



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

**MINUTES**  
**University Assembly**  
**Wednesday, September 22, 2015**  
**4:30pm-6:00pm**  
**Physical Sciences Building 401**

**I. Call to Order**

M. Battaglia called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

Attendance:

*Present:* M. Battaglia, M. Hatch, K. Herleman, R. Howarth, M. Indimine, G. Kaufman, E. Loew, M. McBride, G. Mezey, BJ Siasoco, U. Smith, A. Thomson, R. Walroth

*Absent:* R. Booker, J. Batista, J. Burns, N. La Celle, P. Thompson

*Others Present:* G. Borges, G. Giambattista

**II. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda**

A. Thompson motioned to move the third item to the Executive Session, there was a second, and the motion was passed. G. Mezey asked for the rationale behind the motion. A. Thomson said they would be discussing what role they think the University Assembly should play in the Judicial Administration Search Committee selection process and they want the conversation to be confined to a single time during the meeting.

**III. Approval of the Minutes**

There was a motion to approve the September 2<sup>nd</sup>'s minutes, there was a second, and the motion was passed.

**IV. Reports from the Assembly**

**I. Student Assembly**

M. McBride said the Student Assembly has staffed two thirds of their committee now and they made all of their UA appointments except for one, which they will finish by tonight. G. Giambattista commented saying the Student Assembly finished their fall elections.

**II. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly**

R. Walroth said they have done a bit of restructuring so they have a new Vice President of Communications. Their Operations of Staff Committee is meeting this week to finish filling all the slots for the UA Committee. Also, the GPSA is debating on whether they will give funding to the student run grocery store working on campus. They will be deciding this soon. R. Howarth asked how R. Walroth is doing if he is getting the Appropriations Committee or GPSA. R. Walroth responded by saying they had a fuller discussion in their Advocacy Committee and they will have a fuller discussion in this week's meeting.

### **III. Employee Assembly**

B. Siasoco thanked everyone who was in the inauguration and representing the Employee Assembly. He said the EA is currently figuring out their appointment to Justice Staff. They also have had a response to Resolution 2. U. Smith said the Resolution has to do with Employees using their preferred name, gender identity, and their preferred gender pronoun within their work and internal campus records. This change he said will be made on the 27<sup>th</sup>. G. Mezey said they are working with HR to have a Staff Committee contribute to that effort.

### **IV. There was no report from the Faculty Senate.**

## **V. Committee and Liaison Updates**

### **I. Executive Committee**

A. Thomson was requested to provide a name for Liaison for Student Health Fee Advisory by 2pm on September 11<sup>th</sup>. He explained how he is the Liaison for the Committee and how they will be addressing that in their meeting with one of their new Resolutions. They have heard back from the President's Office about convening a Judicial Administration Search Committee and they will appoint four Members to that Committee. He said President Garrett has requested the names of the appointees by September 25<sup>th</sup>. A. Thomson said President Garrett will be attending their October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting at 4:30pm therefore he asked for people to submit their questions for President Garrett by Wednesday September 30<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. He said U. Smith would also be giving a presentation on Policy 6.4 changes during that meeting. G. Giambattista recommended checking the process with the President since the President has not requested questions in advance and instead wanted to do things with the body that was present. M. Battaglia added how there is a vacancy to the Council of Sexual Violence Prevention. He said President Garrett stressed the importance of the committee and the need for it to be staffed; therefore he asked anyone who would want to serve in the Committee. K. Herleman nominated herself, there was a second, and K. Herleman was appointed to the Council of Sexual Violence Prevention by unanimous consent.

### **II. Other Committees and Liaisons**

A. Thomson explained how there are not many updates since the Committees have not had meetings yet. M. Battaglia said he emailed the head of the PAG and he said he would follow up. A. Thomson asked if R. Walroth if he has any news from the Campus Planning Committee. R. Walroth replied they have not met yet. A. Thompson then asked G. Mezey if he has any news from CJC. G. Mezey says he has no news but will take care if it this week. A. Thomson explains that Student Health Advisory Committee has not convened. A. Thomson asked M. Indimine about Student Health Plan Advisory Committee. M. Indimine said they would meet in two weeks.

## **V. Business of the Day**

### **I. Update on UA Committee Staffing**

M. Battaglia hands the floor to M. Hatch. M. Hatch said the committees are being staffed, one is reported missing from Student Assembly and GPSA is in the process of developing and they will be circulating to all of them when they are finished. The faculty positions are all full. G. Kaufman asked if students are interested in participating in the working groups for the Student Bill of Rights what is the process that they should follow. M. Battaglia told G. Kaufman to send the information onto him and G. Mezey because they will sort through it. When CJC is fully

staffed both M. Battaglia and G. Mezey will speak of how the working group will work. As of now he said it is a matter of logistics. U. Smith asked when the committee would be fully staffed. M. Hatch said he would catch up after the GPSA gets the word out.

