

Minutes
University Assembly
January 26th, 2016
4:30pm - 6:00pm
401 Physical Sciences Building

Attendance:

Present:

M. Battaglia, M. Hatch, K. Herleman, R. Howarth, M. Indimine, G. Kaufman, N. La Celle, E. Loew, BJ Siasoco, U. Smith, A. Thomson

Absent:

E. Baptist, J. Batista, J. Burns, M. McBride, P. Thompson, R. Walroth

Others present:

V. Bhaya, G. Giambattista

I. Call to Order

- M. Battaglia called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm.

Call for Late Additions to the Agenda

- G. Kaufman requested that UA Resolution 5 be added as a late addition to the Agenda.
- The Resolution calls on the Board of Trustees to table the vote on the College of Business because it was sprung on the community quickly.
- It does not say that the University Assembly opposes it but that they need more time to get feedback.
- The Faculty Senate unanimously passed a Resolution asking for the same thing.
- M. Hatch said he hopes that the Assembly can send a card of good wishes to J. Burns, who is recovering from a stroke.

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of December 1, 2015 were **approved** by unanimous consent.

III. Reports from Assemblies

- ***Student Assembly:*** G. Kaufman said the SA made some changes to the housing lottery. They also approved the Byline funding and passed a resolution banning water bottles.
- ***Graduate & Professional Student Assembly:*** R. Walroth was not present.
- ***Employee Assembly:*** No updates.
- ***Faculty Senate:*** G. Kaufman said that most of the discussion at the last Faculty Senate meeting was regarding the College of Business.

IV. Committee and Working Group Updates

- ***Executive Committee:*** M. Battaglia said that Hazel Hall has stepped forward to serve on the Judicial Administrator Search Committee (JASC) and the Codes and Judicial Committee (CJC).

- G. Kaufman as well as M. Battaglia will be meeting with her to verify that she is up to speed.
- M. Battaglia clarified that the Assemblies do not have the ability to formally appoint members to the Senior Climate Leadership Action group, but the administration did appoint half of the people that the UA requested.
- **Campus Infrastructure Committee:** E. Loew said that the CIC just planned their first meeting, but they still need more members.
- **Campus Welfare Committee:** U. Smith had no updates.
- **Codes & Judicial Committee:** G. Kaufman said that the CJC is going to try to meet every other Tuesday and that the UA does not meet, so they will be meeting next Tuesday, February 5.
- They will be looking at the format of the Community Bill of Rights.
- **Textbook Pricing Working Group:** G. Kaufman said one problem is that the cost of course packets has increased. Another problem is that they need faculty on the committee so if the UA knew of any faculty members who were interested, that would be great.

V. Liaison Updates

- **Council of Sexual Violence Prevention:** K. Herleman said she thinks they should meet more than twice a semester.
- **Campus Planning Committee:** R. Howarth said he has been told that carbon neutrality will be on the Agenda for the next meeting.
- **Policy Advisory Group:** G. Kaufman said the PAG discussed a policy regarding social media. This policy formalizes the distinction between employees who act on behalf of themselves vs. on behalf of the University
- **Student Health Fee Advisory Committee Liaison:** A. Thomson had no updates.
- **Student Insurance Advisory Committee Liaison :** M. Indimine said that the SIAC has not met yet.

VI. Business of the Day

- **Review of intersession events and pending matters:** M. Battaglia had discussed the Senior Action Leadership Group earlier in the meeting. He asked that the UA formally confirm the UA-Exec's decision to appoint Hazel Hall to replace G. Mezey. By a vote of 9-0-2, Hazel Hall was appointed to serve on the JASC. K. Herleman said she was at the Town of Ithaca meeting and a discussion about putting up deer fences concerned her. She asked if there were any groups on campus addressing wildlife issues. G. Giambattista said there is a committee that deals with those issues and that she can put K. Herleman in touch with them. M. Hatch said that in the 15 years he has been associated with the UA, he has been proud with the number of things they have accomplished. He said that all members of the Assembly have the opportunity to deal with questions that would not be dealt with in any of the respective Assemblies. He hopes that at future meetings people will come with ideas.
- **Open Discussion focused around upcoming semester:** G. Giambattista said Amy O'Donnell moved onto a new position so the Office of the Assemblies is looking for a 6-month temp position. She asked that the Assembly communicate everything through the Assembly mailbox.

