

Cornell University Student Assembly

Student Assembly Meeting

AGENDA

February 23, 2023

4:45 - 6:30pm

MEMORIAL ROOM, WILLARD STRAIGHT HALL

[ZOOM](#)

Meeting ID: 947 1648 3660 | Passcode: 303164

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohó:nq (Cayuga Nation)
3. Late Additions to the Agenda
4. Consent Agenda: [February 16 Meeting Minutes](#)
5. Open Microphone
6. Announcements and Reports
7. Initiatives
8. Presentations and Forum
 1. Cornell Community Relations
9. Business of the Day
10. New Business
 1. Resolution 24- Bylaw for SAIFC Chair
11. Adjournment

If you are in need of special accommodations, contact the Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 prior to the meeting



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Cornell University Student Assembly Minutes of the February 16, 2023 Meeting 4:45 PM – 6:30 PM 407 Willard Straight Hall

I. Call to Order

- a. President V. Valencia called the meeting to order at 4:52pm

II. Roll Call

- a. *Members Present [19]: S. Ali, S. Bhardwaj, D. Cady, E. D'Angelo, P. Da Silveira, R. DeLorenzo, G. Dong, K. Everett, J. Kalinski, P. Kuehl, A. Lampert, K. Liu, L. Lu, B. Mebretu, C. Newell, A. Richmond, N. Son, S. Williams, Y. Yuan, V. Valencia*
- b. *Members Excused: M. Baker, R. Chatterji, D. Edelman, B. Kotb, A. Lewis, J. Mayen, D. Nachman, M. Song, J.P. Swenson, C. Ting*

III. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohó:nq̓ (Cayuga Nation)

- a. President V. Valencia stated the land acknowledgment

IV. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. None

V. Consent Agenda

- a. V. Valencia announces a response from President Pollack about Resolution 15
 - i. It was acknowledged by President Pollack and she said that care was already in the Ithaca community, so they will not be allocating resources to it
- b. Approval of the February 9, 2023 meeting minutes
 - i. S. Williams motions to add "...and support of Black Students United," under presentation of Resolution 18, passed by unanimous consent
 - ii. N. Son motions to change "read the Resolution aloud" to "summarized the Resolution" under presentation of Resolution 19, passed by unanimous consent
 - iii. N. Son, motions to approve the meeting minutes, passed by unanimous consent

VI. Open Microphone

- a. None

VII. Announcements and Reports



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- a. New Undesignated At-Large Representative is sworn-in
 - i. P. Kuehl is sworn-in
- b. S. Williams states the Academic Policy Committee survey is in the slack and asks for everyone to share it
 - i. States she has a meeting with the VP Provost of Undergraduate Education in about a week in a half and would appreciate feedback from the community
 - ii. States the Academic Policy Committee is meeting this Saturday at 2:30
 - iii. Announces she has a meeting with the title ix office next week if anyone has any questions they want asked
- c. D. Cady states President Pollack is coming to the UA next Tuesday (2/21)
 - i. States you can go in person or on zoom and if you have any questions you want asked you can let him or S. Williams know
- d. B. Mehretu states the Basic Needs Coalition has started a food recovery system for students who are hungry
 - i. At Anabel's grocery there will be a private section with free meals that you can walk in and grab

VIII. Initiatives

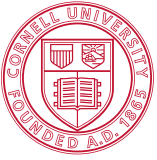
- a. None

IX. Presentation and Forums

- a. None

X. Business of the Day

- a. N. Sharma and the Office of Ethics present Resolution 13 again since it was returned by President Pollack
 - i. N. Sharma states that the one thing changed is Article 6, Section 5: External Committees, letter C: Affiliation, that part in red
 - ii. Continues that the issue President Pollack had was that this was too broad before, so it is a limitation on us and it helps everybody
 - iii. B. Mehretu states they have worked extremely hard on this and thanks them for their work
 - iv. B. Mehretu motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
 - v. In a vote of 17-1-1, Resolution 13 passes
- b. N. Son and L. Lu present Resolution 19



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- i. V. Valencia states we listened to this Resolution last week and we need two thirds majority to pass it
- ii. N. Son states they incorporated all the changes that were suggested last week by D. Cady and S. Bhardwaj
- iii. S. Bhardwaj motions to amend line 50 to remove the extra dash between “Student” and Liaison,” passed by unanimous consent
- iv. B. Mehretu motions to end debate, D. Cady dissents because he’s still reading it
- v. B. Mehretu withdraws the motion
- vi. P. Da Silveira asks what the dissent what
- vii. V. Valencia states it was to have more time to read the Resolution
- viii. D. Cady asks if they added a source for the point in lines 7 and 8
- ix. P. Da Silveira states they added a footnote
- x. N. Son expands that the source is from Cornell Admissions
- xi. D. Cady motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
- xii. B. Mehretu motions to pass the resolution, passed by unanimous consent
- xiii. Resolution 19 passes by unanimous consent

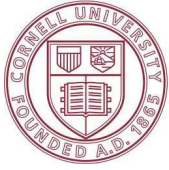
XI. New Business

- a. V. Valencia asks for candidates for Director of Elections
 - i. Rahul Verma nominates himself
 - ii. S. Williams motions to move into executive session, passed by unanimous consent
 - iii. R. Verma is appointed Director of Elections

XII. Adjournment

- a. N. Son motions to adjourn, passed by unanimous consent
 - i. The meeting was adjourned at 5:16pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Megan Birmingham
Clerk of the Assembly



