



Cornell University Assembly
Minutes of the October 18th, 2016 Meeting
4:30pm - 6:00pm
401 Physical Science Bldg.

I. Call to Order

- a. G. Kaufman called the meeting to order at 4:31 PM.
- b. *Members Present:* E. Baptist, J. Berger, L. Copman, M. de Roos, K. Fitch, M. Hatch, R. Howarth, G. Kaufman, M. McBride, M. Munasinghe, S. Park, N. Rogers, U. Smith, E. Winarto
- c. *Members Absent:* R. Herz, J. Kruser, C. Van Loan
- d. *Also present:* V. Bhaya, G. Giambattista, B. Murphy
- e. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - i. There was a motion to move discussion of UA Resolution 1 to after the Assembly reports. The motion **passed**.

II. Approval of Minutes

- a. October 4, 2016
 - i. The Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

III. Assembly Reports

- a. GPSA President
 - i. N. Rogers said that the GPSA passed a resolution last night. They are trying to have people speak in support of the Maplewood project at the Town of Ithaca meeting tonight. A major discussion the GPSA is having is passing the GPSA FC guidelines.
 - ii. M. Hatch asked if carbon neutrality aspects were involved in the Maplewood discussion.
 1. N. Rogers said the goal is to have all electric cooling and heating.
 2. M. Hatch said Maplewood is an attempt to show that Cornell is engaged in providing a model for housing that is sustainable and carbon neutral.
 - iii. R. Howarth clarified that the developers will use air-source heat pumps and a relatively small use of gas, which will become carbon neutral over time.
- b. EA Chair
 - i. U. Smith said that the EA meets tomorrow. They will be hearing a report from the Senior Leaders Climate Action Group (SCLAG) and entertaining a resolution on commemorating a formal EA-elected Trustee who passed away.
 - ii. Today they completed their second staff forum about Black Lives Matter, Blue Lives Matter, All Lives Matter – it was very well attended.
 - iii. Last week, at the President's Address to Staff, over 700 staff attended either virtually or in person.
 - iv. U. Smith said the employee survey went out.
 1. One of the issues is that some people did not get the employee

- survey because some of the lists have not been updated.
 - 2. B. Murphy said that teaching staff and tenured faculty did not receive the survey and neither did people who have been part of the University for less than 5 years.
 - 3. L. Copman said she was concerned that staff who have been present for less than 5 years do not have a voice in the employee survey.
- c. Dean of Faculty
 - i. C. Van Loan was not present.
 - ii. U. Smith said he and N. Rogers talked about how non-professorial staff and post-docs are represented.
- d. SA President
 - i. J. Berger said that the SA is still discussing restructuring.
 - ii. Last week, the SA had the opportunity to have a discussion with President Rawlings and VP Lombardi, mainly regarding campus safety.

IV. Committee Reports

V. Liaison Reports

VI. Business of the Day

- a. Report from the Cornell University Senior Leaders Climate Action
 - i. R. Howarth said that 2 weeks ago, the SLCAG report was released to the public.
 - ii. He said the campus is committed to the goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2035.
 - iii. SCLAG looked at the social cost of carbon, the impacts of methane emissions from natural gas, and a quadruple bottom line.
 - iv. The true cost of carbon is \$58 per metric ton of CO₂.
 - v. Cornell's carbon footprint is mainly due to campus heating. Cornell has been using natural gas heating since March 2011.
 - vi. R. Howarth said the planet is warming faster than any climate models predicted because the driver behind it, methane, is increasing more than anyone expected.
 - vii. Solutions to the problem are Earth Source Heat, Air Heat pumps, and Ground Source Heat Pumps.
 - viii. External funding should be considered in order to fund an investment of this magnitude.
 - ix. Cornell would be the first in the nation to do something on this large of a scale.
- b. For Discussion: UA Resolution #1: Updating and Clarifying University Assembly Charter and Bylaws
 - i. E. Winarto said the UA Executive Committee proposed certain changes to the UA Charter and Bylaws.
 - ii. N. Rogers asked if there was a way to pass the Resolution in parts rather than as a whole, omnibus resolution.

1. G. Kaufman stated that one can motion to divide the resolution or motion to consider chunks of it at a time.
- iii. N. Rogers motioned to consider *seriatim* and to consider by paragraph each amended section of the charter. The motion was **approved**.
- iv. U. Smith said he fully supports the GPSA increasing membership but the EA is unsure about their 2 year terms. He motioned to amend 4.1B regarding the duration of terms for constituent representatives.
 1. E. Baptist asked if it is supposed to be clear or unclear which members serve 1 or 2 year terms on the UA. U. Smith said the language lets the constituent assembly decide if they want to do - year or 2-year terms.
 2. J. Berger said that if there are no term limits, they can have everyone serve 1-year terms and then people can be reappointed.
 3. E. Baptist motioned to amend the amendment to include “at the time of appointment” after “determined by the constituent assembly.”
 4. Section 4.1 was **amended** by a vote of 11-0-1.
- v. There was a motion to **Call the Question** Section 4.1
 1. There was dissent by E. Baptist, who said there is still a small amount of clarity he would like to see in the amendment.
- vi. By a vote of 3-6-3, discussion was not closed on UA Charter Section 4.1.
- vii. M. Hatch motioned to table the Sections to the next meeting and asked members to send their proposed amendments to the other members before the next meeting. UA Resolution 1 was **tabled**.

VII. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. Late Addition was an amendment of the Agenda.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vishal Bhaya
Assemblies Clerk