

# Cornell University University Assembly

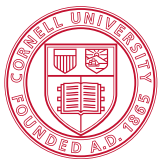
## Cornell University Assembly

Agenda of the November 14, 2017 Meeting

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

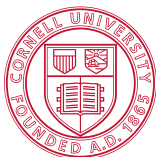
Room 401, Physical Sciences Building

- I. Call to Order (Chair)
  - a. Call to Order (1 minute)
  - b. Welcome and Introduction (3 minutes)
  - c. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda (1 minute)
- II. President Martha Pollack and Vice President for University Relations Joel Malina (25 minutes)
- III. Approval of the Minutes (Chair)
  - a. October 17, 2017 (2 minutes)
- IV. Assembly Reports
  - a. Student Assembly (J. Kim) (2 minutes)
  - b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (E. Winarto) (2 minutes)
  - c. Employee Assembly (U. Smith) (2 minutes)
  - d. Faculty Senate (C. Van Loan) (2 minutes)
- V. Committee Reports
  - a. Executive Committee (A. Waymack) (2 minutes)
  - b. Codes and Judicial Committee (M. Battaglia) (5 minutes)
  - c. Campus Welfare Committee (J. Anderson) (2 minutes)
  - d. Campus Infrastructure Committee (N. Jaisinghani) (3 minutes)
- VI. Liaison Reports
  - a. Policy Advisory Group (E. Winarto) (1 minute)
  - b. Transportation Task Force (K. Fitch) (1 minute)
  - c. Council on Sexual Violence Prevention (K. Quinn) (2 minutes)
  - d. Student Health Benefits Advisory Council (J. Anderson) (2 minutes)
  - e. Campus Planning Committee (M. Hatch) (1 minute)
- VII. Business of the Day
  - a. Resolution 6: Integrating Sustainable Investments into Endowment Reports (N. Jaisinghani) (10 minutes)
  - b. Resolution 3: Calling for the Development of a Strategic Plan (J. Anderson) (10 minutes)
  - c. Resolution 5: Bylaws Change Clarifying the Charge of the Codes & Judicial Committee (M. Battaglia)



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- VIII. Late Additions to the Agenda (5 minutes)
- IX. Adjournment (1 minute)



# Cornell University University Assembly

## Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the October 17, 2017 Meeting

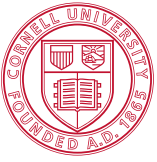
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Room 401, Physical Sciences Building

- I. Call to Order- G. Kaufman called the meeting to order at 4:33pm
  - a. There were no late additions to the agenda
- II. Approval of the Minutes
  - a. The minutes from the meeting of October 3, 2017 were **approved** by unanimous consent.
- III. Assembly Reports
  - a. Student Assembly –no report
  - b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
  - c. Employee Assembly – no report
  - d. Faculty Senate – R. Benzel reported that Hate Speech had been discussed at the last Faculty Senate meeting.
- IV. Committee Reports
  - a. Executive Committee- A.Waymack reported
  - b. Codes and Judicial Committee – M. Battaglia reported the committee has been meeting every week. Discussed UA R4, brought forward for discussion today.
  - c. Campus Welfare Committee: J. Anderson gave an update, and stated that the dates for the Referenda on Tobacco Free Campus had been approved
  - d. Campus Infrastructure Committee – no report
- V. Liaison Reports
  - a. Policy Advisory Group - E. Winarto: reported that the group would be meeting next week
  - b. Transportation Task Force – no report
  - c. Council on Sexual Violence Prevention- K. Quinn reported that the Council had not met.
  - d. Student Health Benefits Advisory Council: J. Anderson reported that the Council had not met.
  - e. Campus Planning Committee: M. Hatch reported
    - i. Met today, discussed about ENG master plan which included demolition and renovation of bldgs. on Eng. quad in the next few years.
    - ii. Accessibility on campus, and movement towards that goal.
    - iii. Web accessibility –

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If you are in need of special accommodations, contact Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 prior to the meeting.

