



Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, October 3rd, 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:
 - i. 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 26th, 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 (CPFBoard)
 - i. M. Adeghe said that CPFBoard 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 CPFBoard'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