



Resolution 3: In Appreciation and Recognition of Franklin N. Henry, Sr.

Abstract: This resolution recognizes the passing of Franklin N. Henry Sr., and honors him for his contributions to Cornell University as an employee-elected trustee and member of the employee assembly.

Sponsored by: Gina Giambattista, staff member-at-large; B.J. Siasoco, Executive Vice Chair of the Employee Assembly

- 1 **Whereas**, the assemblies are shared governance bodies chartered by the Trustees of the University
2 with delegated authority from the president; and are established to serve as vehicles of
3 communication between the administration of the university and broader campus community.
- 4 **Whereas**, the Employee Assembly (hereinafter, “the Assembly”) is charged with the authority and
5 the responsibility to examine any matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the
6 non-academic employee community and to make proposals concerning those issues to the
7 appropriate officers or decision-making bodies of the University. The Assembly also provides a
8 mechanism for the informal exchange of information and views between employees and the
9 university president.
- 10 **Whereas**, Franklin N. Henry Sr. died at age 79 August 26, 2016 after a brief illness.
- 11 **Whereas**, Henry began working at Cornell University as a dining service worker shortly after
12 arriving in Ithaca in 1955, and later became general manager of Jansen’s Dining at Noyes Center,
13 where he ensured that more than 3,200 meals were served each day, oversaw a \$3 million budget and
14 supervised 30 full-time employees. He later progressed to the position of general manager of Dining
15 and Retail Services for Campus Life.
- 16 **Whereas**, during his Cornell career Henry coached, supervised, and mentored more than two dozen
17 employees who went on to serve as managers and directors of food services at institutions across the
18 country.
- 19 **Whereas**, Henry served as a member of the Employee Assembly and as employee-elected Cornell
20 trustee from 1994-96, advocating for Cornell staff.
- 21 **Whereas**, during his tenure at Cornell, Henry’s wife of 56 years, Janet (surviving), also worked at
22 Cornell, along with two of his brothers, a sister and three nephews.
- 23 **Whereas**, Henry was deeply dedicated to Cornell University and to excellence in customer service,
24 and was a tireless champion of children and his community.
- 25 **Whereas**, at Henry’s retirement reception in Willard Straight Hall June 18, 1999, then Ithaca Mayor
26 Alan Cohen – who had been supervised by Henry in 1977-78 when Cohen was a Cornell student –
27 said that although always firm, Franklin was “fair, an excellent mentor, and teacher.” About 125 of
28 Henry’s colleagues, former workers, friends and family members attended the retirement reception,
29 which featured an ice cream named after Henry, the “Nutty Buddy Franklin” flavor.

30 **Whereas**, the university has no policies or procedures as to identifying such deceased staff members
31 who have made a major and significant contribution over many years to the mission and goals of the
32 university;

33 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Assembly hereby publicly recognizes and thanks Franklin N. Henry
34 Sr. for his support of, and participation in, shared governance at Cornell University, specifically as an
35 employee-elected trustee and member of the Assembly, and for his extensive work in creating and
36 promoting a campus where employee contributions are recognized and voices are heard.

37 **Be it further resolved**, the Assembly and Cornell community extend to Henry's family its sincere
38 sympathy upon his passing.

39 **Be it finally resolved**, a copy of this resolution be forward to Interim President Rawlings, Vice
40 President and Chief Human Resources Officer Opperman and the current Director of Cornell
41 Dining.

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43 **Respectfully Submitted,**

44 Gina Giambattista, staff member-at-large, Director, Office of the Assemblies
45 BJ Siasoco, Representative for ILR, Executive Vice Chair, Employee Assembly
46 19 October 2016

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48 Passed by a vote of 15-0-0