



Cornell University Assembly
Minutes of the October 4, 2016 Meeting
4:30pm – 6:00pm
401 Physical Science Bldg.

- I. Call to Order
 - a. G. Kaufman called the meeting to order at 4:33 PM.
 - b. G. Kaufman welcomed S. Park, who was recently elected by undergraduates.
 - c. *Members Present:* J. Berger, L. Copman, M. Anne de Roos, M. Hatch, R. Herz, R. Howarth, G. Kaufman, J. Kruser, E. Loew, M. Munasinghe, S. Park, U. Smith, C. Van Loan, E. Winarto
 - d. *Members Absent:* E. Baptist, K. Fitch, M. McBride, N. Rogers
 - e. *Also present:* V. Bhaya, G. Giambattista
 - f. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - i. R. Howarth said he would like to speak about going carbon neutral by 2035 based on the release of the Senior Leadership Action Group (SLAG) report.
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. September 20th, 2016
 - i. The Minutes were **amended** by unanimous consent to reflect that M. Munasinghe was present at the last meeting.
 - ii. The Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.
- III. Assembly Reports
 - a. GPSA President
 - i. M. Munasinghe said that the GPSA passed a resolution supporting the redevelopment of Maplewood Apartments.
 - ii. The second resolution that the GPSA passed supported the renaming of the Cornell Plantations to the Cornell Botanic Gardens.
 - iii. A third resolution was introduced that changes funding guidelines for the GPSA.
 - iv. M. Hatch motioned to approve the resolution passed by the GPSA regarding the renaming of the Cornell Plantations to Cornell Botanic Gardens. There was initial dissent by J. Kruser, who said he wanted to make sure they are supporting the approval of the name change itself. By a vote of 14-0-0, the motion **passed**.
 - b. EA Chair
 - i. U. Smith said the EA had a discussion on changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act, as well as on smoking and how to proceed with a tobacco-free campus.
 - ii. The Senior Leadership Action Group (SLAG) presentation to the EA is scheduled for October 19.
 - iii. The President's address to staff is scheduled for October 11.
 - iv. On October 18, the EA will have a duplicate of the staff forum, Black Lives Matter, Blue Lives Matter, All Lives Matter.
 - c. Dean of Faculty
 - i. C. Van Loan said that the Faculty is uneasy about the investigation about the first

stabbing on Cornell's campus. They are going to have VP Stefano and Lombardi come in to talk about heightened levels of security on campus.

- ii. C. Van Loan said that the Provost has said the graduation date in the Spring is movable.
- d. SA President
 - i. J. Berger said that SA Elections went well. Referendum #30 passed in favor of free pads and tampons, and the next conversation to have is about implementing the policy.
 - ii. J. Berger said that the SA has started conversations about how to engage as many people as possible in the restructuring of the SA.
 - iii. The SA was also working on the Curricular Practical Training (CPT) policy; faculty from the Economics department decided to accept the recommendation from the SA.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee

- i. G. Kaufman said that he encourages chairs of the committees to reach out to chairs of their respective Assemblies to fill vacancies.

b. Codes and Judicial Committee

- i. B. Murphy said on behalf of M. McBride that there was an update from the new Judicial Administrator, Michelle Horvath, who has a variety of issues with the Campus Code of Conduct. One of them is transcript notations: when a student is found responsible for a violation of the Campus Code of Conduct that results in a suspension/expulsion, it should be annotated on their transcript.
 - 1. B. Murphy said that M. Horvath thinks the Campus Code of Conduct should be amended to have a more clear annotation policy.
 - 2. One suggestion M. Horvath has is getting rid of annotations for every pending charge and to instead do it for anything that actually results in a suspension.

c. Campus Welfare Committee

- i. U. Smith said that the CWC talked about smoking. The members were not sure whether they were in support of a tobacco-free option or not.
- ii. Four options that the CWC discussed were either going tobacco-free, having designated smoking areas, changing the policy to change the distance, or having a referendum.
- iii. The CWC will be talking about the possibility of sponsoring a resolution regarding the Ithaca Plan, which is a plan to have a center to allow individuals to receive monitored heroine doses to keep people from overdosing.

d. Campus Infrastructure Committee

- i. J. Kruser said the CIC is close to being staffed.
- ii. The primary focus of the CIC is outreach and communication, in order to ascertain which groups are active on campus and to find out where the concerns are.
- iii. The CIC discussed the University's response to drought conditions. They want to know what it is costing the University to keep water on campus.

- V. Liaison Reports
 - a. **Tabled** to next meeting

- VI. Business of the Day
 - a. For Vote: Concurrence on Appointment of Charles Walcott as University Ombudsman
 - i. By a vote of 11-0-1, the UA **concurred** with the appointment of C. Walcott as the University Ombudsman.

- VII. Late Additions to the Agenda
 - a. R. Howarth said that last Spring, the Provost charged the Senior Leaders Action Group (SLAG) with going carbon neutral by 2035.
 - b. SLAG produced a report that they gave to the Provost last month; the report was released today.
 - c. R. Howarth said there are some real challenges with going carbon neutral. They went through every alternative they could think of.
 - d. He said there are two ways we can heat the campus.
 - i. One way is through Earth Source Heat, which presents a challenge because the campus is currently steam-based. The University is trying to see if we can power 20% of the campus to test out this option.
 - ii. The best second option is to use shallow source heat pumps.
 - e. SLAG tried to normalize the cost about 15 years into the future. The estimate for Business is 42 million dollars/year. With carbon offsets, the cost becomes 85 million per year. Earth Source Heat will be about 71 million dollars/year.
 - f. L. Copman asked what steps need to be taken in order for this to be implemented.
 - i. R. Howarth said they have laid out a timeline. The College of Engineering is sending a team to Washington to get funding for deep Earth Source Heat.
 - g. M. de Roos asked if there was a gap between getting rid of natural gas and using Earth Source Heat. R. Howarth said we can move 20% of the campus to deep heat at a time, while simultaneously reducing natural gas for 20% of the campus.
 - h. G. Giambattista said each of the Assemblies will give time to this report so the Assembly members can have more time to ask questions on the issue.

- VIII. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vishal Bhaya
Assemblies Clerk