



Cornell University Student Assembly

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Minutes of the Thursday, November 10th, 2016 Meeting

4:45pm-6:30pm in WSH Memorial Room

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]; A. Iglesias [1]; M. Indimine [0]; A. Issur [1]; N. Jaisinghani [.25]; D. Li [1]; L. Lipschultz [1]; D. Liu [0.5]; H. MacDiarmid [0]; T. Magloire [0]; M. McBride [1]; H. Reichel [0.5]; W. Rong [1]; M. Valadez [0]; E. Vargas [1.5]; A. Viswanathan [0];
- *Not Present at the Roll Call:* R. Herz (Excused) [1]; M. Kasher (Excused) [1]; J. Kim (Excused) [1]; J. Montejo (Excused) [0]; R. Musto (Unexcused) [1]; J. Selig (Excused) [0]; Y. Wang (Unexcused) [2.5];

II. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

- The minutes from the November 3rd, 2016 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

III. Open Microphone

IV. Announcements and Reports

- President Berger announced that the Assembly's restructuring forum would be held next Wednesday at 7:00pm in EHub, additionally Breaking Bread would be next Thursday.
- EVP Indimine invited community members to EHub next Tuesday at 4:30pm for a town hall discussion on the Ithaca Plan.
- Rep. Reichel stated that next Tuesday, AAP would be hosting their student forum with the AAP Dean in Milstein Auditorium.
- Rep. Liu stated that 99 Problems would be pushed until the end of the month, and also asked each representative for a short blurb on their working projects by the end of next week.
- Rep. Li stated that the Appropriations Committee saw Outdoor Odyssey, Welcome Weekend, and Convocation. The committee decided if it were a by-line year they would maintain Outdoor Odyssey's level, Welcome Weekend's level, and Convocations would have received an increase of \$1.00 to bring in larger speakers. If it was a by-line year, the committee voted that they would receive an increase. As well, D. Li asked everyone to continue reaching out to students about the New York Times online accessibility, and that Cornell would now maintain 200 paper copies at five locations.
- Rep. Cox stated that tomorrow, November 11th, was Veterans Day and that the Veteran's Association would be giving out green lightbulbs from 10am to 4pm on Ho Plaza. Additionally, a flag ceremony would begin at 2pm on the arts quad.
- Rep. Issur stated the International Student Union would be appropriating money to organizations, and that any organization could request funding for events. Regarding the

Curriculum Planning Committee, Rep. Issur was planning on reaching out to international students in the next week to gather feedback on ways Cornell could help with internships.

- DOE Ghandour stated that the elections rules needed approval by the end of the semester, and was open to feedback before the Election Committee's next meeting.
- Rep. McBride stated the Restructuring Committee slate would be voted on after the Breaking Bread event next Thursday. He requested that Assembly members share with him the committee meetings they have been attending in order to check attendance. Regarding transcript notations, the CJC and JA office decided that notations would be at the discretion of the University Hearing and Review Boards.

V. Initiatives

- Diversity Requirement - Trustee Bhandari and Rep. Reichel were working to discuss campus diversity requirements. They had created a Diversity Requirement Action Group with students across campus, and were working with College Representatives to try and materialize a diversity requirement in each college. They wanted to host an open forum in the near future.
- M. McBride mentioned the Provost Curriculum Committee and asked if this type of idea would go through the Committee or faculty from each college.
- Y. Bhandari stated that she had reached out to the Chair of the Curriculum Committee. She believed the discussions around and goals of the diversity requirement would impact what the next steps would be. Nonetheless, faculty would need to be included in the discussion.
- Rep. Valadez asked how students could get involved.
- Y. Bhandari stated students could join the Action Group. The Group would be split into different sub-groups based on colleges, where they would discuss their ideas with the deans. The sponsors believed that approaching the colleges would be best, as each college needed to address this problem in relation to their own requirements.

VI. Housing Master Plan Presentation.

- VP Lombardi said that last winter the Division of Student and Campus Life had started creating a comprehensive Housing Master Plan. Their goals were to continue providing a broad range of housing options, guarantee on campus housing for first and second year students, make transfer housing a priority, and bring first year students out of townhouses. Regarding guaranteed housing for second year students, the new plan would create two thousand additional beds on north campus for a greater number of sophomores. The Division of Student and Campus Life was still talking about this plan as a large concept, which could change. VP Lombardi stated at this moment, residence halls needed maintenance at a cost of 147.8 million to refurbish the current buildings. The housing plan would be implemented potentially by 2020 or later, and would provide the capacity for potential enrollment growth, as housing was a driving factor for some college's admissions.
- D. Li asked about the transfer student housing, and if it would continue on West.
- VP Lombardi stated that the West Campus Housing would stay the same because it helped with integration.
- Rep. Reichel asked about zoning requirements.
- VP Lombardi stated that the details of zoning had not been focused on, but they were looking to remove parking lots.
- Rep. Wang asked about how off campus housing was being assessed in regards to how students picked where they would live.
- VP Lombardi Stated the plan did take into account the growth in Collegetown, but that they still saw a need for more on-campus housing.

- T. Celestin asked about concerns that organization housing within the Multicultural Greek Letter Council was focused only on north campus.
- VP Lombardi stated there may be space on West campus for new organizations.
- VP Lombardi stated that additional questions or invitations to speak were welcome as the Division continued to develop plans.

VIII. New Business

- There was a motion to table Resolution 17 and 19.
- By unanimous consent the resolutions were tabled.
- Resolution 20: Student Assembly’s Support for and Input on “Options for Achieving Carbon Neutral Campus by 2035”
 - Cynthia spoke on behalf of the Assembly’s Environmental Committee which submitted a resolution to the Assembly seeking support for the Senior Leadership Climate Action Group’s (SLCAG) report titled “Options for Achieving Carbon Neutral Campus by 2035” This resolution sought to Support Cornell’s endeavors to achieve carbon neutrality, and asked SLCAG to be more transparent when pursuing their options. The resolution suggested an online platform to upload ideas on proposals being advanced, possibly through Cornell’s Campus Sustainability Office’s website. Additionally, another suggestion is a collaboration between the Technology and Environmental committee of the student assembly, to centralize ideas. A final suggestion was an open forum with SLCAG for the greater Ithaca community.
 - There was a motion to table.
 - By unanimous consent Resolution 20 was tabled.

J. Berger adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter F. Biedenweg

Assembly Clerk, Office of the Assemblies