

Student Assembly Meeting

AGENDA

November 10, 2022

4:45 - 6:30pm

MEMORIAL ROOM, WILLARD STRAIGHT HALL

<u>ZOOM</u>

Meeting ID: 947 1648 3660 | Passcode: 303164

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call
- 2. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohó:no (Cayuga Nation)
- 3. Late Additions to the Agenda
- 4. Consent Agenda: Approval of November 3rd, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- 5. Open Microphone
- 6. Announcements and Reports
 - 1. Statement on Recent Events- Valeria Valencia '23
 - 2. Special Projects Request- Rocco DeLorenzo '24
- 7. Initiatives
- 8. Presentations and Forums
- 9. Business of the Day
- 10. New Business
- 11. Adjournment

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Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the November 3, 2022 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 4:53pm

II. Roll Call

- a. Members Present [26]: S. Ali, D. Cady, K. Chan, P. Da Silveira, G. Dong, A. Lampert, J. Lee, A. Lewis, R. DeLorenzo L. Lu, J. Mayen, J. Kalinski, M. Song, V. Valencia, S. Williams, R. Chatterji, K. Liu, B. Mehretu, A. Richmond, Y. Yuan, E. D'Angelo, B. Luckow, N. Son, C. Ting, JP. Swenson, M. Baker
- b. Members Excused: S. Bhardwaj, D. Edelman, B. Kotb, D. Nachman

III. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohó:no (Cayuga Nation)

a. President V. Valencia stated the land acknowledgment

IV. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. R. De Lorenzo motions to move Critical Response Team report under Presentations and Forums, passed by unanimous consent
- b. P. Da Silveira motions to move resolution 11 above resolution 9, passed by unanimous consent

V. Consent Agenda

- a. Resolution number 7 was acknowledged by the president
- b. Resolution number 5 was acknowledged by the president and she added that she appreciated the commitment to belonging and consent
- c. Approval of the October 27, 2022 meeting minutes
 - i. R. De Lorenzo motions to strike line xxxii under section B in Presentation and Forums, passed by unanimous consent
 - ii. A. Lampert motions to change "October 20th to October 27th," passed by unanimous consent
 - iii. K. Chan motions to approve the meeting minutes, passed by unanimous consent

VI. Open Microphone

a. None



VII. Announcements and Reports

- a. K. Chan gives an update on the Privacy Pod pilot program
 - i. Privacy pods are sound proof booths in Gates Hall
 - ii. Meant to address the increase in telehealth appointments and lack of private spaces on campus
 - iii. Had a meeting to talk about the project. The administration is going to do some number crunching and determine the location of the pods, suggests them being in libraries, but ultimately the administration will decide
 - iv. Reach out to K. Chan or A. Lampert if interested in this project and working on it with administration

VIII. Initiatives

a. None

IX. Presentation and Forums

- a. R. De Lorenzo gives a PSAC initiative update
 - i. Goes over the background of the PSCA committee. It was formed in July 2020 with the goal of evaluating and reimagining the university safety and security protocols through a methodical, open, and inclusive process
 - ii. In 2021, they focused on gathering community feedback on campus recommendations
 - iii. Completed the public statement and commitment to enacting anti-racist policy
 - iv. Now they're developing and implanting an alternative public safety response model
 - v. This alternative response model is known as the Community Response Team and it's used for mental health crisis on campus
 - vi. They are continuing to gather data and refine recommendations, doing a comprehensive review of CUPD calls, diversifying the membership of PSAC, and preparing to launch a search for CRT clinician and program manager
 - vii. They announced a new Public Safety Organization in spring 2022 and are preparing to launch
 - viii. Goes over what the AVP of Public Safety will oversee: technical operations, CU police, emergency management, alternative response, administrative operations, emergency medical services



