



**Minutes
University
Assembly
October 3, 2017
4:30PM – 6:00PM
401 Physical Sciences Building**

I. Call to Order

- a. G. Kaufman called the meeting to order at 4:35PM.
- b. *Present:* J. Anderson, M. Battaglia, R. Bense, L. Copman, M. de Roos, G. Kaufman, E. Loew, A. Martinez, E. Michel, U. Smith, C. Van Loan, A. Waymack, E. Winarto
- c. *Absent:* K. Fitch, M. Hatch, R. Howarth, N. Jaisinghani, J. Kim, J. Kruser, K. Quinn
- d. *Others present:* G. Giambattista, T. Malone
- e. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda

II. Approval of Minutes

- a. 9.5.2017 Meeting Minutes
 - i. **Adopted** by unanimous consent
- b. 9.19.2017 Meeting Minutes
 - i. **Adopted** by unanimous consent

III. Assembly Reports

- a. Student Assembly (A. Martinez) (2 minutes)
 - i. A. Martinez reported that at the last Student Assembly meeting there had been lengthy discussion about the high budget request for funding by the Women's Resource Center; and that after much debate, the Student Assembly decided to overturn the decision of the Appropriations Committee and fund the Women's Resource Center at their requested amount.
- b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (E. Winarto) (2 minutes)
 - i. E. Winarto said that the GPSA discussed bylaws, funding, and had several special groups present statements on campus climate. She also said that the GPSA passed GPSA R4 and GPSA R5, (R5 is similar to GPSA R2: Condemning Hate Crimes.)
- c. Faculty Senate (C. Van Loan) (2 minutes)
 - i. C. Van Loan said that the Faculty Senate hopes to announce a committee line up soon on consensual relationships. He also said there have been updates from the groups working on Orientation, as well as final exams.

IV. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee (A. Waymack) (3 minutes)
 - i. A. Waymack said that there is deep consideration into moving the October 31, 2017 meeting to another date in December. She also said that the Executive Committee is discussing the implementation of speaker time limits.

- b. Codes and Judicial Committee (M. Battaglia) (8 minutes)
 - i. A. Waymack motioned to move the Codes and Judicial Committee Report to the end of the Agenda. J. Anderson seconded the motion. There was no dissent. The motion was adopted.
 - c. Campus Welfare Committee (J. Anderson) (5 minutes)
 - i. J. Anderson said that President Martha Pollack has gotten back to the CWC with the Tobacco Referendum, and that the CWC will be meeting next week with the purpose of educating and engaging the public in the process.
- V. Liaison Reports
 - a. Policy Advisory Group (E. Winarto) (2 minutes)
 - i. E. Winarto said that the next PAC meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2017, and that the last one was cancelled.
 - b. Student Health Benefits Advisory Council (J. Anderson and G. Kaufman) (1 minute)
 - i. G. Kaufman said that the council determined the cost of the health fee.
- VI. Business of the Day
 - a. Motion to Move Oct 31 UA Meeting to Dec 5, Study Period (A. Waymack) (5 minutes)
 - i. A. Waymack said that it is open for discussion on when to move the next meeting for October 31, 2017.
 - 1. G. Kaufman called the question for a vote on the motion. By a vote of 10-0-1, the motion was adopted, moving the October 31, 2017 meeting to December 5, 2017.
 - b. Appointments to Transportation Hearing and Review Board (K. Fitch) (5 minutes)
 - i. R. Bensel motioned to table the Appointments to the Transportation Hearing and Review Board. E. Winarto seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.
 - ii. E. Michel motioned to move Resolution 1: Appointment of University Hearing Board and University Review Board Members for Academic Year 2017-2018 to later on the Agenda. There was no dissent. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.
 - c. Consensual Relationships Task Force (C. Van Loan) (5 minutes)
 - i. C. Van Loan said that it is easier to have specific policies that everyone can look at and read.
 - 1. A. Martinez asked about current policies.
 - a. C. Van Loan said that there are three paragraphs in a handbook that are vague and do not educate anyone.
 - 2. J. Anderson asked who the chair of the committee will be, and the charge of the committee.

