

# Cornell University Student Assembly

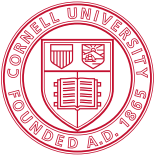
## Cornell University's Student Assembly

Minutes of the October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Meeting

4:45 pm – 6:30 pm

Memorial Room Willard Straight Hall | Zoom

- I. Call to Order
  - a. P. Kuehl called the meeting to order at 4:46pm.
    1. *Members Present (25)*: A. Akpan, M. Bakri, A. Barry, F. Berry, S. Chan, R. DeLorenzo, Z. deRham, D. Diao, K. Everett, A. Helkowski, N. Hite, K. Jordan, C. Kim, C. Lederman, F. Meng, Y. Moitra, E. Ononye, S. Parikh, I. Rezaka, D. Suarez, B. Terhaar, C. Ting, A. Vinson, A. Wang, P. Kuehl
    2. *Members Absent (6)*: D. Akkiraju, L. Balestrieri, L. Barrett, C. Flournoy, C. Platkin, S. Son
    3. *Also Present (7)*: A. Bangura, A. Coleman, N. Courtney, E. Kalweit, N. Maggard, J. Wallen, J. Zhang
- II. Reading of the Land Acknowledgement
  - a. P. Kuehl stated the SA's acknowledgment of the Cayuga Nation.
- III. Open Microphone
  - a. Community members shared concerns and dangers on doxing and stated support on the resolution to protect against doxing.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes
  - a. Approval of the October 19, 2023 meeting minutes
    1. J. Swenson motioned to approve the minutes. The motion **passed** through unanimous consent.
- V. Consent Calendar
  - a. There were no items.
- VI. Announcements
  - a. Vice President of External Affairs
    1. S. Parikh stated that the Student Assembly Instagram account was finally launched.
    2. J. Swenson questioned if there would be any posting cadences or standards of engagement for the Twitter account.



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3. S. Parikh noted that posts would be upcoming, but that methods to increase engagement were currently being discussed.
4. R. DeLorenzo noted the upcoming Appropriations committee meeting and agenda.

### VII. Reports of Officers, Committees, and Liaisons

#### a. Committee Reports

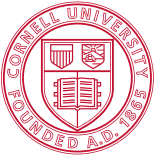
##### 1. Executive Board

1. C. Ting noted continual conversations with Assembly leadership on doxing that led to the new resolution against doxing.
2. R. DeLorenzo noted current organizations under review by the Appropriations Committee.
3. S. Parikh noted an upcoming meeting intending to increase SA engagement.
4. A. Barry noted the upcoming meeting for the DEI Committee.

#### b. Vice President of Finance

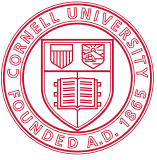
##### 1. Programming Council

1. R. DeLorenzo gave a report on the Programming Council.
2. F. Berry questioned where the increased funding for different organizations was coming from.
3. R. DeLorenzo stated that the Student Activity Fee would be calculated for the next year based upon the decided allocations, which would be calculated based upon general trends and accounting for inflation.
4. D. Diao asked for clarification on what the Senior Convocation Committee's jurisdiction is.
5. R. DeLorenzo clarified the distinctions between Convocation and Senior Days spending and noted some level of collaboration.
6. N. Courtney questioned if there would be the potential of too many increases in the Activity Fee in 8-10 years.
7. R. DeLorenzo noted circumstances unique to Cornell which make the Student Activity Fee continually increase such as the more distanced location of campus and the continual growth of new organizations and new programming which takes further funds.
8. R. DeLorenzo clarified details on organizational structures of student organizations.



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9. I. Rezaka stated concerns with the large increase in allocations across the board and implications for low-income students due to Student Activity Fee increases.
10. R. DeLorenzo acknowledged these concerns but noted that financial aid from Cornell covers the Fee, and further noted inflation as well as unique circumstances due to COVID-19 which reduced much spending. R. DeLorenzo stated that the current allocations match what should have been without the interference of COVID-19.
11. J. Swenson prompted clarifications on the Appropriations Committee's role in the Student Activity Fee.
12. R. DeLorenzo stated that once all student organizations have been reviewed, all allocations will be compiled into a report that will be presented to the Assembly before being presented to President Pollack.
13. P. Kuehl stated clarifications, noting full coverage of the Student Activity Fee for all those with financial aid and noted that should allocation increases not occur, ticket prices and fees would need to be raised by organizations.
14. K. Jordan asked for clarifications on how projections of \$7.10 were created.
15. R. DeLorenzo noted that numbers are based upon enrollment projections, though specific numbers can't be determined as they haven't occurred yet.
16. J. Wallen motioned to close debate. The motion **passed** through unanimous consent.
17. A representative from the Class Councils and Senior Days Committee stated hopes for an increase in allocation from \$16 to \$16.45, noting the large difference the small increase could have.
18. R. DeLorenzo clarified that 20% of the funding goes to Class Councils, while 80% goes towards Senior Days, and stated the small amount of Class Council budget cut from the reduced allocation. R. DeLorenzo stated belief the Class Council Committee can optimize funding to meet their allocation.
19. F. Berry questioned what the additional \$0.45 allocation would be utilized for.
20. The representative stated that the allocation would go towards the budgets for all the different Class Councils.



