Student Assembly Special Meeting

AGENDA

May 18, 2023
12:00 - 14:00
Zoom Only

Meeting ID: 947 1648 3660 | Passcode: 303164

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohönqa (yuga Nation)
3. Late Additions to the Agenda
4. Consent Agenda: May 04 & May 11 Meeting Minutes
5. Announcements and Reports
   1. Office Of Ethics
6. Initiatives
7. Presentations and Forum
8. Business of the Day
   1. Appointment Of Presiding Officer and Clerk
   2. Considerations of Presidential Succession
9. 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.
I. Call to Order
   a. President V. Valencia called the meeting to order at 4:52pm

II. Roll Call

III. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogoḥonǫ (Cayuga Nation)
   a. President V. Valencia stated the land acknowledgment

IV. Late Additions to the Agenda
   a. D. Cady motions to add Resolution 48 under New Business, passed by unanimous consent
   b. R. DeLorenzo motions to move Resolution 44 to be first under Business of the Day, passed by unanimous consent
   c. S. Williams motions to add Resolution 46 under New Business, passed by unanimous consent
   d. C. Newell motions to add Resolution 45 under New Business, passed by unanimous consent
   e. P. Da Silveira motions to add Resolution 47 under New Business, passed by unanimous consent
   f. D. Cady motions to move up Resolution 48 to be under Resolution 44, passed by unanimous consent

V. Consent Agenda
   a. Approval of the April 27, 2023 meeting minutes
      i. J.P. Swenson motions to approve the meeting minutes, P. Da Silveira dissents to add the name of the community member, J.P. withdraws the motion
ii. P. Da Silveira motions to add the name of the Bikeshare co-sponsor, Mikhailessa, passed by unanimous consent

iii. B. Mehretu motions to approve the meeting minutes, K. Everett dissents, B. Mehretu withdraws the motion

iv. K. Everett motions to add “to make Cornell liable for a surplus of bikes” to their question on Resolution 42, passed by unanimous consent

v. S. Williams motions to approve the meeting minutes, passed by unanimous consent

VI. Open Microphone
   a. None

VII. Announcements and Reports
   a. Election of the Office of Ethics Chair
      i. N. Sharma give his endorsement to A. Bangura
      ii. D. Cady motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
      iii. In a vote of 20-1-2, A. Bangura is elected chair of the Office of Ethics

   b. J.P. Swenson suggests putting long resolution online because it wastes paper

VIII. Initiatives
   a. None

IX. Presentation and Forums
   a. None

X. Business of the Day
   a. R. DeLorenzo presents Resolution 36
      i. R. DeLorenzo explains the Resolution and the changes it makes
      ii. M. Baker motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
      iii. M. Baker motions to vote, passed by unanimous consent
      iv. Resolution 36 passes unanimously

   b. R. DeLorenzo presents Resolution 44
      i. R. DeLorenzo explains the Resolution
      ii. J. Kalinski motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
      iii. Resolution 44 is approved
c. C. Lederman, D. Cady, P. Kuehl, M. Song, and M. Baker present Resolution 48
   i. D. Cady explains the Resolution and the background behind it
   ii. P. Kuehl states that other SUNY schools are already doing this
   iii. Taisa states this is especially important because the only referral that Cornell
gives is to Planned Parenthood which is over an hour walk away
   iv. Continues that Planned Parenthood of Ithaca has a lot of community
members it needs to treat, so it’s important that Cornell helps them out
   v. P. Kuehl states Planned Parenthood here does get overwhelmed at times
   vi. R. Chatterji asks if you would take the pill at Cornell Health or at home?
   vii. Taisa responds that the first pill would be taken at Cornell Health and the
second pill would be taken at home
   viii. C. Lederman adds that this is covered under the Student Health Plan
   ix. B. Mehretu motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
   x. B. Mehretu motions to vote, passed by unanimous consent
   xi. Resolution 48 passes unanimously

d. C. Lederman, D. Cady, and M. Song present Resolution 40
   i. D. Cady explains the Resolution and highlights that changes that have been
made
   ii. C. Lederman motions to amend the Resolution to the printed version, A.
Lampert dissents to have them go over the changes, C. Lederman explains
the changes, passed by unanimous consent
   iii. D. Cady expands on what the Resolution intends to do
   iv. K. Everett asks if there’s any specific reason that we don’t have a speaker
now and why it is the way it is?
   v. C. Lederman responds he doesn’t really know, but it has been that way since
the mid 90s
   vi. M. Song responds that this position already exists at many other schools
   vii. M. Baker motions to amend lines 23, 62, 63, 350 and anywhere this occurs
from “deputy speaker” to “vice speaker,” passed by unanimous consent
   viii. A. Lampert explains her position against the Resolution
   ix. D. Cady states the President is a position of influence and power that is
more powerful than drafting a speaker’s list and that it is relatively easy to
reverse any decision made by the speaker, so there isn’t really a power
imbalance
   x. C. Lederman states that the President would also have the right to first
recognition
xi. C. Taylor states that there is a significant amount of power in the chair and while their decisions can be overturned, that power is not often used because Robert’s Rules are not well-understood by the majority of this assembly