- ix. Goes over update from the Community Response Team. Key changes are that a new director will be a supervisory mental health clinician, team will be able to respond campus wide, and fully integrated part of 911 calls and responses
- x. Currently searching for a new director and the team that will be able to respond
- xi. It was launched quickly, so now they're trying to approve upon it with CRT 2.0
- xii. CRT clinician search and case worker search is underway with the goal to have them staffed and ready to go by Spring 2023
- xiii. The search community is composed of members from housing and residential programs, Cornell counseling and psychological services, Cornell ems, Cornell care and crisis services
- xiv. Goal is to restart CRT for the Spring 2023 semester
- xv. There's a new Public Safety Communications Center that takes its own 911 calls
- xvi. In 2021, they had 7,741 calls for service and 42, 250 calls into and out of the 911 center
- xvii. The Office of Emergency Management has also moved under the Division of Public Safety
- xviii. The Office of Emergency Management operates on the 4-phase framework of prevention-mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery
- xix. B. Mehretu asks if he knows how far they've gotten in filling up the CRT team
- xx. R. De Lorenzo states the original team was only available in dorms, but they're trying to expand it. They're looking for a director currently and then they'll build the rest of the team
- xxi. C. Ting asks if there's an estimate when CRT will be back in commission
- xxii. R. De Lorenzo states interviews are lined up to happen and they'll hopefully be staffed and ready to start by early Spring
- xxiii. S. Williams asks about the composition of the interview teams
- xxiv. R. De Lorenzo says he believes the search and interview team is separate and its being done by high-ranking Cornell admin and possibly students
- xxv. C. Ting asks who is responding while CRT is out of commission
- xxvi. V. Valencia responds that its CUPD
- xxvii. B. Mehretu asks who compromises the CRT team



> xxviii. R. De Lorenzo states he believes it will be staffed by trained professionals, but there might be potential for students to also obtain the same training and also be able to respond

X. Business of the Day

- a. B. Mehretu, A. Chowdhurry, and S. Woldai present Resolution 11
 - i. The goal of establishing a Basic Needs Center is to have more support for first-gen and low-income students on campus
 - ii. Currently, the resources on campus are decentralized and inaccessible
 - iii. This resolution calls for Cornell to establish a Basic Needs Center and overhaul financial aid, which includes expanding aid for housing, food, and transportation because of the high cost of living in Ithaca
 - iv. This resolution calls for Cornell to centralize information via website, hotline, email, and phone
 - v. Calls for the expansion of the Access Fund and the creation of a Basic Needs Fund
 - vi. Create a yearly systematic review of the campus resources and address any access or equity issues identified in the survey
 - vii. A survey was sent out over the summer and found that of the respondents nearly 1/3 had difficulty with food security and nearly 60% had difficulties with housing and financial security
 - viii. A. Lampert motions to change resolution 12 to resolution 11, passed by unanimous consent
 - ix. B. Mehretu motions to amend the co-sponsor section to add Undergraduate Student Trustee Selam Woldai, passed by unanimous consent
 - x. J. Kalinski asks how the Basic Needs Center will be advertised
 - xi. S. Woldai responds that Cornell has an abundance of resources, but people don't know about it. It's not their job as students to figure out how to market. They're trying to advocate to have more faculty members helping to get the word out, such as by utilizing email list servs.
 - xii. B. Mehretu adds that the physical center would also centralize the resources because they're all over campus and it has shown to be effective at other schools.
 - xiii. R. De Lorenzo asks what the survey method used to measure food insecurity was
 - xiv. A. Chowdhurry responds that this survey was not to represent all basic needs at Cornell, but just to gather some data. The survey asked about affording food, finding resources for food, food programs, and applying for



SNAP. They listed out what food insecurity entails and followed up with 4 related other questions