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21. R. DeLorenzo clarified that there are primarily 4 Class Councils funding would be split between.
22. A representative from Cornell Concert Commission stated the importance of an allocation increase and noted the stipulation requiring approval from the Student Assembly for fund transfers.
23. R. DeLorenzo stated that no organization is allowed to transfer funds to another byline account and noted intentions to increase Student Assembly engagement with byline organizations and their allocations.
24. I. Rezaka motioned to end debate. The motion **passed** through unanimous consent.
25. Representatives from Student Programming Council noted a specific stipulation where a vote from the Student Assembly is required for transfers of funds and stated concerns due to the hinderance of collaboration and the high volume of money the Council works with. The representatives highlighted the knowledge of the Council's members when it comes to programming.
26. R. DeLorenzo stated the importance of keeping Student Assembly informed due to the high volume of funds being utilized.
27. C. Ting questioned if there would be any undue or debilitating administrative burden should this stipulation continue, noting the activeness of the Student Assembly Executive Committee as well as the large amount of money being worked with.
28. A representative stated that for many organizations, the small amount of money able to be transferred before Student Assembly review is often not enough to smooth any problems and emphasized the importance of the Council's autonomy to continually function, but acknowledged the importance of transparency and questioned if a different form of oversight could be implemented.
29. R. DeLorenzo noted Special Projects funds that have a similar approval process.
30. A. Barry questioned the frequency and typical amount of transfers.
31. A representative noted that the Council is new so there isn't that much existing data, but that there are already examples of high need that have been identified.
32. R. DeLorenzo noted the recent approval of a Resolution to allow transfer of 30% of rollover funds. R. DeLorenzo stated that the



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stipulation exists not to punish, but just as a protective measure in case.

33. R. DeLorenzo stated the importance of the need for some level of jurisdiction if necessary.
34. P. Kuehl questioned why the approval of transfers would be such a large burden that could limit mobility.
35. A representative stated the importance of maintaining the autonomy of student organizations. A representative emphasized the experience and knowledge that Council members have to facilitate programming.
36. R. DeLorenzo stated the Student Assembly's role of allocating funds that gives them jurisdiction.
37. C. Ting noted the large amount of funding the Programming Council received and noted the common standard of maintaining oversight over allocations across different organizations.
38. I. Rezaka motioned to end debate. The motion **passed** through unanimous consent.
39. The motion **passed** through a vote of 12-4-8.

### VIII. Presentations

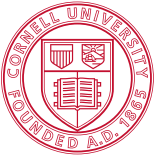
- a. There were no presentations.

### IX. Old Business Calendar

- a. Resolution 30: Removing Median Grades
  1. Item was moved to the next agenda.
- b. Resolution 32: Amending the Student Assembly Charter in Allyship with HAVEN
  1. Item was moved to the next agenda.

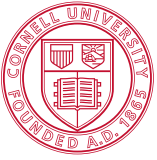
### X. Resolutions Calendar

- a. Resolution 33: Protecting Freedom of Expression
  1. A. Barry motioned to move Resolution 33 up the agenda. The motion **passed** through unanimous consent.
  2. A. Barry introduced the intention of the Resolution to protect students from doxing.
  3. M. Bakri stated the importance in the Assembly taking an active role in protecting and supporting students from doxing, particularly marginalized students that are especially targeted.



