

Cornell University  
University Assembly

## Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, March 3, 2022 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:30 PM

IN PERSON | WILLARD STRAIGHT MEMORIAL ROOM

### I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. A. Ononye called the meeting to order at 4:48 PM (EST).
- b. Roll Call
  - i. *Members Present:* A. Juan, A. Lampert, N. Reddy, K. Santacruz, L. Smith, V. Valencia, A. Williams, A. Ononye, D. Hernandez, P. Gronemeyer, C. Tempelman, J. Kim, M. Baker, D. Ilango, J. Jiang, C. Leon, Y. Logan, L. Lu, B. Luckom, N. Overton, J. Bansah, D. Cady
  - ii. *Members Absent:* P. DaSilveira, D. Eisman, A. Gleiberman, M. Louis, J. Mullen, E. Yan, M. Song

### II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogoho:no (Cayuga Nation)

- a. President Ononye delivered the Land Acknowledgement.

### III. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. No late additions to the agenda were presented.

### IV. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Minutes
  1. L. Smith motioned to approve the minutes. Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

### V. Open Microphone

- a. There were no speakers present at open microphone.

### VI. Announcements and Reports

- a. No announcements and reports were presented.

### VII. Initiatives

- a. No initiatives were presented.

### VIII. Presentations and Forums

- a. No presentations and forums were presented.

### IX. Business of the Day

- a. Office of Ethics – Nominations by Michelle Song '25 & Joanne Kim '25
  - i. A. Williams motioned to move the nominations down the agenda following R45. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

### X. New Business

- a. L. Smith motioned to move Resolution 45 above Resolution 43 on the agenda. Motion passed by unanimous consent.
- b. Resolution 45: Amendments to Election Rules for Spring 2022 – Isaac Chasen



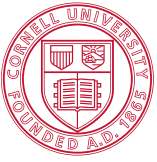
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- i. I. Chasen affirmed that the major changes to the election rules are due to the omission of the Judicial Codes Council (JCC).
- ii. Article 3 Section E(6) presents one of the major changes in the election rules: Challenge Review Meeting.
  1. The standards for disqualifying a candidate were changed from preponderance of evidence to beyond a reasonable doubt to make the action of challenging less frequent.
- iii. Article 3 Section E(8) on “Reconsideration” determines the Elections Committee to be the final arbiter in terms of challenges.
- iv. A. Lampert inquired on the timeline for the Spring 2022 elections
  1. I. Chasen informed the SA that on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the Elections Committee voted on the timeline for elections, and the timeline will be released on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
  2. April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 will be the voting days for the Spring 2022 elections.
- v. A. Juan motioned to amend Article 1 Section C(5) to add “a member of the office of ethics” and Article 1 Section C(2) from “Article 1, Section C(1)” to “Article 1 Section B(1)”. **Amendments** passed by a vote of 20 – 0 – 1 .
- vi. L. Smith asked for clarification on the Elections Committee’s role in challenges and appeals during the Spring 2021 elections term.
  1. I. Chasen replied that the challenges were submitted to the Director of Elections. The Challenge Hearing would take place and then the Elections committee would then take a vote. An appeal on the vote would then be taken to the JCC.
  2. L. Smith is marginally concerned about the Elections Committee handling the challenges and appeals. A. Ononye seconded L. Smith.
  3. D. Eisman proposed that a third party in the process would be beneficial to the process in terms of transparency.
  4. I. Chasen assured that reports are issued by the Director of Elections for every challenge following the voting and deliberation.
  5. A. Juan proposed including the Office of Ethics in the process of deliberation on challenges.
    - a. A. Ononye voiced concern on how the Office of Ethics is a new body, and the elections are an extensive process.
  6. A. Williams affirmed her support for R45 as it is.
- vii. C. Templeman motioned to vote on Resolution 45. Resolution **passed** by a vote of 20 – 0 – 1 .



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- c. J. Kim motioned to move the Nominations to the Office of Ethics up the agenda, preceding Resolution 43. Motion passed by unanimous consent.
- d. Office of Ethics – Nomination of Glenna Li by Joanne Kim '25
  - i. J. Kim introduced Glenna Li as her nominee to the Office of Ethics and discussed her extensive interest in human rights and labor justice.
  - ii. G. Li thanked the SA for having her and for providing this opportunity.
  - iii. G. Li talked about her current research on international labor conditions and employer contracts and past research involving hate crimes.
  - iv. Maral Asik, prior nominee to the Office of Ethics, spoke to the character and work ethic of G. Li.
  - v. L. Smith inquired on why G. Li would like to be a part of the Office of Ethics as opposed to the Student Assembly.
    - 1. G. Li assured that her nomination to the Office of Ethics is due to her interest in the Student Code of Conduct and holding representatives accountable as opposed to the functions of the SA.
  - vi. A. Williams motioned to table the nomination to the next SA meeting. Nomination was **tabled** by a vote of 21 – 0 – 1 .
- e. Office of Ethics – Nomination of Carlene Mwaura by Joanne Kim '25
  - i. Carlene, a current sophomore in ILR, expressed her interest in human rights. Carlene is a part of the People's Organizing Collective and works towards trying to breach the disparities on the Cornell campus.
  - ii. L. Smith inquired on why the nominee would like to be a part of the Office of Ethics as opposed to the Student Assembly.
    - 1. Carlene expressed her unfamiliarity with the procedures of the SA and believes that the Office of Ethics is a better fit for the current time. Carlene expressed her interest in the possibility of running for a position in the Student Assembly in the future.
  - iii. D. Cady asked what the nominee's ideals are for the Office of Ethics to be successful.
    - 1. Carlene expressed that a successful Office of Ethics would be focused on accountability.
  - iv. A. Williams motioned to table the nomination to the next SA meeting. Nomination was **tabled** by a vote of 20 – 0 – 1 .
- f. Resolution 43: Proposed Charter Amendment to the Process of Conducting Referenda
  - i. C. Templeman motioned to amend the title of the resolution from "42" to "43". Friendly **amendment** passed by unanimous consent.



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- ii. A. Juan inquired on lines 70 to 76 on if all the pro con statements will be published.
  - 1. A. Williams affirmed that all the statements will be published.
- iii. L. Smith proposed not implementing changes until the Fall 2022 cycle since the Spring 2022 elections are soon and implementation would be logistically difficult.
- iv. G. Giambattista spoke to the importance of making referenda easier to uphold the SA charters.
- v. D. Eisman motioned to amend lines 1 and 112 to include A. Williams as a cosigner of the resolution. Friendly amendment passed by unanimous consent.
- vi. D. Eisman motioned to amend lines 105 to 107 from “Spring 2022 or Fall 2022” to “the Fall 2022 elections cycle”. The amendment passed by a vote of 19 – 0 – 1 .
- vii. A. Lampert motioned to vote on R43. Resolution passed by a vote of 21 – 0 – 1.

### **XI. Adjournment**

- a. A. Ononye adjourned the meeting at 5:29 PM (EST).

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Jana Alzayer*  
Clerk of the Student Assembly