xii. D. Cady states the person who is the most well-versed on Robert’s Rules should be the one making decisions about Robert’s Rules, which would be the speaker

xiii. C. Lederman states that it is the safe election process as any other officer

xiv. C. Taylor states that the speaker role cannot be elected, so that is an important difference between other officer roles

xv. V. Valencia states it would be different from other internal elections because this person would not have been elected by the student body first

xvi. D. Cady states that this is similar to the fact that the majority of members here were elected un-opposed

xvii. S. Bhardwaj states it seems like a bad idea to have any person who is a member of the community be in this position, so they would be more in favor of this if the speaker was an elected position

xviii. M. Song states the speaker does not have that much power though because they are still held to Robert’s Rule. This is more about allowing the President and VP to be able to work on their platforms

xix. P. Da Silveira asks if the President and VP are allowed to vote and speak?

xx. V. Valencia states the chair only votes in the case of a tie and there is nothing prohibiting them from speaking

xxi. R. Chatterji asks what the President will do if they aren’t chair and what the speaker will do?

xxii. C. Lederman states the President will be able to comment on and introduce resolutions like any other member and the speaker will help with the speakers list and introducing resolutions

xxiii. M. Baker asks if there’s a good reason why the speaker position is open to anyone in the Cornell community?

xxiv. C. Taylor states that just allows anyone who comes in here to be able to participate in debate

xxv. M. Baker asks if lines 12-22 could be changed to “Cornell undergraduate community?”

xxvi. C. Taylor states that this would be ok

xxvii. K. Everett asks them if the President and VP are unable to support their campaign promise in their current position?

xxviii. V. Valencia responds no
xxix. D. Cady responds the issue is that chairing the assembly meeting requires some impartiality that is not required in making campaign promises, so this makes it easier for them.

xxx. C. Ting asks if they have someone in mind for speaker and vice speaker?

xxxi. C. Lederman responds that he doesn’t want to be speaker, but the goal is to find someone who is well-versed in Robert’s Rules.

xxxii. J.P. Swenson asks them to acknowledge some potential negatives.

xxxiii. C. Lederman responds it’ll take some time to transition and it’ll be important to recruit people who are well-versed in Robert’s Rules and that can be a challenge.

xxxiv. B. Mehretu motions to end debate, J. Kalinski dissents to have further discussion.

xxxv. In a vote of, 7-11-2 the motion fails.

xxxvi. C. Taylor states that the chair is supposed to be impartial, but this would make them able to not be. However, the President does usually say their opinion and no one has objected.

xxxvii. D. Cady states we are currently not following our own rules by letting the President speak and not being impartial, so what they are doing is putting this into codified language that makes sense.

xxxviii. P. Kuehl asks how many of her campaign promises she’s been a sponsor on this semester?

xxxix. V. Valencia responds that student assembly work takes time and while we didn’t get to everything, we did get to a lot of it.

xl. M. Song states this Resolution is revealing that the assembly is not well-versed in Robert’s Rules and that the President and VP are treated as “glorified secretaries.”

xli. J. Kalinski if they have any people in mind or if this will just be a vacant spot?

xlii. C. Lederman states this will not be elected in Executive Session, so anyone is eligible. There are some other undergraduate parliamentarians and people on Cornell Votes who could do this.

xliii. P. Da Silveira motions to table this until the end of the meeting, K. Everett dissents to just move into voting.

xliv. In a vote of 5-12-3, the motion fails.

xlv. M. Baker motions for a straw poll.

xlvi. C. Newell motions to end debate.

xlvii. In a vote of, 15-3-3 the motion passes.