Resolution 24: Amending the Student Assembly Bylaws to Include Vice-President of Infrastructure as a Member of the Executive Board

Abstract: This resolution will update the Student Assembly Bylaws to accurately reflect the duty and responsibilities of the Vice-President of Infrastructure

Sponsored by: Pedro Da Silveira '25

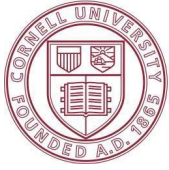
Reviewed by: Executive Committee (4-0-2)

Type of Action: Internal Policy

Originally Presented:

Current Status: *New Business*

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- 1 **Whereas**, the Vice President of Infrastructure is responsible for overseeing the allocation of
2 funds from the Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund (SAIF), which provides financial support
3 for student organizations and initiatives related to infrastructure, transportation, and
4 sustainability on campus.
- 5 **Whereas**, the Vice President of Infrastructure plays a critical role in managing the infrastructure
6 needs of the Student Assembly, including the maintenance and improvement of facilities and
7 equipment, the development of sustainable transportation options, and the planning of
8 infrastructure projects that directly impact student life on campus.
- 9 **Whereas**, the Vice President of Infrastructure serves as a liaison between the Student Assembly
10 and the Cornell University administration on matters related to infrastructure and transportation,
11 advocating for the needs and interests of students in these areas and ensuring that their voices are
12 heard in decision-making processes that affect them.
- 13 **Whereas**, the Vice President of Infrastructure works closely with other members of the
14 Executive Board to advance the goals and priorities of the Student Assembly, providing valuable
15 insights and perspectives on issues related to infrastructure, sustainability, and transportation that
16 inform the organization's broader strategic vision and initiatives.
- 17 **Whereas**, adding the Vice President of Infrastructure to the Executive Board of the Student
18 Assembly will ensure that their responsibilities and duties are clearly defined within the bylaws,
-



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19 and will provide them with a greater role in decision-making processes that affect students,
20 including those related to infrastructure, transportation, and sustainability.

21 **Whereas**, the Student Assembly Bylaws currently list the Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund
22 Commission (SAIFC) as an Operational Committee of the Student Assembly, in Article VI
23 Section 3 subsection D

24 **Whereas**, the other four operational committees, the Communications and Outreach Committee,
25 Appropriations Committee, Elections Committee, and the Executive Cabinet are chaired by
26 members of the Student Assembly Executive Board

27 **Whereas**, Article VI Section 3, subsection D line 381-382 of the Student Assembly Bylaws
28 states that:

29 “The commissioners must include five voting members of the SA, consisting of a chair, who will
30 be the Vice President of Infrastructure”

31 **Whereas**, the role of Vice President is reserved for members of the Executive Board

32 **Whereas**, the current bylaws do not clearly define the role and responsibilities of the Vice
33 President of Infrastructure (SAIFC Chair), and do not specify their membership on the Student
34 Assembly Executive Board

35 **Be it therefore resolved**, Article II, Section I of the Student Assembly Bylaws be amended to
36 be:

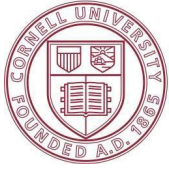
37 “The officers of the SA shall be a President, an Executive Vice President, a Vice President of
38 Internal Operations, a Vice President for Finance, a Vice President of External Affairs, a Vice
39 President of Diversity and Inclusion, a **Vice President of Infrastructure**, a Director of Elections, a
40 Parliamentarian, and an Executive Archivist. These officers shall perform the duties preserved
41 by this Charter and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the SA.”

42 **Be it further resolved**, Article II, Section II of the Student Assembly Bylaws be amended to be:

43 “The SA will, as soon as possible after the spring election, hold an organizational and planning
44 meeting in executive session. At this meeting, the voting members will elect from among
45 themselves the offices of Vice President of Internal Operations, Vice President for Finance, a
46 Vice President of External Affairs, a **Vice President of Infrastructure**, a Vice President of
47 Diversity and Inclusion...”

48 **Be it finally resolved**, Article III of the Student Assembly Bylaws should be amended to add an
49 additional section after Section 6 (Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion) and Section 7
50 (Director of Elections) to be:

51 **Section 7: Vice President of Infrastructure**



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- 52 1. Supervise and coordinate the Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund Commission.
- 53 2. Oversee the allocation and distribution of funds from the Student Assembly Infrastructure
- 54 Fund Commission, ensuring that funds are used for appropriate projects and initiatives.
- 55 3. Develop and execute plans to improve the infrastructure and facilities of Cornell
- 56 University in collaboration with the administration and appropriate stakeholders.
- 57 4. Monitor and maintain the physical condition of campus facilities and infrastructure,
- 58 including but not limited to buildings, walkways, and roadways, and identify necessary
- 59 repairs and maintenance.
- 60 5. Collaborate with the appropriate University departments and stakeholders to implement
- 61 sustainability initiatives and promote environmentally responsible practices in campus
- 62 infrastructure.
- 63 6. Liaise with the Office of Student Government Relations to address issues related to
- 64 campus infrastructure that impact the greater Ithaca community.
- 65 7. Work with the Vice-President of External Affairs to effectively communicate with groups
- 66 that advocate for students regarding campus infrastructure issues.
- 67 8. Coordinate with the Vice-President of Finance to ensure the availability of sufficient
- 68 funds for infrastructure projects and initiatives.
- 69 9. Present regular reports to the Student Assembly regarding the progress and status of
- 70 infrastructure initiatives and projects.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pedro Da Silveira '25

*College of Engineering Representative and Vice-President of Internal Operations, Student
Assembly*