

# **Cornell University Student Assembly**

Agenda of the Thursday, October 10th, 2019 Meeting 4:45-6:30pm in the Memorial Room of Willard Straight Hall

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call
- II. Announcements
  - a. 4:45pm: Special Projects Funding for Big Red Thon
- III. Approval of the Minutes
  - a. October 3, 2019
- IV. Swearing in New Members
  - a. Reading of the Oath of Office for new members
- V. Open Microphone
- VI. Byline Reports
  - a. Haven
  - b. ALANA
  - c. CIC (Cornell Interfaith Council)
- VII. Business of the Day
  - a. Resolution 8: Improving Representation for MGFC on the Student Assembly

# VIII. Adjournment



# **Cornell University Student Assembly**

Minutes of the Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 Meeting, 4:46-5:48 pm in Memorial Room, Willard Straight Hall

#### I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. J. Anderson called the meeting to order at 4:46 pm.
- b. Roll Call:
  - Present: M. Adeghe, J. Anderson, C. Benedict, U. Chukwukere, J. Clancy, O. Egharevba, J. Feit, M. Haddad, C. Huang, J. Kroll, Y. Li, G. Martin, N. Matolka, I. Pavlov, L. Smith, P. Solovyeva, N. Watson, B. Weintraub, J. Youngblood
  - ii. Absent: K. Wondimu (unexcused), V. Xu (excused)

#### II. Presentations I

- a. Campus Groups & Organization Finance
  - i. A presenter introduced herself and fellow presenters Terri Boslett and Jonathan Hart, and began their presentation.
  - ii. A community member asked whether the new space referenced in the presentation would be a space where students can come and ask questions about funding and the like.
  - iii. T. Boslett replied in the affirmative.
  - iv. The community member said that the Resource Center is already doing that, and that the existence of this space might therefore be redundant.
  - v. A presenter said that the goal of the Resource Center, to her understanding, is for asking questions of peers, particularly those lower-level questions that students can answer, and for directing questions down to the fourth-floor center.
  - vi. J. Hart continued with the presentation.
  - vii. C. Benedict thanked the presenters, and said that this system is definitely an improvement compared to Orgsync. He asked how they were planning on trying to bring the R25 room scheduler into the system as well.
  - viii. T. Boslett said that they were just thinking of what other resources would be good to have in that space, not necessarily on a permanent basis.
  - ix. C. Benedict asked if there had been any thoughts about how to consolidate the Event Registration Form into Campus Groups as well, and said that that would help.
  - x. J. Anderson said that 25Live was supposed to launch in the fall and be integrated with the ERF, but that process is currently delayed with the hopes of it being launched in February. He added that it wouldn't be integrated with Campus Groups, but it would be integrated with the ERF.
  - xi. P. Solovyeva thanked the presenters, and said that she was excited about

their plan for the Resource Center, and that having a centralized place for that information is great.

## III. Approval of the Minutes

- a. September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019
  - i. B. Weintraub moved to approve the minutes approved.

### IV. Byline Reports

- a. Club Insurance
  - i. M. Adeghe said that Club Insurance insures clubs on campus, and that they are required to give them \$5.10 due to the requirements of the programs. She added that they do good things for students when students do bad things.
  - ii. J. Anderson said that this process is the recommendations of AppsCom, and that the assembly will be voting to approve or overturn their decision. He added that overturning a decision takes a 2/3rds majority.
  - iii. Motion to approve Club Insurance's byline funding approved 20-0-1.
- b. Gender Justice Advocacy Coalition (GJAC)
  - i. M. Adeghe said that GJAC requested \$4.80, and that they requested \$4.00 in the last byline cycle. She added that the committee didn't have many comments, and that they felt they deserved the money since they have used their past money resourcefully and efficiently. She also said that they do hope that the Big Red Shuttle can be funded as its own organization in the future, and that they believe that the \$4.80 will be put to good use.
  - ii. Motion to approve GJAC's byline funding approved 20-0-1.
- c. Alternative Spring Breaks (ASB)
  - i. M. Adeghe said that ASB requested to stay at the amount that they had received in the last byline cycle, and that they voted to keep them at this amount, which was \$2.00. She added that they followed the recommendations they were given in the last cycle and made the changes that they suggested that they should make, and that they are improving their outreach which had previously been a concern.
  - ii. B. Weintraub asked why the vote for ASB was 11-0-2, and if a person from the committee was out of the room at the time of the vote.
  - iii. M. Adeghe said that it was just a regular abstention, and no one was missing from the room at the time of the vote.
  - iv. Motion to approve ASB's byline funding approved 20-0-1.
- d. Community Partnership Funding Board (CPFB)
  - i. M. Adeghe said that CPFB was also at \$2.00 and requested to stay at that amount, and that they fund organizations that want to have an impact on the community, whether that be the Cornell community or the Ithaca community at large.
  - ii. Motion to approve CPFB's byline funding approved 20-0-1.

