

Cornell University Student Assembly

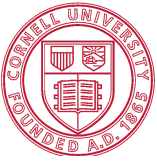
Cornell Student University Assembly

Minutes of the April 23rd, 2020 Meeting

4:45 PM – 5:30 PM

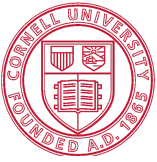
Held via Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. J. Anderson called the meeting to order at 4:45pm.
 - b. *Members Present:* M. Adeghe, S. Ali, J. Anderson, C. Benedict, U. Chukwukere, J. Clancy, J. Feit, C. Huang, G. Martin (late), N. Matolka, T. Reuning, L. Smith, S. Sun, V. Xu (late), N. Watson, Y. Yuan.
 - c. *Members Absent:* M. Baker, A. Cass, O. Egharevba, M. Haddad, J. Kroll, Y. Li, I. Pavlov, P. Solovyeva, B. Weintraub, K. Wondimu, S. Xu, J. Youngblood.
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. The Minutes from 2/6/20 were **approved 13-0-1**
 - b. The Minutes from 2/20/20 were **approved 14-0-1**
- III. Open Microphone
 - a. No comments from the floor.
- IV. Business of the Day (Note: Resolutions are not listed in order discussed)
 - a. A Motion was made to amend the Agenda.
 - i. J. Anderson would like the SA to reconsider SA R60 due to changes in COVID-19 circumstances.
 - ii. The amended resolution would be voted on via email.
 - iii. J. Feit – would it be taken into consideration who has or hasn't submitted test scores?
 1. J. Anderson -- Yes, the resolution will spell out what we want publicly provided.
 - iv. The Motion to reconsider was **approved 16-0-1**
 - b. A Motion was made to amend the Agenda to consider R65 before R62 due to the sponsors being present and those for R62 not present.
 - i. The Motion was **approved** via unanimous consent.
 - c. SA R63: Increasing the Grace Period on Cornell University Loans
 - i. Reviewed by Executive Committee (5-0-0, 4/21/20)
 - ii. ABSTRACT: This resolution recommends that Cornell University extend the grace period for Cornell University loans due to the COVID-19 crisis.
 - iii. D. Nyakaru – Inquired if these are the Shoemaker loans and J. Anderson confirmed.



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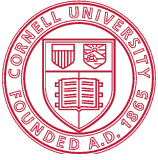
- iv. The Resolution was **approved 17-0-1.**
- d. SA R64: Amendments to the Class Councils and Senior Days Governing Documents
 - i. Reviewed by Appropriations Committee, 4/20/20.
 - ii. ABSTRACT: This resolution affirms changes that were made to the Class Councils and Senior Days Bylaws to merge the two into one organization.
 - iii. Would be called Class Councils but Senior Days would still be a part of this organization.
 - iv. M. Adeghe was concerned that allowing them to merge their funding immediately would set a precedent.
 - 1. S. Sun – In what ways could this precedent be abused?
 - 2. In the future, if there are organizations that are currently byline funded but will apply, there may be the potential for two separate organizations to receive byline funding then merge and combine their funding/budget.
 - 3. This comes up when organizations are similar in nature and end up with combined meetings and events – two organizations with separate budgets.
 - v. The Resolution was **approved 16-0-1.**
- e. SA R65: Office of the Student Advocate Observations and Recommendations on Community Life
 - i. Reviewed by Executive Committee (5-0-0, 4/21/20).
 - ii. ABSTRACT: This resolution is intended to put forth policy recommendations stemming from casework collected by the Office of the Student Advocate and in acknowledgement of existing policies at companion Universities to Cornell.
 - iii. Since the development and creation of the OSA, work and effort has grown. Three main points: adding a student voice; restorative justice; including diversity and inclusion training for disciplinary issues.
 - iv. There are examples of policies that have been successful at peer institutions.
 - v. J. Feit – inquired to clarify key changes.
 - vi. J. Clancy – asked how this would affect individuals in dorms.
 - 1. Restorative justice as part of disciplinary hearings.
 - vii. G. Martin – shout out to Liel and OSA for the work they have done this year.



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- viii. J. Feit – what is the threshold level in terms of what goes to the hearing review board? Seems like a significant gray area.
 - 1. University can't force anyone to come forth as a complainant.
- ix. The Resolution was **approved 17-0-1**
- f. SA R62: Establishment of the Students with Disabilities Representative At-Large
 - i. ABSTRACT: This resolution is intended to increase representation and accessibility to Cornell undergraduates with disabilities on the Cornell Student Assembly.
 - ii. Point of clarification – this is a charter change so cannot be voted on this meeting but wanted to get substantive discussion before next week
 - iii. Approximately 8% of the student body has a disability – having an elected position will allow for the students with disabilities to have a broad based and democratic voice within the student community as a whole.
 - iv. This would make the SA more equitable and allow for marginalized communities to have representation.
 - v. V. Xu – During a normal election cycle, would there be anything in place to assist candidates within the constituency?
 - 1. C. Gillis stated that there isn't anything they can add that a candidate running for this position hasn't already figured out or solved in 18 years of life before Cornell.
 - 2. An amicable discussion followed.
 - vi. Y. Yuan – since it is an At-Large position, will the resolution to have reduced a number of signatures apply to this position? Will this position be campaigned for in the fall or in the spring?
 - 1. Identity based at-large positions have a reduced number of signatures and this seat falls into that category; this seat would be in with the special elections in the fall along with freshmen and transfer seats.
 - vii. L. Sterling – thanked the sponsors for drafting and presenting this resolution and would like to state that the elections should be equitable for all.
 - viii. M. Adeghe – thanks as well for bringing this to the assembly.
 - ix. A Motion was made to table the Resolution – **approved 17-0-1**
- g. J. Anderson motioned to add a meeting on Thursday, 5/7 due to the extension of classes – the motion was **approved 16-1-1.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 PM.



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Student Assembly

Respectfully Submitted,
Wendy Treat & Matthew Ferraro
Office of the Assemblies