



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented On	12/1/16
Type of Action	Recommendation
Status/Result	New Business

S.A. Resolution 26

Request for the Board of Trustees to refrain from adopting the Provost's capital plan until further community input is received

ABSTRACT: The Student Assembly requests that the Board of Trustees not approve the Provost's capital plan at their next meeting, but instead wait for further community input.

Sponsored by: Mitch McBride '17

Whereas, the Provost scheduled his presentation on the capital plan for the Student Assembly's final meeting of the fall semester, leaving no possibility of a broader conversation among students before the January meeting of the Board of Trustees,

Whereas, the next Board of Trustees meeting will be in NYC and in January, where student input will be limited to the student elected undergraduate and graduate trustee,

Whereas, as a member of the Shared Governance System, The Student Assembly should be consulted, rather than just notified, of a master plan for the University's finances,

Whereas, student input it is especially important as this decision, once it is made, will drastically impact current and future students,

Whereas, the Provost currently only has community committees (those that include membership from students, staff, and faculty) to address specific topics and does not currently have committees with membership including students, staff, and faculty that review the university finances at large,

Whereas, some students are concerned about the plan's potential impact on university rankings, financial aid, housing, etc. that should be fully addressed in more than just one meeting,

Whereas, broader conversations with the entire campus community could help strengthen the plan and other decisions as broader conversations will help the University Administration to avoid falling into "groupthink"

Whereas, although students and other members of the Cornell community need time to review the plan and voice their opinions, they might not end up being fully opposed to the Provost's plan, might not actually oppose the Provost's capital plans the will of the student community may actually not

41 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Student Assembly formally requests the Trustees consider delaying
42 approval of the Provost’s capital plan until more community input is received and
43 considered;

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45 **Be it further resolved**, the SA requests that President Rawlings forward this Resolution to the
46 Chair of the Board of Trustees and the elected student Trustees at his earliest convenience,

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48 **Be it finally resolved**, the Student Assembly asks the Board of Trustees to uphold the values of
49 “shared governance” and wait on making this large, long-term decision until the
50 community’s voices are fully heard.

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53 Respectfully Submitted,

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55 Mitchell McBride '17

56 *Vice President of Internal Operations, Student Assembly*

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59 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 11/29/16)*