### V. Presentations II

- a. Appointment of Student Advocate
  - i. J. Anderson said that, as per last week's resolution, it is his responsibility to appoint someone to this position, and for the SA to approve it. He added that his nomination is Liel Sterling, and said that anyone who has questions for her is welcome to ask them.
  - ii. A community member asked if this is a confirmation hearing.
  - iii. L. Sterling replied in the affirmative.

- iv. J. Youngblood asked if L. Sterling is appointing the caseworkers.
- v. L. Sterling said that she would be doing so in collaboration with the SA.
- vi. J. Youngblood asked if L. Sterling had anyone in mind at this time.
- vii. L. Sterling replied in the negative, and said that she did not want to assume that she would be named to this position.
- viii. P. Solovyeva asked when L. Sterling would be starting in this position.
- ix. L. Sterling said that she would be doing so immediately.
- x. P. Solovyeva asked what L. Sterling's first initiative will be.
- xi. L. Sterling said that it will be creating training programs for the incoming caseworkers.
- xii. B. Weintraub asked J. Anderson if the SA will be funding this or if it is volunteer work.
- xiii. J. Anderson said that it is volunteer work, and that they will go through the special projects process if they need funding.
- xiv. I. Pavlov asked if they are planning on starting virtually and eventually moving into a physical space.
- xv. L. Sterling said that they will be starting in the SA office at first, and that they need to get through the training programs before they begin working with students.
- xvi. G. Martin asked how L. Sterling envisions the turnover from one Student Advocate to the next.
- xvii. L. Sterling said that they will choose a new one each year to be confirmed by the SA.
- xviii. G. Martin asked if the current staff would then train the new staff.
- xix. L. Sterling replied in the affirmative.
- xx. There was a motion to confirm L. Sterling to the position of Student Advocate confirmed 20-0-1.

#### VI. Open Microphone

a. No speakers at the open microphone.

#### VII. New Business

- a. Resolution 8: Improving Representation for MGFC on the Student Assembly
  - i. U. Chukwukere and Felix Blanco introduced themselves and presented the resolution.
  - ii. M. Adeghe said that in the copy of the resolution she has, she does not see any text in blue, and asked what the significance of the red text is and what is being added.
  - iii. U. Chukwukere said that he should have made it clearer, and that what is in red will be taken out, and everything else will remain.
  - iv. M. Adeghe asked whether or not there would be one alternating representative from IFC and Panhellenic, and another representative solely from MGFC.
  - v. U. Chukwukere replied in the affirmative.
  - vi. B. Weintraub said that this resolution makes a lot of sense to him, and that he knows that there has not been a lot of attendance from the Tri-Council representative, and that he does not know who was represented in those times. He asked if the MGFC appointee would attend meetings, and how many if so.
  - vii. U. Chukwukere said that ex-officio members are not required to show up to