VII. Late Additions to the Agenda

- ***Late Additions to the Agenda:*** G. Kaufman introduced UA Resolution 5, which calls on the Board of Trustees to postpone/table the vote on the College of Business because the community has not had enough time to get feedback; furthermore, some alumni have talked about changing donations to school due to restructuring.
 - A. Thomson asked how postponing the vote to March would affect restructuring.
 - G. Kaufman said he is not sure because of the paucity of information they have been given.
 - K. Herleman asked if any technical documents were given out.
 - G. Kaufman said President Garrett sent an email out to all students in those colleges, but other than that he is not aware of any official documents.
 - M. Battaglia said the Chairs of the Assemblies were given information in advance, but the Dean of the Johnson school would become the Dean of the whole school and someone would also represent the Dean of the Hotel School.
 - B. Siasoco said he thinks they should watch what they say about the hierarchy.
 - G. Kaufman said the Board of Trustees is meeting in three days so if the Assembly does not pass the resolution at this meeting, then they will miss their window of opportunity.
 - R. Howarth said the Resolution refers to how alumni react and asked what kind of information the Assembly has regarding that.
 - G. Kaufman said that a certain alum has threatened to pull eight figures from the endowment or to write Cornell out of his will.
 - B. Siasoco said a lot of alumni who have contacted him have been from the Hotel School and are concerned that their unique identity is being absorbed.
 - U. Smith said to add “Office of the Provost” at the bottom of the resolution.
 - K. Herleman said line 16 and 17 of the Resolution says that the UA is not opposed to the College of Business but that she is.
 - M. Hatch said he agrees with K. Herleman that this line is not needed because the UA does not know enough to take a stance on it.
 - G. Kaufman motioned to strike lines 16 and 17.
 - A. Thomson said he that instead of striking those two lines, they can say that the UA does not have enough information to take a stance and that they can say that the University community does not have enough information to take a stance.
 - G. Kaufman withdrew his amendment.
 - A. Thomson said the line should read, “Whereas, in the absence of further information and discussion, the University Assembly believes the University community cannot take an informed stance on the proposed restructuring.”
 - This amendment was **approved**.
 - U. Smith said he thinks they should talk about specifics so the UA should be very clear about what type of community engagement they would like to see because what they would like may differ from what others would call community engagement.
 - B. Siasoco said he is wondering if it might be better to have a clause that asks what kind of community outreach was done.
 - E. Loew said there was no community outreach, so that clause is not necessary. He said these kind of academic issues are faculty matters, and faculty have been overlooked so they need to take a stand.
 - M. Hatch said the purpose of this resolution is not to say what they want done, but it is

University Assembly January 26, saying to pause and see what the community wants done. He said he thinks the faculty are the principle affected people but students are also impacted.

- U. Smith agreed with M. Hatch. He said the College of Business is first and foremost an academic matter, but it also affects other things like IT.
- K. Herleman said in line 45, she would like to change it to “solicit further community feedback and engage in shared governance with all University constituencies on the proposal.”
- The amendment was **approved** by unanimous consent.
- G. Giambattista said that the Office of Assemblies developed a referendum tool specifically for the Student Assembly (SA).
- If it is something that would like to be utilized then that is something that they can use as a working tool.
- M. Hatch asked why the Resolution asks for the vote on the College of Business to be tabled to the March 24 meeting as opposed to being tabled indefinitely.
- G. Kaufman said that March 24 is when the Board of Trustees next convenes.
- A. Thomson motioned to vote on UA Resolution 5. The motion was seconded by a vote of 9-0-2, the motion was **passed**.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vishal Bhaya
Assemblies Clerk