## **II. For introduction: UA Resolution #1: Bylaws Change Establishing a Student Health Fee Advisory Committee Liaison**

G. Kaufman explained the Student Health Fee Advisory Committee Liaison position is already established therefore the Resolution is to get the Bylines in line with the Liaison. Therefore they are updating the Bylaws. G. Kaufman opens the floor for any questions. G. Mezey raised a question about the Resolution format. He said he does not understand why the Resolution says it is submitted by the Chair though it really is submitted by the sponsor. M. Battaglia answered by stating once a Resolution is put forward it is the assembly's resolution, therefore the person who it is submitted by is verifying the authenticity of the document. M. Hatch says he understands the logic, but he thinks underneath it could be added for the Committee and for the University Assembly. He found this manner to be more informative and would prevent more confusion. G. Kaufman asked if they could add on behalf of and add the name of the sponsors. G. Mezey asked why everything has to be submitted on behalf of the Chair. M. Indimine asked if it states sponsored by than a community member cannot be under such title. M. Battaglia said they would put on behalf of for non-voting members. U. Smith said he agreed with G. Mezey for the way it is written now makes it seem like the Chair has written the Resolution. He said the respectfully submitted should be the name of the person who wrote the Resolution. M. Battaglia explained how there is not a need to be uniform across all Assemblies. G. Kaufman said he does not have a particular problem with listing the Chairs name, but he said good points were raised therefore he motioned to write on behalf of and then the name of the sponsors, the motion was seconded and therefore it was approved. A. Thomson said instead of saying on behalf of the sponsors who have already been listed, the Resolution could potentially say on behalf of the University Assembly and then added authored by and sponsored by at the top of the Resolution. G. Mezey said the Resolution should be one hundred percent reflective of the current state it is in at the moment. M. Hatch suggested tabling this discussion until they get more information on the specific rules, which designate what needs to be on the Resolution. R. Howarth asked if the Resolution is submitted to the Assembly or the President. G. Giambattista said the mechanism by which a Resolution is passed is by the Chair but the sponsor owns the bill until it is passed or not passed and then the public record supports what the public body decided. M. Battaglia asked G. Kaufman if there is anything he would like to close with. G. Kaufman motioned to withdraw the amendment, it was seconded, and the motion was withdrawn by unanimous consent. G. Kaufman said he understands it is not the content but the context of the Resolution, which is controversial. He finds the conversation is best had in an Executive Committee.

## **III. For Introduction: UA Resolution #2: Charter Change Aligning the University's Assembly's Role in a Judicial Administrator Search Process with Practice**

G. Kaufman added this Resolution might have a similar problem with the earlier one addressed. He read the Resolution and explained how it is aligning the Charter with the Campus Code of Conduct. He said there are no rules created, since all they are doing is amending their Charter. M. Battaglia said the Campus Code supersedes the Charter therefore this Resolution is bringing the Charter into alignment to prevent any future confusion. He states how in the next meeting in order for this Resolution to pass it will require two-thirds vote. M. Battaglia asked if there are any questions on the Resolution. R. Walroth asked if the quorum is still the same. M. Battaglia said yes the Assembly needs 13 members. U. Smith added that in line 35 the Resolution is

missing the word “the”. G. Mezey asked if this is a good time to have a discussion on the Resolution since the President is coming and there will be a presentation in the Assembly’s next meeting. M. Battaglia said this is the time for discussion. E. Loew asked whom this would be submitted to. M. Battaglia said it would be submitted to the President because it is a Charter change and therefore it needs her approval. M. Loew asked why this Resolution does not say approved and the other Resolution says adopted. M. Battaglia explained the previous Resolution is a Bylaw change whereas this Resolution is a Charter change. M. Loew said all the letters below on “be it resolved” should not be on the Resolution. G. Kaufman found on Charter changes the Chairs name should be there because it will be submitted to the President. G. Mezey said G. Kaufman is submitting the Resolution to the Assembly and the Chair’s job is to send it to the President after the Assembly has voted it upon. M. Indimine said he finds the debate at hand is not a good allocation of time. M. Battaglia said there is a considerable agenda ahead of them after this. U. Smith said there are some good templates, which have been used throughout the years, and therefore he also finds the discussion poor allocation of time. He said the Assembly should take advantage at the fact that there are already templates made for Resolutions. The time expired so M. Battaglia tabled the discussion with unanimous consent.

#### **I. Late Additions to the Agenda**

#### **I. Late Additions to the Agenda**

There were no late Additions to the Agenda.

#### **II. Adjournment**

#### **I. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:19PM

#### **I. Executive Session (all non-voting members of the assembly and community members will be asked to depart)**

#### **I. Executive Session for the purpose of appointment members to the JA search committee**

Respectfully submitted,

Gabriela Borges  
*Assemblies Clerk*