- meetings, but that he is confident that they will show up to meetings on a regular basis. He added that this will give them an avenue to make their voice heard on the SA.
- viii. B. Weintraub said that he was wondering how processes like this work, and that twice in his time on the SA they have looked at adding ex-officio spots for different groups, and that he thinks that that is fantastic. He asked if there is a specific litmus test that they use to determine if a group should have an ex-officio spot, and that these would pass it in his opinion if so. He added that this conversation doesn't necessarily need to happen now, but that he can think of a time where a group would come to them asking for an ex-officio spot.
- ix. J. Anderson said that there is no litmus test, and that every time an organization has come to the SA with such a request, it has been reasonable. He added that he was quoted in the Sun as having said that Cornell Consulting Club isn't coming to the SA and asking for a seat, and that the organizations that are coming are those thinking that the SA isn't doing enough to represent them or that these seats would benefit the Cornell community with regard to impact or numbers. He also said that the SA does sometimes fail in representing every student on this campus.
- x. G. Martin said that these spots are created for students either misrepresented or underrepresented, including the positions that they have made and are making, and that they also need to look at what representation means since it can mean different things, such as letting these organizations have the microphone and speak. He added that having access available does matter.
- xi. J. Youngblood asked whether or not MGFC is still part of Tri-Council.
- xii. F. Blanco said that Tri-Council is more of a cohort, in that it is not an official group on campus, but that they all function under the same office. He added that Tri-Council is still there, but that they want to stop doing the things for the office that the energy and time for can be put into the communities that they serve.
- xiii. T. Reuning asked if the intent would therefore be to have a different representative every semester. He said that he knows that there are issues with numbers in MGFC, and asked how practical it is to switch every semester.
- xiv. F. Blanco said that he included that just in case a representative can't hold the position for a full year, and that MGFC does good work getting representatives from each chapter, and that if they can do that, they can do this.
- xv. I. Pavlov said that this resolution is great and that it is clear that the representation needs to be filled, and asked who will be choosing who fills the spot.
- xvi. F. Blanco said that he thinks that it will be voted on as a council, and that this would be facilitated by MGFC's e-board.
- xvii. J. Anderson said that this resolution is a bylaw amendment, and that it must therefore be tabled until next week.
- xviii. Motion to table Resolution 8 tabled 20-0-1.
- xix. J. Anderson said that the assembly would now recess until 5:45, since the next resolution involves the BOSS special project request, and the

representatives from BOSS were told to arrive at 5:45 pm.

- b. Resolution 9: Approving Special Projects Request for Building Ourselves through Sisterhood and Service (BOSS)
  - i. The meeting reconvened at 5:44 pm.
  - ii. Gloria Oladipo introduced herself and explained the project for which they are asking for funding.
  - iii. M. Adeghe said that this resolution exists because any special project request for a total of over \$1500 must be passed as a resolution.
  - iv. J. Anderson asked if M. Adeghe would like to outline what the money will be funding.
  - v. M. Adeghe said that it would cover costs for food, plasticware, and the honorarium.
  - vi. J. Clancy said that the resolution said that it was voted on by AppsCom, and asked why this was the case.
  - vii. M. Adeghe said that that was a typo, and that AppsCom would usually do special projects requests, but that such duties have been accepted by Exec due to this being a byline semester.
  - viii. O. Egharevba asked if that mistake could be amended.
  - ix. J. Anderson said that it will be corrected.
  - x. Motion to vote on Resolution 9 approved 20-0-1.

#### VIII. Executive Session

a. J. Anderson moved the meeting to executive session at 5:48 pm.

### IX. Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted, John Hannan Clerk of the Assembly



Organization	Haven: The LGBT Student Union
2018 – 2020 Allocation	\$3.80
2020 – 2022 Request	\$4.20
Appropriations Committee Recommendation	\$4.20

## Rationale of the Committee

The Committee voted to fund Haven at \$4.20 for the 2020-2022 Byline Funding Cycle. The Committee wants to thank Haven for the work that they do to try and make Cornell an inclusive space for students of all sexual orientations and identities. The Committee looks forward to seeing the programing and cosponsorships that Haven will be able to do with the increase in funding.

Overall, The Committee is very pleased with Haven and we look forward to working with them in the future.

# Vote Totals

The committee votes down from the highest amount proposed to the lowest, to give the group the advantage. The vote totals from the Committee were as follows:

Amount	Vote
\$4.20	11-0-1

### Respectfully Submitted,

## **Moriah Adeghe**

Vice President for Finance, Cornell Student Assembly



Organization	ALANA
2018 – 2020 Allocation	\$8.05
2020 – 2022 Request	\$15.00
Appropriations Committee Recommendation	\$15.00

## Rationale of the Committee

The Committee voted to fund ALANA at \$15.00 for the 2020-2022 Byline Funding Cycle. The Committee wants to thank ALANA for the work that they do to help minority students on campus. Overall, The Committee supports the goals ALANA has to use their increase in funding to expand their co-sponsorships and programming for member organizations. In the future, The Committee would like to see a better formatted application from ALANA, with the budget displayed more clearly and in a way that committee members can understand.

In closing, we look forward to working with ALANA in the future.

