this change.
    - 5. E. Michel said she believed people were going to the LGBTRC with incidents and then the LGBTRC was counseling them on what to do.



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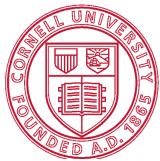
6. A motion was made to call the question on the amendment, there was no dissent. There was no dissent to passing the amendment.
- iii. A motion was made to amend by adding the whereas clause on lines 115-117.
  1. A motion was made to call the question, there was no dissent. The motion to amend passed with no dissent
- iv. A motion was made to amend by striking the first "be it therefore resolved clause" (lines 119-122) and by adding the three subsequent resolved clauses (lines 124-136).
  1. A. Loiben made a friendly amendment to the amendment to change "therefore" to "further" (in line 128).
  2. N. Rogers made a friendly amendment to put a comma after "programming" in line 112.
  3. A motion was made to call the question on the amendment, there was no dissent. The motion to amend passed with no dissent.
- v. A motion was made to call the question on the Resolution, there was no dissent. By a vote of 14-0-3, the resolution passed.

**b. Resolution 12**

- i. A. Loiben made a friendly amendment to the footnote on line 10 to make it before the "; and".
- ii. A motion was made to end discussion and call the question on the Resolution, there was no dissent. By a vote of 14-0-3 the resolution passed.

**VII. Open Forum**

- a. N. Rogers reminded everyone about the GPCI committee. Their first meeting will be after spring break. Email ngr27 with questions.
- b. T. McCann asked N. Rogers to send out headings (categories) within the GPCI so people can see what's in it.
- c. M. Battaglia: the Codes and Judicial Committee is considering a number of changes to the Code. If anyone has questions talk to mab622.
- d. M. Munasinghe: applications are open to the university hearing and review board. Please consider applying. She will send out an email.
- e. A motion was made to adjourn, there was no dissent.



Cornell University  
Graduate and Professional  
Student Assembly

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew Ferraro  
Clerk of the Assembly