xlviii. In a vote of, 9-10-2 the Resolution does not pass.
xlix. Resolution 40 does not pass

e. C. Newell motions to move Resolution 45 to be next, passed by unanimous consent

f. Resolution 45 is presented by C. Newell
   i. C. Newell asks for a Youtube video to be played
   ii. C. Newell explains the Resolution
   iii. Erik, the Director of the Physics Bus, explains what they do and that they’d like to have a relationship with Cornell
   iv. Lori, the Director of Free Science, states the point of this program is to address the economic disparity in Ithaca
   v. C. Newell states they are asking for $2,500 per semester and it is a great way for students and Cornell to get involved in the community
   vi. J. Kalinski motions to extend time, passed by unanimous consent
   vii. S. Bhardwaj asks if there are alternative funding sources?
   viii. Erik responds that funding sources cannot be solicited by them, but have to come through proper channels
   ix. J. Kalinski states his support
   x. D. Cady motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
   xi. D. Cady motions to vote, passed by unanimous consent
   xii. Resolution 45 passes unanimously

g. Resolution 43 is presented by C. Newell
   i. C. Newell reads the Resolution
   ii. R. Chatterji that are some studies that show negative effects of fluoride and Ithaca voted against it before, so we shouldn’t force them
   iii. C. Newell states she brought up the vote to highlight that it was a close vote
   iv. C. Ting thanks her for the Resolution emphasizes the oral health benefits of fluoride
   v. M. Baker motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
   vi. M. Baker motions to vote, passed by unanimous consent
   vii. Resolution 43 passes unanimously

XI. New Business
   a. Resolution 46 is presented by A. Lampert
      i. A. Lampert states she is presenting on behalf of S. Williams and Cornell

Votes
ii. M. Baker motions to amend line 7 to read “recommendation,” passed by unanimous consent

iii. S. Bhardwaj motions to amend line 4 to correct the spelling to “Elena,” passed by unanimous consent

iv. D. Cady motions to extend time by 5 minutes, passed by unanimous consent

v. D. Cady motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent

vi. D. Cady motions to vote, passed by unanimous consent

vii. Resolution 46 passes unanimously

b. Resolution 47 is presented by P. Da Silveira
   i. P. Da Silveira thanks C. Taylor for all they have done
   ii. J.P. Swenson thanks C. Taylor for their work and patience
   iii. D. Cady thanks C. Taylor their work on Student Assembly and for students with disabilities
   iv. C. Ting thanks C. Taylor for their time
   v. P. Kuehl compliments C. Taylor
   vi. B. Mehretu commends C. Taylor for their knowledge
   vii. B. Mehretu motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
   viii. B. Mehretu motions to vote, passed by unanimous consent
   ix. Resolution 47 passes unanimously

XII. Adjournment
   a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:49pm
      i. C. Taylor motions to adjourn, passed by unanimous consent

Respectfully Submitted,
Megan Birmingham
Clerk of the Assembly
I. Call to Order
   a. Chair C. Ting called the meeting to order at 11:10am

II. Roll Call
   b. Members Excused: A. Barry, D. Nachman, M. Bakri, N. Son, J.P. Swenson

III. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogoñ:ę́ (Cayuga Nation)
   a. Chair C. Ting stated the land acknowledgment

IV. Late Additions to the Agenda
   a. None

V. Consent Agenda
   a. None

VI. Open Microphone
   a. J. Kalinski urges the SA to better communicate meetings and meeting times as SA meetings are open to the public
   i. C. Ting responds there was a very short turnaround time, but they will make sure his name is on the list-serv going forward

VII. Announcements and Reports
   a. None

VIII. Initiatives
   a. None

IX. Presentation and Forums
   a. None

X. Business of the Day
a. R. DeLorenzo motions to postpone Resolution 1 and appoint C. Taylor as the parliament for the meeting, passed by unanimous consent
b. S. Parikh motions to move into debate on Resolution 1, passed by unanimous consent
   i. P. Kuehl motions to add N. Wilson and the other organizers as sponsors to the Resolution, passed by unanimous consent
   ii. C. Taylor motions to recess for three minutes, so that organizers can get on the call to present, passed by unanimous consent
   iii. Resolution 1 is presented by S. Parikh
   iv. R. DeLorenzo states that ending the “We Proudly Serve” partnership with Starbucks would not affect Starbucks, but Nestle and Pepsi co
   v. K. Everett states we should consult with the student body maybe before making a move such as this
   vi. N. Wilson responds that the Resolution is written in such a way that it will not affect Pepsi co
   vii. N. Wilson and the other organizers provide background on the Resolution and why it is important to support it
   viii. P. Kuehl asks if there are any financial ties between Starbucks and Cornell that do not involve Nestle or Pepsi?
   ix. N. Wilson responds that there are two contracts to serve Starbucks. The Nestle “Proudly serving” contract and Pepsi co deal. They are targeting the “Proudly serving” program right now
   x. C. Platkin asks how Starbucks profits from the “Proudly serving” program?
   xi. G. Moravec responds that have reason to believe that Starbucks and Cornell are making a lot of money off of this partnership, but their Resolution and strategies to see the contract will let them know the exact details
   xii. R. DeLorenzo states the contract is between Starbucks and Nestle, so even if the contracts were canceled that is not how Nestle makes it money and would make a very small impact for them
   xiii. E. Sunshine states that Cornell students and the community is being affected by this issue, so we shouldn’t be focusing on how much money Nestle will lose, but how it effects the community
   xiv. S. Parikh responds the point of this Resolution is not the financial impact it’ll have, but to stand up for the labor movement and against a company that has done so many bad things for our people
   xv. E. Ononye asks how this would affect students monetarily?
xvi. D. Donovan states they are not offering an alternative company, so they do not know how much it would cost. The purpose of this Resolution is to elicit student input on what they want.

