



Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly Minutes of the February 23, 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 4:49pm

- II. Roll Call**
 - a. *Members Present [21]: M. Baker, S. Bhardwaj, D. Cady, R. Chatterji, E. D'Angelo, P. Da Silveira, K. Everett, J. Kalinski, P. Kuehl, K. Liu, L. Lu, B. Mehretu, C. Newell, A. Richmond, N. Son, Y. Yuan, V. Valencia, A. Lewis, M. Song, C. Ting, S. Ali*
 - b. *Members Excused: R. DeLorenzo, G. Dong, B. Kotb, J. Mayen, D. Nachman, J.P. Swenson, A. Lampert, S. Williams*

- III. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohó:nq̓ (Cayuga Nation)**
 - a. President V. Valencia stated the land acknowledgment

- IV. Late Additions to the Agenda**
 - a. D. Cady motions to add Appointment to the Campus Planning Community under New Business, passed by unanimous consent

- V. Consent Agenda**
 - a. Approval of the February 16, 2023 meeting minutes
 - i. S. Bhardwaj motions to approve the meeting minutes, passed by unanimous consent

- VI. Open Microphone**
 - a. None

- VII. Announcements and Reports**
 - a. P. Da Silveira announces that the International Students Affairs Committee is starting an initiative about financial aid for international students because Cornell is the only Ivy that is “need aware “
 - i. B. Mehretu asks for elaboration
 - ii. P. Da Silveira states that Cornell is “need aware” for financial aid
 - iii. B. Mehretu states international students receive grants rather than financial aid



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- iv. C. Taylor states it's about how admissions takes into account their financial status and ability to pay
- v. B. Kotb agrees that it's for admissions
- b. P. Da Silveira announces the SAIFC will be getting updates on the Ithaca bikeshare project and what's been happening
- c. M. Song announces herself and S. Ali are continuing a resolution that was presented by M. Baker about establishing an interfaith at-large representative on the SA if anyone wants to assist

VIII. Initiatives

- a. None

IX. Presentation and Forums

- a. Kate Supron from Cornell Community Relations gives a presentation
 - i. K. Supron goes over what the Office of Community Relations does and the partnerships they have
 - ii. States they gather data to determine the role that Cornell plays in the local economy each fiscal year
 - iii. Goes over the different ways that Cornell is contributing to the local economy, including student spending and visitor spending
 - iv. States that the numbers have gone back up after seeing almost a 99.5% decrease in some areas due to the pandemic
 - v. States Cornell is the second highest tax payer in Tompkins County, they do pay taxes, just not on educational facilities
 - vi. S. Bhardwaj states she saw that Cornell might not be able to support the 8% raise in tcats costs for next year, so service is being cut
 - vii. K. Supron responds that Cornell supported a 5% increase in the budget for tcats, instead of 8%, because they determined that 5% would cover what they needed
 - viii. Continues the decrease in tcats schedule is not lack of funds. It's lack of drivers and mechanics
 - ix. Gary Stewart from Cornell Community Relations states they value student input on bus service and operations and please feel free to stop by anytime
 - x. K. Everett asks how student spending is calculated
 - xi. K. Supron responds they take the number of students who live on campus and off campus and then use a multiplier to find average food and housing costs



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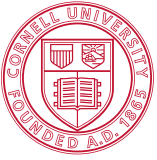
- xii. Goes over who else Cornell's economic snapshot is presented to, both at Cornell and outside of Cornell
- xiii. C. Newell asks to hear more about outreach
- xiv. K. Supron responds there are 5 full time employees in the Office of Community Relations who sit on a variety of boards in the community. They also have working groups that span different Cornell and community groups and a local leader's group of the top elected officials that meets quarterly to share anything going on in their community that's relevant to Cornell
- xv. G. Stewart states that also have a Local Leaders of Color group that is co-chaired by Cornell's president and a local leader of color in town and they meet on a quarterly basis or as needed
- xvi. Continues that they also have a radio show where they talk to local community members about their work and a column in Tompkins Weekly
- xvii. P. Kuehl asks what we can do to engage students in the community
- xviii. K. Supron responds that there are a lot of great opportunities and one is the Collegetown Neighborhood Council that comes together four times a year and they'd love to have greater student participation
- xix. Continues that the Einhorn Center also focuses on community engagement
- xx. M. Song asks if they have any sway in the re-negotiation of the MOU?
- xxi. K. Supron responds that Cornell does have a voluntary MOU with the city of Ithaca of about 1.6 million dollars a year, but the re-negotiation will be done by the Division of University Relations

X. Business of the Day

- a. None

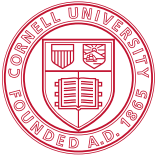
XI. New Business

- a. P. Da Silveira presents Resolution 24
 - i. P. Da Silveira summarizes the Resolution and states the objective is to clarify a long-standing confusion in the bylaws
 - ii. S. Bhardwaj asks if it should say Vice President of Internal Operations?
 - iii. P. Da Silveira states if this is approved he would resign and let someone have the ability to run for the position and run for the chair, but these are different positions entirely
 - iv. S. Bhardwaj states instead of being an entirely separate position you could amend the bylaws so that it becomes a part of the Internal Operations responsibilities



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- v. P. Da Silveira states he ran to be the chair of SAIFC, but VP of Internal Operations is an administration position and VP of Infrastructure is similar to Communications Chair, which is VP of external Affairs and that is similar to the VP of Finance, which runs Appropriations Committee, so they're very different things
 - vi. V. Valencia states last year an entirely separate person was the SAIFC chair and it wasn't until halfway through the year that they were added to exec as VP of Infrastructure. Some years the person is on exec and some years they aren't, but according to the bylaws they always should be so this is to clear that up
 - vii. N. Sharma asks for clarification on whose been overseeing the Financial Aid Review Committee and the System Infrastructure?
 - viii. P. Da Silveira responds he'll add an amendment to clarify that
 - ix. M. Baker states she doesn't think we're currently supposed to have a Vice President of Infrastructure and in 2018 a resolution to create one failed and the remaining language in the bylaws is actually a typo, but if we wanted to create that position that's fine
 - x. P. Da Silveira asks if it was the VP of Infrastructure line that was a typo?
 - xi. M. Baker states it was a typo that was supposed to be deleted because the Resolution was rejected
 - xii. P. Da Silveira states he'll revise and introduce the Resolution next week to create the position of the VP of Infrastructure
 - xiii. V. Valencia clarifies some years there's a VP of Infrastructure and some years there isn't, so the point of the Resolution is to finally clarify this
 - xiv. S. Bhardwaj asks if there was a reason why the Resolution didn't pass in 2018?
 - xv. M. Baker states she'll look at the notes
 - xvi. N. Sharma asks if he thinks this is a big enough time commitment to be its own position or would it be easier to cross out the typo?
 - xvii. P. Da Silveira states it is an insane amount of work and the VP of Finance wouldn't have the time to do this as well, so it should be a separate position
 - xviii. D. Cady motions to postpone to next week, passed by unanimous consent
 - xix. Resolution 24 is postponed to next week unanimously
- b. S. Bhardwaj motions to move into executive session with N. Sharma and C. Taylor, passed by unanimous consent
 - i. A. Richmond is appointed to the Campus Planning Committee



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XII. Adjournment

- a. S. Bhardwaj motions to adjourn, passed by unanimous consent
 - i. The meeting was adjourned at 5:51pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Megan Birmingham
Clerk of the Assembly