- a. C. Van Loan said that he will be meeting with President Pollack to discuss the committee, its end goals, and the specific charges of the committee.
- 3. R. Benseal asked if graduate students are covered.
 - a. C. Van Loan said yes.
- 4. L. Copman said that it makes sense for it to be all-encompassing to cover everyone.
- 5. C. Van Loan stressed the importance that the language is clear.
- 6. L. Copman said that it would be wise to reach out to the Employee Assembly.
- 7. A. Waymack asked R. Benseal how he understands that Postdocs don't fall under the umbrella.
 - a. R. Benseal said that formal relationships must be "policed." He said that teaching and grading would be covered, whereas not teaching or grading is not covered.
- 8. G. Kaufman asked C. Van Loan about the role of the University Assembly in regard to the Task Force.
 - a. C. Van Loan said that the committee will propose policy, which will come to the University Assembly for a vote, in which the vote, and all comments made, will be given to President Pollack.
- 9. J. Anderson said that there may be an important relationship between the student and a career adviser, which should also be considered.
- 10. E. Leow said that faculty are held by a different standard by parents.
- d. Resolution 1: Appointment of University Hearing Board and University Review Board Members for Academic Year 2017-2018 (M. Battaglia) (5 minutes)
 - i. M. Battaglia said that, to clean up from summer, there needs to be UA approval for UHRB members put forth.
 - ii. G. Kaufman requested to amend the title of the resolution, "Completing the Appointment of..."
 - 1. M. Battaglia moved the question.
 - a. By a vote of 12-0-2, the motion was **approved**.
- e. Resolution 3: Strategic Plan (J. Anderson) (5 minutes)
 - i. J. Anderson introduced the resolution.
 - ii. L. Copman mentioned the SLCAG had asked for a Strategic Plan, affirming it made sense.
 - iii. A. Martinez mentioned a time frame to begin this semester, described "Power Mapping" as a consulting option for Cornell, in light of all that has happened in the past month.

- iv. R. Bensel said that a strategic plan is a good idea, but concern that faculty would be expected to provide resources; and posed the framing question, “what kind of University are we going to be? One of the purposes should be finding out the budget – where the constraints have been. Consequences of fiscal blunders on substantive goals of the institution have been many. He said to add a “whereas” to cover the question of transparency –raises, uses, wastes money.
- v. L. Copman said that the timeframe for the last strategic plan was fairly quick. Call in the fall, passed/established in the spring. She has been talking with G. Kauffman about drafting a resolution calling for financial transparency.
- vi. G. Kaufman said that all can go see the budget of the university. He said that there is broad transparency, but more details would be helpful.
- vii. L. Copman said that the UA should have the resolution go to each of the constituent assemblies to add in all the voices to the call for action.
- viii. G. Kaufman said that, before the UA signs off, they need to look at it, work on it, review it to make it solid and do due diligence.
- ix. J. Anderson said that if anyone has anything to add, please send it directly, before the next meeting. He said that having a steady strategic plan will be very helpful.
- x. L. Copman said that she favors the resolution, but will not be in attendance at the next meeting.
- xi. C. Van Loan said that the value of a strategic plan is in the writing of the document. He said not to compress the exercise of going through the exercise and creating a substantive document.
 - a. A. Martinez said, as AA&P representative on the Student Assembly, he agrees with the concept of the charrette, which includes community feedback. He said that, if there is a mechanism to do that, it should be deployed.
- xii. G. Kaufman called for motion to table.
 - a. J. Anderson motioned to table.
 - b. Question moved. Motion **tabled** by a vote of 10-0-1, resolution tabled to next meeting.
- f. Resolution 2: Condemning Hate Crimes (A. Waymack) (10 minutes)
 - i. A. Waymack said that this is a statement, not action. She asked to keep amendments to things stated, rather than calls to action.
 - ii. R. Bensel said that he doesn’t want to put a “whereas” clause in about Psi Upsilon where there hasn’t been conviction.
 - iii. J. Anderson said that “PsiU” may not ever be officially named in documents related to incident, since it was “underground” at the time. This was an “unofficial” affiliation. He said that he feels including the PsiU language is important.
 - iv. A. Martinez said that PsiU found a loophole.

- v. R. Benseal said that caveats described weaken the resolution, inviting the bait questioning the assertions of the resolution. He said that it is a political mistake to include that information.
- vi. A. Waymack said in the phrasing of the resolution, “allegedly” covers the concerns, and that it should not be contentious.
- vii. R. Benseal motioned to amend the amendment to resolution: Line 14, “... one or more **students allegedly associated with the former** Chi Chapter of...”
 - 1. Motion to amend amendment **rejected** by a vote of 2-5-6
- viii. Amendment to read, “... one or more students from the **former** Chi Chapter of...”
 - 1. A. Waymack motioned to amend **adopted** by a vote of 9-1-3
- ix. E. Loew said that this should just condemn hate crimes at-large and not specific. He said that he is against hate crimes in the past and in the future. He said that the University Assembly should be against hate crimes. Period. He said that he supports a resolution condemning all hate crimes.
- x. U. Smith said that he supports E. Loew’s statement. He said that he does not support the resolution. He said that the resolution needs to be accompanied by actions. He said the only action is calling upon the community to do things. He also said that it is disrespectful to put forth a resolution without calling for committees or resources to be deployed towards this matter. He said that if the University Assembly wanted to issue a statement, it can be issued. He said that this is a resolution that calls for an action, but that no action is included. He said that out of courtesy, he will not call the question, but that he does not support this.
- xi. A. Waymack said that this has gone through multiple drafts; that it seemed worth describing the details to answer the question of “why now”. She said that, if the assembly wishes, she will be happy to retract this resolution, and submit a statement.
- xii. G. Kaufman explained difference between resolution and statement.
- xiii. U. Smith described the statement put forth by the EA, along with a resolution calling for specific action steps.
- xiv. A. Martinez said that he thinks it is worth noting that a student was hospitalized, and that that is not trivial. He said that action items should be included. He commended A. Waymack for drafting the resolution. He said that the University Assembly can add action items to this.
- xv. R. Benseal thanked A. Waymack for the resolution. He said that he does not think this resolution ends the debate. He said that this is only one part of the debate and that it should not be done with emotion and anger. He said that there should be a debate that determines how much anger will

