



**Cornell University**  
**Student Assembly**

**Cornell University Student Assembly**

Minutes of the Thursday, September 1, 2022 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:30 PM

IN PERSON | WILLARD STRAIGHT MEMORIAL ROOM

**I. Call to Order & Roll Call**

- a. Members present [16]: S. Ali, D. Cady, K. Chan, E. D'Angelo, P. Da Silveira, D. Edelman, J. Kalinski, B. Kotb, A. Lampert, J. Lee, L. Lu, B. Luckow, J. Mayen, N. Son, M. Song, V. Valencia.
- b. Also Present: Carson Taylor, Margaret Johnson, Amisha Chowdhury, Maggie Peng

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

- a. President Valencia stated the Land Acknowledgement.

**III. Late Additions to the Agenda**

- a. A. Lampert motions to add voting on VP Finance to agenda, seconded, **passed 12-0-1**. This vote will require executive session and is placed at end of agenda.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of May 5th, 2022 Minutes.
- b. P. da Silveira moves to correct "Logan Smith" to "Lucas Smith", approved by unanimous consent.
- c. Minutes **approved** by unanimous consent.

**V. Open Microphone**

- a. No speakers

**VI. Announcements and Reports**

- a. V. Valencia reports that Pres. Pollack and VP Lombardi will visit the SA on October 6.
- b. D. Cady states that University Assembly (UA) has three standing committees-CJC, CCITE, and CWC. SA needs to send one affiliated and one unaffiliated undergraduate to each of these committees. the committees. D. Cady solicits interest from SA members and states that committees meet for 30-60 minutes twice a month
- c. C. V. Valeria states that UA committee staffing will be done at following Thursday meeting.

## **VII. Initiatives**

- a. A. Lampert states that she met with VP Lombardi and he asked to gauge student interest in privacy pods for use for Cornell Health appointments
- b. K. Chan states support for this initiative.

## **VIII. Presentations and Forums**

- a. Bikeshare Presentation by Margaret Johnson of Bike Walk Tompkins. Jeff Goodmark scheduled but unable to join due to technical difficulties.
- b. M. Johnson presents on Bike Walk Tompkins (BWT), organization dedicated to bicycling and walking education and advocacy.
- c. BWT is launching Biking for Everyone Plan to improve biking infrastructure in Tompkins County, as well as offering bike riding classes and bike sales.
- d. Bikeshare data shows August to October as peak usage time during the period when LimeBike was available.
- e. Bikeshare action Plan-long term goal for Bikeshare is to raise 650,000 dollars to implement a fleet of 250 e-bikes and related equipment for the rideshare program.
- f. M. Johnson states that rideshare pricing will be one dollar to unlock the bikes and 15 cents per minute, as well as incorporating an easy access program that allows lower income users to receive discount.
- g. Bikeshare provider will be Drop Mobility, there is a sample bike available for testing at the BWT office.
- h. BWT asks that Student Assembly become involved with campaign to bring Bikeshare to Cornell campus and assist with implementing a relationship similar to that of TCAT with the university.
- i. D. Cady asks if BWT will own or lease bikes, and if there is an infrastructural plan in place to replace and update bikes as needed. M. Johnson states that negotiations with provider are still open and it is to be determined if BWT will own the bikes.
- j. D. Cady requests that BWT Power Point be sent to P. da Silveira
- k. V. Valencia thanks M. Johnson and BWT.

## **VIII. Business of the Day**

### **IX. New Business**

- a. *Resolution 1: Amendment to Fall Election 2022*
  1. I. Chasen presents Resolution 1 and presents details of election calendar.
  2. I. Chasen states that candidates will have to choose between online or in-person petitioning; both options were made available for maximum accessibility compliance.
  3. I. Chasen states that Office of Elections will accept any questions from potential freshman and transfer candidates.

