



Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Friday May 4, 2018 Meeting
5:00pm-6:00pm in 175 Warren Hall

*No formal agenda provided. The meeting was held to finalize the outstanding business of the 2017-2018 term.

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. J. Kim called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
- b. Roll Call:
 - i. *Present:* D. Barbaria, V. Devatha, J. Dominguez, O. Eghareva, D. Engelson, G. Kaufman, J. Kim, D. Nyakaru, G. Park, C. Schott, T. Cabbell, E. Shapiro, J. Sim, M. Valadez, Z. Schmetterer
 - ii. *Absent:* T. Ball, A. Chowdhury, O. Corn, R. Cornell, O. Din, H. Hassan, R. Herz, N. Hernandez, M. Indimine, S. Iruvanti, S. Lim, L. Lipschutz, M. Peralta-Ochoa, I. Wallace

II. Open Microphone

- a. Motion to skip open microphone – skipped with no dissent
- b. Motion to amend the agenda to include Resolution 50, 51, 52, 53, and 54 – amended

III. Business of the Day

- a. SA R51: Recommendation for Cornell University to Amend its GPA Scale
 - i. C. Schott said this resolution was to recommend Cornell to establish a 4.0 unit scale and to review the undergraduate grading policy. Certain majors have a large number of required classes and some students end up with a worse GPA. There are also inconsistencies with how professors assign grades, and a grade of “A+” is more frequent in certain classes.
 1. Institutions including Princeton and Rice have made the change to a 4.0 scale.
 - ii. SA member made a motion to call the question – dissent from G. Kaufman requesting a discussion
 - iii. SA did not have anything to discuss.
 - iv. J. Kim moved the SA to call the question – approved with a vote of 9-4-2.
 - v. SA R51 passes with a vote of 12-2-1.
- b. SA R52: Recommendation for Cornell University to Establish Testing Center for MCAT
 - i. T. Cabbell said this resolution requests Cornell to develop solutions for access problems to the MCAT. The test is no longer offered on college campuses. Students have to go to the nearest PEARSON testing center in

Syracuse. This does not allow Cornellians or those in Tompkins County and Cortland to take the MCAT at a nearby location. This is a request for Cornell to find and establish a testing site in the Ithaca area.

- ii. SA member made a motion to **call the question** – dissent from SA member requesting a discussion
 - iii. SA did not have anything to discuss.
 - iv. J. Kim moved the SA to **call the question** – approved with majority vote
 - v. SA R52 passes with a vote of **13-0-2**.
- c. SA R54: Approving Special Projects Request for International Students Union
- i. G. Kaufman read the resolution to the SA. The resolution looks to approve the \$1,800 of Special Projects funding for the International Students Union.
 - ii. The SA Appropriations Committee decided to grant ISU \$1,800 for shuttle bus, and the SA approves of this Special Projects disbursement.
 - iii. G. Kaufman to amend line 28 and have it read “Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee 4/30/2018” – amended with a vote of **13-0-2**.
 - iv. SA member made a motion to **call the question** – approved with no dissent
 - v. G. Kaufman made a motion to vote on RA54 – passes with a vote of **13-0-2**.
- d. SA R53: Expanding Bike Share on Campus
- i. A guest speaker gave an overview of the resolution. It calls for Cornell to assess and consider implementing a vendor operated dockless bike share service on campus. There is resistance to this from concerns of whether bikes will be parked correctly. Ithaca Carshare and the City of Ithaca are currently overseeing a dockless bike share system operated by Limebike.
 - ii. V. Devatha asked about the cost.
 1. The cost for Limebike is \$0.50/hour for students.
 - iii. The guest speaker said as part of its operating model, Limebike can monitor where the bikes are via GPS.
 - iv. Motion to **call the question** – approved with no dissent
 - v. J. Kim announced that community members can vote, and they are given two votes.
 - vi. SA R53 passed with a vote of **17-0-1**.
- e. SA R50: Approval of the Fall 2018 Elections Rules
- i. J. Kim announced a two minute break so SA can read the resolution.
 - ii. J. Kim called the meeting back to order.
 - iii. T. Cabbell said this resolution updates the SA Election Rules for clarity and consistency.
 - iv. SA member made a motion to amend line 302 in the SA Election Rules to add the letter “t” in front of “he” to read “the” – **amended** with unanimous consent
 - v. T. Cabbell said the beginning part of the election guidelines is mostly the same. The first point of clarification is in reference to part 5 of promotional materials. The first section is in reference to all promotion materials provided to candidates and the second section now is in reference to specifically printed promotional materials provided by the Office of Assemblies.
 - vi. SA member made a point of order. When going through amendments, SA members have to go through by line numbers.

IV. Quorum Lost

- a. Quorum for the SA meeting was lost at 5:45pm.
- b. The assembly continued to discuss amendments to the SA Election Rules, which were later voted on and approved by the assembly via email on May 7th.

Respectfully Submitted,
Catherine Tran
Clerk of the Assembly