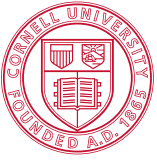
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4. K. Jordan motioned to amend the Resolution's grammar. The motion **passed** through unanimous consent.
5. Z. DaRham questioned how the Resolution would affect change given the difficulty of oversight over doxing.
6. A. Barry stated that the Resolution establishes a zero-tolerance policy for Cornell, especially given there have previously been no repercussions.
7. I. Rezaka noted hopes that the Student Code of Conduct would be updated to include doxing as a Student Code of Conduct violation with consequences.
8. N. Hite questioned if the Resolution could be reworded to address the entire student body rather than a specific group.
9. M. Bakri stated belief that the Resolution applies to the entire student body but acknowledges context to shed understanding.
10. C. Ting expressed support for the Resolution.
11. A. Barry stated the longstanding history of doxing at Cornell.
12. F. Meng questioned if specific practical steps could be outlined.
13. I. Rezaka stated that Cornell could publicize resources to support students.
14. M. Bakri noted future possible steps of offering legal support for doxed students.
15. A. Bangura questioned if there were any sponsors that would be willing to join the Resolution.
16. A. Barry noted CAPS or CUPD as possible sponsors.
17. I. Rezaka stated the need for repercussions on doxing.
18. N. Courtney stated that many resources such as CAPS are already provided and questioned what additional different resources the Resolution would provide.
19. M. Bakri emphasized that certain groups of students don't feel supported despite existing resources.
20. A. Barry noted the difficulty of accessing support such as mental health support for many students.
21. I. Rezaka noted that the current CUPD directive if a student says they have been doxed is unhelpful and feels as though it blames the victim.
22. A. Barry motioned to extend time by 10 minutes. The motion **passed** through unanimous consent.
23. N. Hite reiterated belief that the Resolution refrain from acknowledging a particular group and instead spread support for all students.



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24. J. Wallen noted that it feels as though particular groups of students are especially targeted, and thus context for why the Resolution was written should be preserved.
25. B. Terhaar questioned what discussions occurred during the meeting with OSCCS.
26. A. Barry clarified that there was no meeting.
27. S. Parikh stated agreement with N. Hite.
28. Z. deRham asked for clarifications on certain wordings such as the omission of Jewish people in marginalized groups. Z. deRham questioned how outreach and collaboration with outside organizations occurred.
29. A. Barry stated agreement to amend wording to include these groups. A. Barry outlined outreach done with leaders of different organizations across campus to facilitate discussions leading to the drafting of the Resolution.
30. Y. Moitra noted that recording can also stand as a method of personal safety and questioned how this could be bridged.
31. A. Barry distinguished recording in passing for safety versus the explicit method of doxing and noted the large difference.
32. K. Everett noted that doxing is not limited to photos or videos or certain platforms and applies to all personal information.
33. J. Wallen echoed K. Everett's statements and noted that doxing limits freedom of expression.
34. M. Bakri motioned to end debate. The motion **failed**.
35. C. Ting stated that the practice of the Resolution is inclusive to all groups and helpful for the entire student body.
36. A. Barry emphasized the limited freedom of expression many marginalized groups feel.
37. P. Kuehl questioned why OCCS was not contacted.
38. J. Wallen stated that there aren't any rules on doxing that yet exist from OCCS.
39. J. Wallen motioned to extend time by 10 minutes. The motion **passed** through unanimous consent.
40. A. Barry stated that the Resolution intends to define doxing as the spread of personal information on public platforms with malicious intent.
41. M. Bakri noted that there is certain information only privy to Cornell community members and thus should not be spread outside the community.
42. N. Courtney questioned the practicality of repercussions in the Student Code of Conduct due to the problem of frequent anonymity of doxers.



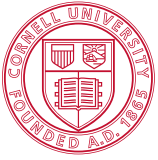
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43. I. Rezaka stated that sometimes doxers can be identified such as when people brazenly publicize information on identifiable social media accounts.
  44. D. Diao questioned the necessity of the inclusion on a section of the Resolution where the administration should make specific statements condemning doxing.
  45. J. Wallen stated the value of Cornell administration publicizing a statement supporting Freedom of Expression proactively.
  46. I. Rezaka stated that there is a current environment on campus where many feel scared to express their opinion.
  47. K. Everett noted that if the administration will not condemn and pursue doxing, they should not tout the advertisement of a year for “Freedom of Expression”.
  48. D. Diao motioned to divide the question and split the Resolution.
  49. I. Rezaka stated belief the amendment shouldn’t occur due to the intertwined nature of doxing and freedom of expression.
  50. C. Ting noted the large chilling effect doxing has had on freedom of expression across the Cornell community from students to professors.
  51. J. Wallen motioned to extend time. F. Berry dissented. The motion **passed**.
  52. A. Barry emphasized that the year of Freedom of Expression does not exist in a vacuum, and that for such a culture to pervade campus it must be upheld not just for this year, but for years to come.
  53. K. Everett motioned to end debate on the dividing question. The motion to divide the question **failed**.
  54. N. Hite motioned to end debate. The motion **passed**.
  55. K. Jordan motioned to table the Resolution. The motion **failed**.
  56. The motion to approve the Resolution **passed** through a vote of 14-3-0.
- b. Resolution 34
1. Item was moved to the next agenda.

### XI. Appointments and Vacancies Calendar

- a. Committee Appointment Confirmation
  1. Academic Policy
    1. Members of the Assembly were appointed to the Academic Policy Committee.
  2. Appropriations





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1. Members of the Assembly were appointed to the Appropriations Committee.

XII. Adjournment

- a. This meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Jenny Zhang*  
Clerk of the Assembly