



# Student Assembly

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## Student Assembly of Cornell University

Minutes of the January 29, 2026 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:30 PM

Memorial Room (WSH 407), Willard Straight Hall

- I. Call to Order
  - a. Z. deRham called the meeting to order at 4:45 PM.
  - b. Members Present: D. Addoquaye, A. Aftab, S. Agarwal, J. Anand, L. Blum, D. Carson, M. Causey, A. Cekic, C. Cook, Z. deRham, G. Dorward, M. Ehrlich, A. Fard, C. Flournoy, E. Galperin, I. Gayle, L. Han, C. Kim, K. Krishtopa, Y. Masoud, E. Porter, J. Purcell, H. Spector, J. Swavy, C. Tarala, T. Waguespack, A. Walters, H. Watkins, E. Yao, K. Young
  - c. Members Absent: V. Kakra, J. Mui, A. Vallecillo, Z. Yabut
  - d. Also Present: E. Chaudhuri, I. Gilenson
  
- II. Reading of the Land Acknowledgment
  - a. Z. deRham stated the land acknowledgement.
  
- III. Approval of the January 22nd, 2026 Meeting Minutes
  - a. The motion to approve the minutes passes through unanimous consent with the note of a clerical error.
  
- IV. Consent Calendar
  - a. Z. deRham shares a communication from the Brown University Council of Students regarding an Ivy League solidarity memorial service. Following the tragic shooting on Brown's campus on December 13th, 2025, Brown will be holding a campus memorial for Ella Cook and Muhammad Aziz Muzerkov on February 7th at 4pm. A member of the UCS has requested the Ivys to hold a visual simultaneously.
    - i. Z. deRham suggests co-hosting with Students Demand Action Cornell, an anti-gun violence and pro-gun legislation reform organization.
  
- V. Reports of Officers, Committees, and Liaisons
  - a. E. Galperin reports that the dining committee will be meeting on Monday at 4:45 at Flora Rose House.
  - b. H. Watkins reports the assembly's subaccounts.



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- i. Administrative budgeted \$7,500, spent \$7,130.33, with \$369.67 left.
  - ii. Executive budgeted \$15,853.32, spent \$14,148.45, with \$1,704.87 left.
  - iii. Communications Committee started with \$3,000, spent \$228.99, with \$2,771.01 left.
  - iv. Initiatives started with \$4,000 and spent \$0.
  - v. Finance started at \$3,000 and is at \$0.
  - vi. Policy started with \$250, spent \$22, with \$228 left.
  - vii. Elections started with \$2,500, spent \$3,310, with \$2,190 left.
  - viii. Dining Services, DEI, Infrastructure Fund, Environmental Committee, Academic Policy, Student Health Advisory, and the Office of the Student Advocate have each spent \$9.
  - ix. Office of Student Government Relations started with \$1,750, spent \$541.86, with \$1,208.14 left.
  - x. Special projects was at \$26,254.22, dispersed \$15,486.80, with \$10,767.42 left.
  - xi. The Summer Experience Grant started at \$1,200, which hasn't been spent yet.
- c. T. Waguespack reports that the Communications Committee will have biweekly meetings on Sunday at 4PM, with its first meeting being this Sunday over Zoom.
  - d. L. Blum reports that the Environmental Committee will have its first meeting on Sunday from 5 to 6 to brainstorm weekly tabling ideas.
  - e. G. Dorward reports that the Infrastructure Fund Commission will have its meetings from 5 to 6 every Sunday on Zoom.

## VI. Announcements

- a. Z. deRham announces that a newsletter has been sent out this week, including the Director of Ethics Qualtrics form, which has 4 submissions so far.
  - i. The assembly discusses procedures, deadlines, and raising awareness.

## VII. Presentations

- a. None.

## VIII. Public Comment Microphone

- a. No speakers.



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## IX. Second Readings

- a. Resolution 23: Transferring Funds to the ALANA Intercultural Board
  - i. H. Watkins shares that the resolution transfers \$50,000 to ALANA to help them get on their feet from heavy advisor turnover.
  - ii. A. Cekic suggests having ALANA write down what they learned.
    1. H. Watkins explains that ALANA has been intentional in taking back control of their money and this resolution is meant to be a cooperative effort.
  - iii. E. Galperin motions to move the resolution to the third reading calendar, passes by unanimous consent.

## X. Third Readings

- a. Resolution 24: Transferring Funds to the Special Projects Fund
  - i. H. Watkins shares that the resolution transfers \$15,000 to the Special Projects Fund.
  - ii. A. Aftab motions to vote on the resolution, approved by unanimous consent.
  - iii. The motion to transfer funds to the Special Projects Fund passes.

## XI. Appointments and Vacancies Calendar

- a. None.

In accordance with the standing rules of the Student Assembly, the assembly moves into a Committee of the Whole.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sophia Lin  
Clerk of the Assembly