- dictate what kind of institution the University strives to be. He said the rights of individuals vs. anger of community should be taken up in debate.
- xvi. J. Anderson said that he agrees with U. Smith; that the resolution should call for action across the university. He said that the University Assembly needs an action or list of actions included. He recommended tabling, and to come back at next meeting with specific items the University Assembly can do, call on, or request.
 - xvii. R. Bensel further described his dissent and concern about putting the onus on Cornell to do something.
 - xviii. M. Battaglia said that he agrees with R. Bensel and that the University Assembly should have an informed debate on these issues.
 - xix. E. Winarto said, perhaps recommit the resolution so it can be fully discussed.
 - xx. A. Waymack suggested that freedom of expression has already been stifled. She motioned to recommit this back to the Campus Welfare Committee, and bring it back to the University Assembly in the future.
 - 1. There was unanimous consent. The motion was adopted.
 - xxi. A. Waymack asked by a. straw poll, should the Executive Committee bring forth a statement to the next meeting (distinct from a resolution)? The response was: Yes – informally, the Executive Committee will draft a statement for the next meeting.
 - xxii. J. Anderson asked that comments, etc. be sent to him prior to the next Campus Welfare Committee meeting.
 - xxiii. E. Michel said that it important to do something.
 - g. Resolution 4: Addressing Housekeeping Changes and Laying the Groundwork for a Holistic Evaluation of the Campus Code of Conduct (M. Battaglia) (10 minutes)
 - i. M. Battaglia introduced resolution, and described the eight major changes.
 - ii. A. Waymack motioned to extend time by 5 minutes.
 - 1. By unanimous consent adopted.
 - iii. L. Copman said that she is most concerned with #5 “Confidentiality”, and that it should be taken to the community. She suggested to separate it out.
 - iv. J. Anderson said that, for transparency, Confidentiality should be removed and talked about separately.
 - v. M. Battaglia said that the Codes and Judicial Committee is still looking at the resolution.
 - vi. R. Bensel said that he is sympathetic to arguments of pulling out the Confidentiality clause, but that he sees it as an expansion of Freedom of Speech. He said that he is a fan of Mitch McBride and that explicit written agreement protects the individual from the administration. He said that,

essentially, we need to protect and provide space for whistleblowing and that it is complicated.

- vii. Motion to extend meeting by 5 minutes.
 - 1. **Adopted** by unanimous consent.
- viii. J. Anderson said that administrators can use the document to ‘create’ the composition of their committees and meetings, and that if one refuses to sign the document, they will not be included in the meeting/committee.
- ix. M. Battaglia said that, on the contrary, the administration will simply not include students in the committee or meeting. He referenced the Confidentiality statements signed by Student Assembly members during a Byline funding year.
- x. J. Anderson said that students don’t want this, even if the administration does. He said that pulling this clause out will give the opportunity for a discussion, in which the University Assembly can invite community input.
- xi. R. Benseal said that he is sympathetic to freedom of speech argument. If everything is “open”, things will be “closed”.
- xii. Quorum not met. Meeting adjourned.
- xiii. G. Kaufman requested a Committee of the Whole, to allow M. Battaglia time to deliver the report requested at last meeting. M. Battaglia said:
 - 1. The Codes and Judicial Committee is creating a Working Group to work on the issue of including “hate speech” in the Campus Code of Conduct; and that
 - 2. There is work on a Community Forum after fall break; and then the Codes and Judicial Committee will have some idea of language by the middle of November.
- xiv. A. Martinez asked how members of Working Group are identified.
- xv. M. Battaglia said that self-identified law students and members of the UA are trying to find people who are experienced in statutory law, or the Campus Code of Conduct, specifically. He said that the Working Group will be open for community to attend.
- xvi. Committee of the Whole adjourned.

VII. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. There were no late additions to the agenda.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.
- b. The Assembly moved into an Executive Session to hear a report from the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrill D. Malone
University Assembly Clerk