



University Assembly

Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the October 21st, 2025 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:15 PM

401 Physical Sciences Building

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Chair I. Gatimi called the meeting to order at 4:59 PM.
 - b. Members Present: A. Aftab, D. Bateman, I. Gatimi, W. Treat, J. Butcher, A. Garcia-Ortiz, E. Gainor, E. deRosa, E. Chaudhuri, J. Chobirko, K. Nguyen, N. Brennan, C. Tarala, Z. deRham.
 - c. Members Absent: V. Bell, M. Benda, A. Cardenas, S. Bruyere, A. Haenlin-Mott, S. Resue
 - d. Also Present: R. Platt.
- II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohono (Cayuga Nation)
- III. Call for Late Additions to Agenda
 - a. None.
- IV. Approval of 9/30 meeting minutes
 - a. I. Gatimi motions to amend the minute date to September 16.
 - b. N. Brennan motions to move N. Brennan's attendance to present.
 - c. Minutes approved by unanimous consent.
- V. Business of the Day
 - a. Katie King (Associate Vice President, Cornell Office for Civil Rights) Presentation
 - i. K. King gave an overview of the COCR which offers a variety of civil rights work for both students and employees.
 - ii. K. King fielded questions from members.
 - b. Avery August (Deputy Provost and Special Advisor to the Presidential Institutional Voice) Presentation
 - i. A. August gave an overview of the Task force on Institutional Voice, its charge and membership and draft recommendations.
 - ii. A. Avery responded to questions and collected comments from members.
 - c. I. Gatimi reminds the UA that recommendations and suggestions for the presenting offices are due November 14th.
- VI. Assembly Reports
 - a. Student Assembly



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- i. President Kotlikoff came to speak, voted to pass resolution 10, which incited crowd opinions.
 - ii. Passed a resolution that recommends enforcing disability accommodations.
 - iii. Finished vacancies for:
 - 1. Human Ecology representative.
 - 2. Brooks School of Public Policy representative.
 - 3. First generation student representative.
 - 4. AAP representative.
 - b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
 - i. Great meeting:
 - 1. Filled UA committee appointments and vacancies within their own bodies.
 - 2. Considered funding Annabelle's Grocery for the next two years.
 - 3. Concert commission presentation.
 - 4. Ivy plus coming this weekend.
 - 5. Next meeting is on Oct 27th.
 - c. Employee Assembly
 - i. Passed a resolution: Staff Inclusion on University Committees and Reviews.
 - 1. Urges to include more staff in future campus committees.
 - ii. Will have a special meeting regarding upcoming changes to benefit rates this coming Thursday.
 - iii. Next regular meeting is on Nov 5th.
 - 1. Guest speaker Kathy Burkgren about professional growth opportunities.
 - iv. President Kotlikoff will come to speak on Dec 3rd.
 - v. Jan 8th will be the President's Address to Staff, still waiting for the location.
 - d. Faculty Senate
 - i. Next meeting is on Oct 22nd.
 - 1. Office of Civil Rights and General Counsel will come in to discuss how the university handles complaints of discrimination.
- VII. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee
 - i. Planning out speakers.
 - ii. President coming in December meeting – preparing for this.
 - iii. Katie King and Institutional voice came to present.



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- b. Campus Codes Committee
 - i. There were many interests in a variety of different resolutions.
 - ii. Will hopefully come forward with a few resolutions next meeting.
- c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. Had a follow up meeting.
 - ii. Planning to have first official meeting on Nov 3rd.
- d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment
 - i. Scheduled to meet next week for the first time.
 - 1. Email will be sent out later.

VIII. Liaison Reports

- a. Campus Planning Committee
 - i. First meeting is Nov 7th.
- b. Coalition for Sexual Violence Prevention
 - i. First meeting will be in early November.
- c. Student Health Benefits Advisory Committee
 - i. Met with Dean Love last week regarding the university's response to sexual assault on campus.
 - ii. Talked with Task Force and shared a preliminary report regarding this issue.
 - iii. Still unsure if there is a UA liaison for this committee this year.
- d. Sustainable Cornell Council's Carbon Neutral Campus Steering Committee
 - i. Positions still vacant – no report.
- e. Sustainable Cornell Council's Education & Engagement Steering Committee
 - i. No report.
- f. Sustainable Cornell Council's Campus Operations Steering Committee
 - i. No report.

IX. Open Forum

- a. W. Treat brings up work location attestation form – wishes to maintain accurate employee records – asks individuals to confirm current work and home location, which raises anxiety. Concerns regarding tax implications that the university is responsible for. Concerns regarding remote working continuity.
 - i. E. deRosa explains how there are more regulations regarding how NYS is paying people working within NYS and that it's only to verify working statuses.

X. Adjournment

- a. I. Gatimi motions to adjourn.



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- i. N. Brennan seconds to adjourn.
- b. Meeting is adjourned by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Yao
Clerk of the Assembly