4. M. Song asks if candidates are still required to attend an SA meeting to qualify as a candidate. I. Chasen states that this is not in the election rules as currently written and he would support an amendment to that effect.
5. P. da Silveira states that candidates considering running for SA are likely to have a sense of the time commitment required of SA members.
6. D. Cady states that the amendment is not necessary today and can be discussed at a later date.
7. D. Cady motions to pass Resolution 1 and end debate.
8. V. Valeria asks for dissent, there is none, motion to vote approved.
9. Resolution 1 passes 11-0-1.

*b. Resolution 2: 2022-2023 Student Assembly Operating Budget*

1. A. Lampert and Maggie Peng (Executive Director of Office of Student Government Relations) present on 2022-23 budget.
2. M. Peng states that proposed budget for OSGR has increased to 5,000 dollars due to increased lobbying expenses associated with the federal and state government
3. A. Chowdhury (Office of the Student Advocate) presents on OSA budget and states that most of the OSA budget will be applied to Basic Needs workshops and programming.
4. D. Cady requests details of OSA budget. A. Chowdhury states that OSA was allocated 1,760 dollars for 2021-22 and are currently requesting 6,492 dollars for expanded Basic Needs workshops.
5. B. Kotb asks M. how OSGR can ensure that initiatives are executed. M. Peng states that OSGR has previously lacked funding and thus has not been able to executive initiatives in the past.
6. D. Cady states that OSA came with very clear budget and praises OSA initiatives. D. Cady states that he does not feel comfortable allocating the funds to Office of Student Government without the position of VP of Finance or the Finance Committee fully staffed. He states he is not opposed to earmarking the requested money until such time. D. Cady requests Appropriations Committee review detailed version of OSGR budget.
7. V. Valencia states that budget has to be passed at this meeting due to governing documents, and the budget can be amended at the current meeting.
8. M. Peng states that one specific use of the budget will be a touchpoint survey to gauge undergraduate interests, to aid with committee retention and raise student body engagement.

9. A. Lampert motions to end debate and go into voting, vote of 8-2-1 approves motion to end debate.
  10. Resolution 2 passes 8-1-2.
  11. D. Cady asks what margin is necessary to pass budget, V. Valencia states that it is a resolution so it needs a simple majority. Parliamentarian C. Taylor confirms that a simple majority is the threshold.
- c. Unanimous consent to move into executive session to elect Vice President for Finance.
1. A. Lampert nominates B. Luckow, B. Luckow declines
  2. B. Kotb nominated, accepts, B. Kotb elected
  3. K. Chan moves to end executive session, seconded, approved by unanimous consent.
- d. *Resolution 3: Office of Ethics Bylaw Amendment*
1. N. Sharma and Office of the Ethics staff present Resolution 3.
  2. N. Sharma presents changes and updates to bylaws and states that bylaws, code of ethics, and standing rules for Office of Ethics all need to be passed together as they cannot operate independently of each other.
  3. P. da Silveira states that the current Assembly has not had time to review Code of Ethics. N. Sharma states that there is a potential conflict of interest when an external committee is monitoring internal affairs.
  4. K. Chan states there are issues with the checks and balances-she sees no mechanism for the SA to have a check on the Office of Ethics in the proposed resolution. N. Sharma states that section 5f provides the SA with a vote of confidence at the start of every year to approve or disapprove current Ethics committee, that vote of confidence can be brought at any time.
  5. B. Kotb asks about mechanisms to address situation where a complaint is brought about a member of the Ethics Committee. N. Sharma states that there are mechanisms for recusal to avoid conflicts of interest.
  6. M. Song addresses lines 18-19; states that she is in favor of granting and codifying the Office of Ethics power to conduct external reviews of the SA.
  7. P. da Silveira concurs on need for checks and balances, proposes to examine bylaws, addresses line 40 and the discrepancy between “must” and “can” and questions if this removes SA’s autonomy. N.

Sharma states that ethics committee can change language back to “can” if this is requested by SA.

8. Motion to table Res. 3 due to concerns about time for debate and quorum. Motion seconded and passed by unanimous consent.
9. Sharma thanks SA and states Office of Ethics will return at future meeting.

**X. Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Erik Kalweit*  
Acting Clerk of the Student Assembly