



Cornell University University Assembly

Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the March 5, 2019 Meeting

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

401 Physical Sciences Building

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Call to Order
 - i. M. Battaglia called the meeting to order at 4:31pm
 - b. Roll Call
 - i. *Present:* J. Anderson, D. Barbaria, K. Barth, M. Battaglia, R. Bensel, L. Copman, V. Devatha, M. Hatch, D. Hiner, R. Howarth, L. Kenney, T. Onabajo, J. Pea, C. Van Loan, A. Viswanathan, E. Winarto
 - ii. *Absent:* I. Allen, D. Geisler, E. Loew, J. Pea, C. Wiggers
 - c. Welcome and Introduction
 - i. M. Battaglia welcomed the guests, Vice President Mary Opperman, Vice President Joel Malina,
 - d. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - i. There were no late additions to the Agenda.
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. 2-19-19 Minutes
 - i. M. Battaglia motioned to postpone the approval of the minutes. There was no dissent. The approval of the minutes was postponed to the next meeting.
- III. Presentation from Vice President Opperman and Vice President Malina
 - a. Vice President Opperman gave a presentation on core values. She gave an overview of the different components of core values statements, and she also gave examples of the core values statements of different universities and organizations. She said that the goal is to have a finalized draft of core values for the University by May 2019.
 - b. Vice President Opperman and Vice President Malina opened up the discussion to hear from members of the Assembly about what things should be included in a core values statement.
 - c. Members of the Assembly shared their thoughts and insights with Vice President Opperman and Vice President Malina.
- IV. Presentation from Vice President Opperman and John Siliciano on Policy 6.4
 - a. Vice President Opperman said that the policies have been revised. She went over key changes to the procedures in Policy 6.4. She said that the status of the

If you are in need of special accommodations, contact Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 prior to the meeting.



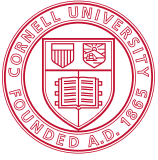
Cornell University University Assembly

responding party guides the process and procedures followed. She said that the staff and faculty procedures have been combined; she said that the definition has been updated; she said that procedure of academic freedom and freedom of speech has been updated; she said that the statute of limitations on complaints has been expanded from six months to three years; she said that there is now complete transparency with regard to the collection and dispersion of evidence; she also discussed other changes to the Policy.

- b. R. Howarth asked if there was a thought about the role of departmental faculty in the process, referencing a unique case.
- c. Vice President Opperman said that had the circumstances been different, she isn't sure that what happened would have needed to happen, referencing a unique case.
- d. R. Bensel asked about the latitude for deans or the Vice President to decide the sanctions after recommendations are provided by the hearing board.
- e. Vice President Opperman said that they have latitude to increase the sanction or decrease the sanction, but that they must go back to the hearing board and explain the reasoning.
- f. R. Howarth asked if there was an opportunity for the hearing board to comment on the dean or department head's decision.
- g. Vice President Opperman said yes.
- h. To clarify, Vice President Opperman said that there is no loop back to the hearing board after the dean or department head decides the sanctions. She said that either side could appeal. She also said that there would be a written record of the proceedings.
- i. Vice President Opperman said this work is difficult and takes a lot of work. She said that there are 297 complaints on the student-side. She said that the long-term goal would be to move away from the formal complaints as being the only way to deal with these issues.

V. Assembly, Committee, and Liaison Reports

- a. Employee Assembly
 - i. K. Barth said that Employee Assembly elections will be happening in the future.
- b. Student Assembly
 - i. V. Devatha said that Student Assembly elections and Undergraduate student-trustee elections will be happening in the future.
- c. Executive Committee



Cornell University
University Assembly

- ii. L. Copman made a comment about section (d) and said that she wanted to see the definition of “harassment” expanded.

VII. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 5:49pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Terrill D. Malone
Clerk of the Assembly