- xv. The purpose of this resolution is just to let the administration know that the SA is backing up the Basic Needs Center
- xvi. M. Song states this was discussed extensively during the Diversity
 Committee meeting and there were no committee members who voted in opposition and she hopes this goes favorably
- xvii. J. Kalinski asks where an ideal location would be
- xviii. A. Chowdhurry responds that the Wellness committee has looked into spaces for the creation of the Wellness center, which has a lot in alignment with basic needs. They have identified a few locations including Willard Straight and RPCC. They have been talking to administration and have monthly meetings. Administration is working on creating a working group for next semester, but they'll still working on what the space will be.
- xix. R. De Lorenzo asks if the survey was given in a randomized way to the Cornell population
- xx. A. Chowdhurry responds that it wasn't and that was on purpose. It was targeted towards first-gen and low-income students because these are the groups that are impacted the most and they wanted to further understand issues they're facing
- xxi. They did reach out to some random email lists and used social media, but mainly it was distributed through the First Gen Student Union
- xxii. S. Woldai continues that the way the survey was conducted doesn't negate the experiences of the answers. The purpose of the resolution is just to say that the SA supports this
- xxiii. M. Baker states that issues with how the survey was done aren't relevant because randomization only matters when you're trying to make generalizations, which isn't what they're doing
- xxiv. B. Mehretu states he's already seen this effecting freshmen. There's a serious issue on campus with students really struggling and this cannot wait any longer. Students have been waiting for too long and we need to get this passed
- xxv. M. Baker motions to end debate, passes in a vote of 24-0-4
- xxvi. Resolution 11 passes in a vote of 25-0-3
- b. A. Lewis, P. Da Silveira, and JP Swenson present Resolution 9
 - i. P. Da Silveira states they made some changes to establish this as a subcommittee of the Communications and Outreach committee



- ii. A change was made in the bylaws, lines 402-403, to state that a subcommittee of the Communications and Outreach committee will be planning events for students
- iii. V. Valencia states that because this is a bylaws amendment this can be presented today and voted on next week. It will need 2/3 of members present to pass
- iv. K. Chan gives a friendly reminder that the typical format of a resolution has line numbers
- v. M. Song asks if the committee members have to come from within the Communications committee and where the chair of the Communications committee plays into this
- vi. P. De Silveira states they'll accept amendments to add "sub-committee"
- vii. Continues that the only things being changed are in red. It was left open ended on purpose and the structure was proposed, so that representatives can understand where they're coming from and what they want to see of this and if representatives agree then this can be written in
- viii. C. Taylor states if it's a bylaws amendment then need to specify if it's a subcommittee under the Communications committee and what lines are being changed
- ix. P. De Silveira states this is referring to section 3 lines 402-403
- x. P. Da Silveira motions to postpone this discussion to next week, D. Cady dissents to see what K. Chan has to say, P. Da Silveira withdraws his motion
- xi. K. Chan states she would like to see it run through the Communications committee with all the changes
- xii. P. Da Silveira states they'll do that, but states A. Lewis put the resolution in the Slack asking for feedback and a lot of these changes were suggestions she made, so he would appreciate if people were more responsive in the future
- xiii. M. Baker motions to postpone resolution 9 indefinity, passed by unanimous consent

XI. New Business

- a. R. De Lorenzo motions to move into Executive Session with the parliamentarian, passed by unanimous consent
 - i. The following appointments were made during Executive Session
 - ii. UA representative: S. Williams

XII. Adjournment



a. K. Chan motions to adjourn, passed by unanimous consent

The meeting was adjourned at 5:49pm

Respectfully Submitted, Megan Birmingham Clerk of the Assembly



Announcement: Approving Special Projects Funding Request for Disability Awareness Union at Cornell

3

4 *Abstract*: This announcement approves \$321.00 of Special Projects Funding to the Disability

- 5 Awareness Union at Cornell to host an event to discuss mental health at Cornell as well as 6 intersections with disability justice.
- 7 Sponsored by: George Rocco DeLorenzo '24, Valeria Valencia '23
- 8 *Type of Action*: Announcement
- 9 Originally Presented: 11/10/2022
- 10 *Current Status*: New Business