xvii. G. Moravec responds there are plenty of vendors who could provide coffee at a reasonable price, while treating their workers better.

xviii. A. Vinson motions to cut lines 18-19, passed by unanimous consent.

xix. K. Everett asks if the type of action for this should be legislation or a recommendation?

xx. C. Taylor states it is listed as legislation because the goal was to enact action over Student and Campus Life, so this is legislation rather than a recommendation to administration.

xxi. K. Everett motions for a straw poll on changing the Resolution from legislation to recommendation.

xxii. P. Kuehl states it might be more powerful to make this a statement.

xxiii. E. Sunshine states that no company should be making a profit off of this, so doing something about this would be more powerful than a statement.

xxiv. N. Wilson states that this will send a message to other corporations that Starbucks is a toxic entity and not to be supported.

xxv. N. Wilson motions to vote, in a vote of 2-5 the motion fails.

xxvi. P. Kuehl motions to extend time by 15 minutes, passed by unanimous consent.

xxvii. A. Vinson states if they pass legislation, it will probably be vetoed, but if they do a recommendation, it might also just be cast aside.

xxviii. R. DeLorenzo states we do not need a Resolution to make an impact.

xxix. R. DeLorenzo motions to adjourn, P. Kuehl dissents so that other members can make their comments, R. De Lorenzo withdraws the motion.

xxx. S. Parikh states having this as legislation is the best option because it is a show of force and demonstrates that the SA stands with workers and Resolution 2 addresses most of the concerns about us not doing our homework.

xxxi. C. Platkin states there appears to be immense benefits to cutting this partnership off and it sends a message to other corporations. Making Cornell veto it also draws media attention to the issue.

xxxii. A. Vinson mentions that he has another piece of legislation related to this that he’d like to pass before the 21st.

xxxiii. A. Wang states she agrees with C. Platkin and it’s important that Cornell takes a stand on this on an ideological basis because we have the school of ILR.
xxxiv. C. Ting clarifies that it takes 2-3 weeks to receive acceptances, rejections, and acknowledgments from the President and that historically they have gotten a lot of acknowledgments

xxxv. P. Kuehl states he is concerned that we are doing everything we can to maintain the legitimacy of the SA

xxxvi. P. Kuehl motions to amend the final clause to say “Starbucks-branded products” and in the first clause change “terminate” to “reassess,” passed by unanimous consent

xxxvii. R. DeLorenzo states that Pepsi co and Nestle do great things for Cornell from donations to on campus recruiting and targeting these products doesn’t really target Starbucks

xxxviii. A. Vinson states it might be important to find out who these people are that serve as connections between Nestle, Starbucks, and Cornell

xxxix. A. Vinson motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent

xl. In a vote of 10-1-0, Resolution 1 passes

c. S. Parikh presents Resolution 2
   i. S. Parikh explains the Resolution
   ii. P. Kuehl states we need to get our internal stuff figured out before we vote on any more Resolutions. This does not need to happen today and can happen when everything else is sorted out
   iii. C. Ting states that when requesting such documents, it is important that we cite the lines that allow us to access these documents and to not act with haste
   iv. C. Platkin states it is difficult to uphold Resolution 1 without having Resolution 2 as well
   v. S. Parikh states there is no reason we can’t pass this Resolution today
   vi. S. Parikh motions to amend the final be it therefore resolved clause to say, “publicly release the full terms of any ongoing contracts and agreements with Starbucks Coffee Company and all contracts and agreements involving Starbucks branded products sold at Cornell University,” passed by unanimous consent
   vii. A. Vinson motions to end debate, passed by unanimous consent
   viii. In a vote of 6-4-0, Resolution 2 passes

XI. New Business
   a. None
XII. **Adjournment**
   a. P. Kuehl motions to adjourn, passed by unanimous consent
      i. The meeting was adjourned at 12:14pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Megan Birmingham
Clerk of the Assembly