



Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, October 27, 2016 Meeting

4:45pm-6:30pm in 120 Physical Sciences Building

I. Call to Order

- J. Berger called the meeting to order at 4:46pm
- *Present at the Roll Call:* J. Berger [0]; T. Celestin [0]; N. Chovanec [0]; D. Cox [0]; V. Devatha [0]; E. Dzodzomenyo [0]; R. Herz [1]; A. Iglesias [0]; M. Indimine [0]; M. Kasher [1]; L. Lipschultz [0]; D. Liu [0.25]; H. MacDiarmid [0]; T. Magloire [0]; J. Montejo [0]; R. Musto [0]; H. Reichel [0.5]; J. Selig [0]; M. Valadez [0]; A. Viswanathan [0]; Y. Wang [1]
- *Not Present at the Roll Call:* A. Issur (Excused) [0]; N. Jaisinghani (Unexcused) [1]; J. Kim (Unexcused) [1]; D. Li (Unexcused) [1]; M. McBride (Unexcused) [1]; W. Rong (Unexcused) [1]; E. Vargas (Unexcused) [1];

II. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

- The minutes from the October 20th, 2016 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

III. Open Microphone

IV. Announcements and Reports

- J. Berger stated four hundred dollars were allocated from Special Funds towards Mental Awareness Week.
- EVP Indimine stated he and Paul Russell would be chairing the Policy Research and Planning Committee.
- A. Issur discussed serving on the Academic Calendar Committee and how an open portal would soon be set up to take student advice.
- M. Kasher stated the Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund Commission's project applications were now open.
- T. Magloire stated the Financial Aid Review Committee had been working with the Students Helping Students Fund pertaining to outreach, so that more students recognize the possible funding for family emergencies. Additionally, he said the Haitian Student Association would be hosting a bake sale on Friday in the Ujamaa main lounge.
- H. Reichel announced "X" the tenth bi-annual design showcase put on by the group Thumbnail, in collaboration with the Journal of Architecture's 10th publication. The event would be held on October 31st at 6:30 in Milstein Hall, and express diverse opinions on the interpretation of "X". Submissions were closed, but the sponsors were hoping to bring together students to appreciate collaboration across Cornell.

V. Initiatives

- RSC Rep. H. Grace presented an overview of the Residential Student Congress. She said the organization worked on on-campus programming, advocacy, and leadership. Each year they hosted the RSC Carnival, and were working with the Assembly on the housing lottery reform. Additionally, some initiatives being undertaken at the moment included increasing the number of vacuums and water fountains, finding more dormitory space for transfer students, and bringing NetPrint into dorms. H. Grace said that students could get involved by joining a hall council or applying to a committee. She invited everyone to attend their meetings on Mondays from five to six in the Memorial Room.
- M. Kasher discussed the development of the Schwartz Center Patio. She presented four separate design concepts, and stated that the final design showcase would be held on November 28th, while construction would begin over the summer.

VI. Business of the Day

- There was a motion to move Resolution 16 to the top of the agenda as Business of the Day.
- By unanimous consent the motion was adopted.
- Resolution 16: Modernizing the Cornell Collegiate Readership Program
 - The sponsors discussed why they did not seek the continuation of print *New York Times* newspapers.
 - G. Giambatista stated the decision would save Cornell's Collegiate Readership Program close to \$41,000 per year.
 - A. Iglesias asked if online access would be granted to all students.
 - The sponsors stated that online access would only be given to those students who signed up using their Cornell email.
 - H. Reichel asked about attaining print copies.
 - The sponsors stated that the campus libraries would still have printed copies, as well as places around campus which sell newspapers.
 - There was a motion to Call the Question.
 - By a vote of 22-0-0 Resolution 16 was adopted.
- Resolution 12: Empowering All Students in the Restructuring of the SA.
 - There was a motion to table indefinitely.
 - By unanimous consent Resolution 12 was tabled.
- Resolution 13: Amending Article III Section 3 and Other Sections of the Student Assembly Charter.
 - The sponsors stated that this resolution would amend the Charter according to President Rawling's requests. The major change would allow the administrators who the president delegated to respond to Resolutions to not have a strict fall thirty-day period to respond.
 - Rep. Wang believed that if the Assembly voted against President Rawling's revisions, and the thirty-day rule was left in place, administrators could still give bogus responses just to allow themselves more time to respond.
 - There was a motion to Call the Question.
 - By a vote of 19-0-0 Resolution 11 was adopted.

VII. New Business

- Resolution 15: Strengthening the Relationship between the Student Assembly & RSC
 - The sponsors stated that this resolution would allow any resolutions passed by the RSC to reach the floor of the Student Assembly without the consent of the Executive

Board. They stated that currently when the RSC passed resolutions, those resolutions go towards Residential and New Student Programming, and this would help the organization have new avenues to pass resolutions directly to the administration.

- There was a motion to strike lines 23-25.
 - By unanimous consent Resolution 15 was amended.
 - R. Wang believed having an additional channel would be a good way to integrate different opinions into the role of the Assembly.
 - There was a motion to Call the Question.
 - By a vote of 21-0-1 Resolution 15 was adopted.
- The Assembly moved into a Forum on Mental Health Policies, Resources, and Programs before adjourning at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter F. Biedenweg

Assembly Clerk, Office of the Assemblies