12 Whereas, the Student Assembly Standing Rules, Section 8: Spending Guidelines, Part B:

- Special Projects Funding outlines the purpose of Special Projects Funding and the process of approving funding requests.
- Whereas, lines 281-283 of the Student Assembly Standing Rules explains the purpose of Special
 Projects Funding as follows:
- 17 Rule 5: The Student Assembly may choose to fund any project, program or service
 18 through SA Special Projects that it deems to improve the quality of undergraduate student
- life or to further the goals of the SA. Special Projects funding is a type of categoryspending.
- 21 Whereas, lines 298-303 of the Student Assembly Standing Rules describes the approval
- 22 process of Special Projects Funding as follows:
- Rule 7: The SA President and Vice President for Finance together may approve any
 special projects funding request up to \$400 without consultation with the Executive
 Committee. Amounts up to \$400 may also be funded by a majority vote of the Executive
 Committee. Requests must be made public at a Student Assembly meeting in the form of
 an "Announcement/Report" before being approved. Any SA voting member can motion
 for the request to be sent to the Executive Committee if they feel necessary."

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- 29 Whereas, at this event, special guests include EARS presenters, students with experience with
- 30 disability referrals, and a step-by-step guide on navigating on-and-off campus resources.
- 31 Whereas, the event will consist of welcome/intros, disability awareness union presentation,
- 32 Cornell EARS presentation, Student Testimonials with Q&A, and Reception.
- 33 Whereas, this project should impact students on campus struggling with specialist needs,
- 34 disability, or mental health issues, particularly students with experience in more than one of these
- areas. The resources will be available online to all students after the event as well as being sign-
- 36 language accessible.
- 37 Whereas, \$180.00 will go toward two hours of sign language interpreters, \$121.00 will go
- toward refreshments, and \$20.00 will go toward printing advertising flyers.
- 39 **Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Assembly approves the \$321.00 Special Projects Funding
- 40 disbursement to the Disability Awareness Union at Cornell in order to host their event to make
- 41 all students on Cornell's campus feel included.
- 42 Respectfully Submitted,
- 43 George Rocco DeLorenzo '24
- 44 Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly
- 45 Valeria Valencia '23
- 46 President, Student Assembly



Resolution 13: Student Assembly Office of Ethics 1 **Bylaw Amendment**

- 2
- Abstract: This resolution amends and ratifies the Student Assembly Bylaws. These amendments to 3
- 4 the Bylaws create an ex-officio position for the Chairperson of the Student Assembly Office of
- Ethics, permit members of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics to remain during executive 5
- session, and establish the format of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics. 6
- Sponsored by: Michelle Song '25, Pedro Da Silveira' 25 7
- Reviewed by: Student Assembly Office of Ethics, 11/08/2022 8
- 9 Type of Action: Internal Policy
- 10 Originally Presented: 11/10/2022
- Current Status: New Business 11
- 12 Whereas, the Student Assembly Office of Ethics was established through Student Assembly
- Resolution 22 as an external executive office to hold the Student Assembly accountable, maintain a 13
- high moral standard, and provide necessary ethical guidance and procedure to the Student Assembly; 14
- Whereas, the membership of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics has actively researched, 15
- analyzed, coordinated, argued, and discussed ethical philosophies and applications; 16
- Whereas, the members of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics have unanimously agreed that the 17
- Student Assembly, is in need of a structured system imbued with the authority to ensure 18
- accountability, ethical conduct, justice, and growth; 19
- 20 Whereas, the current language utilized in "Section 2: Ex-officio Executive Committee Positions" of
- "Article I: Ex-Officio Members," "Section 5: Executive Session" of "Article IV: Meetings," and 21
- "Section 5: External Committees" of "Article VI: Committees" lines 10-19, 233-238, 562-617 2.2.
- prevent the Student Assembly Office of Ethics from becoming this type of system; 23
- **Whereas**, the Code of Ethics and amendments to the Ethics Clause of the Student Assembly's 24
- Standing Rules have been incorporated into the framework of the Assembly, and an amendment to 25
- 26 the Bylaws is necessary for the Office to function
- Be it therefore resolved, that "Section 2: Ex-officio Executive Committee Positions" of "Article I: 27
- Ex-Officio Members," "Section 5: Executive Session" of "Article IV: Meetings," and "Section 5: 28
- External Committees" of "Article VI: Committees" lines 10-19, 233-238, 562-617 of the Student 29
- 30 Assembly Bylaws shall read as follows:



31 **ARTICLE I: Ex-Officio Members**

32 Section 2: Ex-Officio Executive Committee Positions

A. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell community to serve 33 as the Executive Archivist. 34 B. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell community to serve 35 as the Parliamentarian. 36 C. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve 37 as Director of Elections. 38 39 D. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve as the Student Advocate. 40 E. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve 41 as the Director of Student Government Relations. 42 F. The SA must grant an ex-officio position to any member elected by the Student Assembly 43 44 Office of Ethics to serve as the Chairperson.

45 **ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS**

46 Section 2: Executive Session

- 47 With the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members in attendance, the SA or any of its
- 48 committees may go into executive session during a regularly scheduled meeting only to discuss
- 49 confidential matters as defined by this Charter. No policy determinations will be made in executive
- 50 session. The Student Assembly may also hold executive sessions for internal elections and planning
- 51 purposes. Executive session shall be closed to non-voting, non-executive members of the assembly
- 52 except the Chairperson of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics and all present members of the
- 53 Student Assembly Office of Ethics. Community members may be invited by the assembly to
- 54 participate in an executive session. Secret ballot votes shall be reserved for executive sessions.

55 **ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES**

56 Section 5: EXTERNAL COMMITTEES



57	C.	Sti	dent Assembly Office	of Ethics	
58		a.	Name		
59			i. The name of th	e office shall be the Student Assembly Office of Ethics.	
60		b.	Mission:		
61			i. The mission of	the Student Assembly Office of Ethics shall be to pursue any	
62			necessary ethics	concerns of SA members and directly elected undergraduate	
63			representatives	to the UA.	
64			ii. The Student As	sembly Office of Ethics will investigate perceived ethical	
65			violations and d	raft reports to the SA for guidance and potential repercussions.	
66			iii. The Student As	sembly Office of Ethics will be available for consulting and	
67			support on SA	ethical issues for both SA members and the student body.	
68		c.	Affiliation		
69			i. The Office will	review all concerns submitted by the student body that involve	
70			any SA member	rs, SA committees, SA elections, or directly elected undergraduate	
71			representatives	of the UA.	
72			ii. The Student As	sembly Office of Ethics shall be affiliated as an external executive	
73			office of the Co	rnell Student Assembly.	
74			iii. The Student As	sembly Office of Ethics shall work jointly with the Elections	
75			Committee to r	eview any potential election violations or concerns.	
76		d.	Roles and Responsibilit	ies	
77			÷	consist of five members of the Student Assembly Office of	
78			Ethics.		
79			-	the Student Assembly Office of Ethics:	
80				hairperson will chair all Student Assembly Office of Ethics	
81			meetin	0	
82				hairperson shall only vote in the event of a tie.	
83				hairperson shall have a term limit of one academic year.	
84				hairperson shall correspond directly with the Student Assembly	
85				tters of ethics and ethical decorum in its meetings and all	
86			-	edings.	
87			,	In the event of absence, the Chairperson may select any member	
88				of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics to temporarily fulfill	
89				their obligations as an ex-officio member of the Executive	
90				Committee of the SA.	
91				ed ethical violations submitted to the Office via:	
92			1. Qualt		
93			2. Email	,	



