



Cornell University
University Assembly

Minutes
University Assembly
September 6th, 2016
4:30pm – 6:00pm
401 Physical Science Building

- **Attendance:**

- *Present:* E. Baptist, J. Berger, K. Copman, M. de Roos, M. Hatch, R. Herz, G. Kaufman, J. Kruser, E. Loew, M. McBride, N. Rogers, C. Van Loan, E. Winarto
- *Absent:* K. Fitch, R. Howarth, U. Smith
- *Others Present:* D. Barbaria, V. Bhaya, G. Giambattista, B. Murphy

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 4:32 PM
- Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - No late items were requested.

II. Approval of Minutes

- August 30, 2016
 - The Minutes were **amended** to reflect that C. Van Loan and L. Copman were absent.
 - Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.
- May 03, 2016
 - The Minutes were **amended** to reflect that E. Baptist was present.
 - Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

III. Committee Reports

- Executive Committee
 - G. Kaufman said that the Executive Committee addressed two issues over the summer.
 - One was whether or not P. Thompson was still a UA member. The Counsel's Office stated that her term was one year, rather than two, so she no longer serves on the UA.
 - The other issue was that there were four vacancies on the University Hearing and Review Boards (UHRB) because four students had resigned. G. Kaufman said that they had temporarily appointed four people to fill those seats.
- Codes and Judicial Committee
 - M. McBride said that the CJC is looking for other Assemblies to bring their members to the committee. He spoke with C. Hodges, a former CJC member, who said that the Bill of Rights discussion was not very effective the previous year due to scheduling conflicts. M. McBride said he wants to make sure that scheduling is not a problem this year.
- Campus Welfare Committee
 - U. Smith was absent.
 - J. Berger said the CWC is currently working on finding a meeting time.

- Campus Infrastructure Committee
 - J. Kruser said the CIC currently has 6 members. They have started to get a hold of logistics.

IV. Business of the Day

- UA Overview Presentation
 - G. Kaufman said the UA currently has two vacancies.
 - Last year, the University Assembly passed 11 resolutions.
 - UA Resolution 1, a Bylaws change establishing a SHFAC liaison, and R2, which highlighted the UA's role in the JA search process, were both adopted.
 - R4 dealt with the Textbook Price Working Group.
 - R5 asked to table the vote on the College of Business, which did not occur, and the College of Business was established.
 - R6 requested specific information on Weill Cornell Medicine in Qatar. The information was provided to the fullest extent by law.
 - R7 requested information on the cost of carbon neutrality.
 - R8 expressed condolences for President Garrett.
 - R9 was an update on the Campus Code of Conduct. Interim President Rawlings, who stated that the UA did not give adequate time for community input, returned this resolution.
 - R10 appointed the UHRB members.
 - R11 recognized outstanding support to the UA for the 2015-2016 Academic Year.
 - The UA has a new Judicial Administrator, Michelle Horvath, a new Judicial Codes Counselor, Bola Olofin, and a new Associate JCC, Kendall Karr.
 - N. Rogers asked if G. Kaufman could explain Policy 4.1. G. Kaufman said it is the policy that describes the process one has to follow to edit the other policies, which includes the meaning of the UA as a stakeholder in Policy 6.4.
 - N. Rogers said he thinks the UA should do a self-evaluation to make them more efficient. He thinks the recommendations G. Kaufman presented were good but that the UA should consider doing an evaluation.
 - M. Hatch said he agrees with N. Rogers and that they should see whether they can have valuable participation from the various organizations that present to the UA. He said that if the UA has an idea of which revisions to the Campus Code of Conduct they think are appropriate, the CJC should bring it to the UA to discuss.
 - L. Copman said that it would be helpful to know why the UA's former Finance Committee was disbanded.
 - E. Loew asked if the Office of Assemblies could share the magnitude of the budget with the UA.
 - G. Giambattista said the budget is modest and that the Assemblies can entirely choose how they decide to spend the money.
 - G. Giambattista said that she was aware that the President appoints the JCC and the UA approves the appointment, and asked if the JCC had been appointed. G. Kaufman said that he had been.
 - J. Kruser said it would help to look at the University's budget, so, for example,

- the UA has a better idea about the cost of carbon neutrality.
 - There was a motion to adopt the recommendations. The recommendations were **adopted** by unanimous consent.
- Discussion: Initial Focus for AY 2016-2017
 - N. Rogers asked if anyone had ideas about how to review how effective the UA is in representing its constituencies.
 - M. Hatch said he is not certain there is something missing, as the UA has its own committees and offers its own take on certain issues.
 - E. Baptist said that he is in favor of a more targeted reexamination of areas where the UA could play a useful role, such as in areas that affect many constituencies.
 - J. Kruser said that part of his interaction is bringing issues from the UA to the EA, and vice versa.
 - C. Van Loan said that he has a concrete issue for the UA: review of the academic calendar. He said that is something where there are definitely collisions of interest from different constituencies. He said his goal is to assemble a committee to review the academic calendar by the end of September; the Provost makes the final call.
 - E. Loew said the UA acts in two ways: aspirational and reactive. He said that the UA should allow time for both of those things.
 - L. Copman said she was curious about some of the aspirational resolutions the UA has passed, and asked if there was a record of that.
 - G. Kaufman said the Office of Assemblies has a robust record of Resolutions on the Dashboard.
 - B. Murphy said that, when looking at past records, the same issues arise over and over again.
 - N. Rogers said that he does not want the UA to just be reactionary, but to also be proactive.
 - M. Hatch said that he is in favor of a progressive UA.
- Discussion: UHRB Vacancies
 - G. Kaufman said that the UA staffs the UHRB, which reviews decisions of the Judicial Administrator (JA). G. Kaufman said there are four student vacancies and that there were four interim appointments to the UHRB, which were the next four highest ranked members based on applications.
 - There was a motion to approve the UA Executive Committee's four interim appointments as permanent. The motion was **approved** by unanimous consent.
- Office of the Assemblies Presentation
 - G. Giambattista said that the roots of campus governance were in 1969. She stated that the authority of the Assemblies is delegated, not transferred. The UA has authority over the Campus Code of Conduct, UHRB, transportation and planning, and takes up issues that affect the campus as a whole. She said that the Office of the Assemblies is the exchequer of the process and keeper of the record. The Assemblies website rebuild is underway.

V. Late Additions to the Agenda

- No late items were requested.

VI. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vishal Bhaya
Assemblies Clerk