# Vote Totals

The committee votes down from the highest amount proposed to the lowest, to give the group the advantage. The vote totals from the Committee were as follows:

Amount	Vote
\$15.00	10-0-1

### Respectfully Submitted,

### Moriah Adeghe

Vice President for Finance, Cornell Student Assembly



Organization	Cornell Interfaith Council
2018 – 2020 Allocation	-
2020 – 2022 Request	\$3.75
Appropriations Committee Recommendation	\$3.75

# Rationale of the Committee

The Committee voted to fund the Cornell Interfaith Council at \$3.75 for the 2020-2022 Byline Funding Cycle. When discussing whether or not a new organization should be byline funded, one of the main points is whether or not they benefit the student body as a whole. The Committee was impressed by the presentation Interfaith Council gave and the explanations they provided about how The Council benefits a wide range of students on campus. They do this by holding events that are open to the community, promoting diversity of thought and fostering a sense of community for the 5,000+ students on campus who identify as a member of an organizations under The Council. In the future, The Committee would like to see a stronger and more fleshed out description on how they determine the allocation of funding for each of their member organizations.

Overall, The Committee looks forward to working more with Interfaith Council and supports the work that Interfaith Council already does and plans to do in the future with the money allocated to them by The Committee.

# Vote Totals

The committee votes down from the highest amount proposed to the lowest, to give the group the advantage. The vote totals from the Committee were as follows:

Amount	Vote
3.75	10-0-1

## Respectfully Submitted,

## Moriah Adeghe

Vice President for Finance, Cornell Student Assembly



Originally Presented on:	10/3/2019
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #8 1 Improving Representation for MGFC on the Student Assembly 2 3 4 ABSTRACT: The purpose of this resolution is to amend the Student Assembly bylaws to ensure 5 that more marginalized communities are fairly and accurately represented. 6 7 Sponsored by: Uche Chukwukere '21, Felix Blanco '20 8 9 Whereas, accurate and fair representation on the Cornell Student Assembly should be the highest 10 priority at all times 11 12 Whereas, marginalized communities should have utmost priority and assurance that they will be 13 fairly and accurately represented on a governing body such as the Cornell Student Assembly 14 15 Whereas, the Multicultural Greek and Fraternal Council should have their own designated ex-16 officio member, who will be redesignated every semester and serve in tandem with the other 17 designated representative, who shall represent both the Panhellenic Council and 18 Interfraternity Council. 19 20 Whereas, the October 23rd, 2018 MGFC Memorandum clearly outlines their reasoning for splitting 21 from their OSFL (IFC and PHC) counterparts due to an affirmation in their values and need 22 for greater overall visibility due to their significantly smaller size as a council, narrowed focus 23 on the communities that their organizations represent, adherence to their founders' vision of 24 deviating from the status quo and from societal perceptions of "Greek Life/Sororities and 25 Fraternities", and the need to foster greater unity within the Multicultural Greek and 26 Fraternal Council. 27 28 Be it further resolved, these changes in the bylaws will be a continuing step to ensure visibility and 29 representation for marginalized communities 30 31 Be it finally resolved, the following phrasing be included in the by-laws on lines 16-22 of the 32 Cornell University Student Assembly Bylaws. 33 34 **A.** The SA shall grant two ex-officio membership positions to the three recognized Greek Councils 35 at Cornell. One ex-officio member shall be chosen by the Multicultural Greek and Fraternal 36 Council and one member shall be chosen in tandem by the Panhellenic and Interfraternity 37 Council the Greek Tri-Councils an ex-officio position as an organizational liaison. The 38 liaison chosen by the Tri-Councils Panhellenic and Interfraternity Council shall be selected 39 on a rotating basis from the two councils, beginning with a representative from the 40 Panhellenic Council, following with the Interfraternity Association Council, and finishing 41 with Multicultural Greek and Fraternal Council. The liaison for the Multicultural Greek and 42 Fraternal Council shall serve for one semester and a new liaison will be chosen every 43 semester, and the liaison from the next council Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity

Council in the rotation will be granted membership at the beginning of every semester.

44



45	
46	Respectfully Submitted,
47	
48	Uche Chukwukere '21
49	Undesignated Representative At-Large, Student Assembly
50	
51	Felix Blanco '20
52	President, Multicultural Greek and Fraternal Council
53	
54	(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 6-0-0, 10/01/2019)
55	