94	3. Personal contact with a committee member of the Student Assembly
95	Office of Ethics.
96	iv. Open investigations on perceived ethical violations
97	1. The Student Assembly Office of Ethics can open its own investigation
98	on an ethical matter by a simple majority vote.
99	v. Voting Members of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics:
100 101	 The Student Assembly Office of Ethics shall consist of seven voting members.
102	2. All voting members shall serve for the duration of one academic year
103	unless their term is renewed by the Chairperson of the Student
104	Assembly Office of Ethics
105	3. Student Assembly Office of Ethics members, if found in violation of
106	the Code of Ethics or any other reasonable basis as determined by the
107	Office, can be removed before their term expires by a unanimous vote
108	of the voting membership of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics.
109	a) The subject of the removal vote must abstain from voting.
110	4. All voting members shall be non-Student Assembly and non-
111	University Assembly members of the Cornell undergraduate student
112	population.
113	5. Voting members may not seek SA office through their term of service
114	in the Student Assembly Office of Ethics.
115	vi. Update the Student Assembly of its proceedings and its mission on a semesterly
116	basis at a hearing conducted during one of the first three general assembly
117	meetings of the academic year. This will be formally referred to as the "Student
118	Assembly Office of Ethics' semesterly report."
119	vii. The Student Assembly Office of Ethics will be commissioned with interpreting
120	and applying the guidelines set forth in the SA Code of Ethics.
121	1. The Student Assembly Office of Ethics, alone, will be tasked with the
122	ability to revise the Code of Ethics.
123	2. The Student Assembly Office of Ethics will report revisions of the
124	Code of Ethics to the Student Assembly at the subsequent meeting.
125	e. Recruitment of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics Members
126	i. Any vacancies in the 7 seats of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics shall be
127	appointed individually by any SA member and confirmed by a two-thirds $(2/3)$
128	vote of the entire voting membership of the Student Assembly.
129	1. Except for nominations following a failed community vote, all
130	nominations for the Student Assembly Office of Ethics must be



131			unanimously approved by the membership of the Student Assembly
132			Office of Ethics prior to the SA nomination hearing.
133			2. A week-long period in between nominations and appointments shall be
134			dedicated to giving SA voting members the opportunity to speak one-
135			on-one with each nominee.
136		ii.	At the beginning of each academic year, the voting membership of the Student
137			Assembly Office of Ethics must select the Chairperson of the Student Assembly
138			Office of Ethics internally by a simple majority vote of the entire voting
139			membership of the Office. The Chairperson-elect shall be confirmed by a 2/3rds
140			majority vote of the Student Assembly voting membership.
141		 111.	The Chairperson of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics shall decide upon the
142			retention of the voting membership of the incoming Office before the
143			conclusion of each academic year.
144	f.	Vote of	No Confidence
145		i.	The Student Assembly will assess the work of the Student Assembly Office of
146			Ethics during the previous academic year and must conduct a vote of no
147			confidence on an annual basis during or following any of the first three general
148			assembly meetings of each semester.
149			1. Following the Student Assembly Office of Ethics' semesterly report, as
150			defined in Article VI, Section 5, Subsection C, Clause D, Paragraph VI, the
151			SA may commence a Vote of No Confidence by 2/3 majority vote on the
152			grounds that the Office has failed to uphold and execute its mission, as
153			defined in Article VI, Section 5, Subsection C, Clause B.
154			a) The Chairperson of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics and all
155			present members of the Office may directly address the concerns
156			brought against the Office prior to the vote of the SA to commence a
157			Vote of No Confidence.
158			2. If the motion to commence a Vote of No Confidence fails, the Student
159			Assembly Office of Ethics will continue to operate.
160			3. In the event of a sustained Vote of No Confidence, a community vote
161			shall be taken in order to remove all Student Assembly Office of Ethics
162			members. 15% of the undergraduate population must vote in favor of
163			removal of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics membership for the
164			vote to be sustained.
165		ii.	In the event of a failed community vote, all Student Assembly Office of Ethics
166			members shall continue to serve.
167	g.	Student	Assembly Office of Ethics Bylaws



168	i.	All bylaw proposals to Article VI, Section 5, Subsection C, must be approved by			
169		the Student Assembly Office of Ethics by a two-thirds (2/3) majority before			
170		coming to the SA.			
171	ii.	Changes to the Student Assembly Office of Ethics bylaws may only occur during			
172		the first three SA meetings of each semester.			
173					
174	Respectfully Submitted,				
175	Michelle Song '25				
176	Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion & Representative at-Large, Student Assembly				
177	Pedro Da Silveira	'25			

178 Vice President of Internal Operations & College of Engineering Representative, Student Assembly