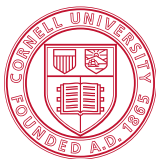


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- iv. Campus access for disabilities
  - v. Maplewood Development – master plan; be a part of conversation
- VI. Business of the Day
  - a. Statement Condemning Hate Crimes
    - i. A. Waymack read the Statement
    - ii. Exec wrote it – would like sign-off from Assembly
    - iii. Call for amendments.
    - iv. G. Kaufman credited A. Waymack with writing and moving it forward
    - v. Elena - Question about how it would be posted to public
    - vi. G. Giambattista – explained there currently is no existing mechanism or process for posting Statements
    - vii. J. Kruser questioned the logic and stated that there is a place for Statements separate from resolutions. Thinks it should tie to action of the assembly.
      - 1. Statement gives assembly a way to say something without taking an action. Value in not staying silent.
      - 2. Referenced the Administration’s Statement page.
    - viii. A. Waymack suggested asking the Cornell Daily Sun to post the statement in the interim.
      - 1. Reporter from Daily Sun agreed they would.
    - ix. M. Hatch, asked if title should be broadened to include “hate speech”, separate from Hate Crimes.
    - x. Motion to amend title to “UA Statement Regarding Hate Crimes and Hate Speech”
      - 1. Discussion
        - a. A. Rodriguez - What is the value of putting out a statement that has no place, which comes out a month after the fact?
        - b. A. Waymack - The Exec worked on the Statement to show it is responsive.
        - c. J. Kruser - if content is substantive, then don’t worry about the title of statement.
        - d. R. Howarth – prefers “condemns” draws people in. Asks to include a short statement in second paragraph outlining what other things the UA is working on.
        - e. R. Benzel – Hate Speech is a serious topic. To try to tighten it up will take a lot of time.
      - 2. Question called to change “Regarding” to “Condemning”

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3. Motion called to table discussion to allow time for amending members to craft language to add.
  - a. Motion passed. Tabled by unanimous consent
- b. Resolution 3: Calling for the Development of a Strategic Plan (J. Anderson) (10 minutes)
  - i. University should be more proactive in planning its future; Cornell tech, sustainability, etc.
  - ii. Would give Cornell a 5-year, proactive plan
  - iii. Hasn't been one since 2015
  - iv. Providing stability for Cornell
    1. M. Battaglia – has anyone spoken with anyone on the administration about a strategic plan?
      - a. J. Anderson – there does seem to be motion
    2. M. Hatch – Campus Planning Committee is working on Master plan, if not Strategic Plan. Suggest framing ideas of resolution to coincide with Master Plan (with University Planner)
    3. A. Rodriguez – should call on the Administration to engage in PowerMapping; particularly in terms of the current call to question about authorities of the assemblies.
    4. Amendment at Line 48: “Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Campus Planner.”
      - a. Discussion
      - b. Call the question on the amendment
        - i. Amendment passed 12-0-3
    5. C. VanLoan – Strategic plans are a huge amount of work. The Task Force is currently underway. Suggests talking to the president to find out what her plans are. Does not think this is a good time. There should be discussion.
    6. R. Howarth – we have not had integration
      - a. Lines 16-17 amendment:
        - i. Amendment:
          1. Whereas, the SLCAG is working to integrate **climate** solutions and sustainability into the



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campus culture and strategic planning  
process,

### ii. 15-0-2 Amendment passes

7. A. Waymack moved to refer resolution back to the CWC until the next meeting.
8. M. Battaglia encouraged the interim time to engage the administration.
9. A. Waymak moved the question
  - a. Unanimous consent – referred back to the CWC

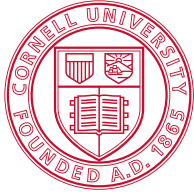
### c. Resolution 4: Addressing Housekeeping Changes and Laying the Groundwork for a Holistic Evaluation of the Campus Code of Conduct (M. Battaglia) (30 minutes)

- i. M. Battaglia – reviewed changes in the resolution since it was introduced.
- ii. proposed amendments as follows:
  1. *Line 243 to read: Whereas, the Judicial Administrator informed the Committee that there are students who remain indefinitely suspended and requested it be made clear that for those students the petition procedures in the Code at the time of their indefinite suspension govern their return; and*
  - 2.
  3. *Line 250 to read: Whereas, those students who are currently indefinitely suspended will continue to remain suspended and would use the petition procedures in the Code at the time of their indefinite suspension; and*
  - 4.
  5. *Line 272 to read: [Add footnote reading "The Code previously allowed for indefinite suspension. While indefinite suspensions are no longer given, any student indefinitely suspended at the time of indefinite suspensions being removed shall continue to be indefinitely suspended and subject to the petition provisions in-place in the Code at the time of the indefinite suspension"*

### iii. Amendments approved by unanimous consent

### d. Resolution 5: Bylaws Change Clarifying the Charge of the Codes & Judicial Committee (M. Battaglia) tabled until the next meeting

- VII. Late Additions to the Agenda – there were no late additions to the agenda
- VIII. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 6:13



## U.A. Resolution # 6

### Integrating Sustainable Investments into Endowment Reports

*September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

**Sponsored by: Neeraj Jaisinghani, Undergraduate; Chair, Campus Infrastructure Committee**

**On Behalf Of: University Assembly Campus Infrastructure Committee; C. Hanna, Undergraduate; J. Kapuvvari, Undergraduate; H. Shanahan, Undergraduate; M. Indimine, Undergraduate; M. Valadez, Undergraduate; C. Faringer-Perez, Undergraduate.**

**Whereas,** Cornell President Martha Pollack has taken a positive step towards a fossil fuel-free world by reaffirming Cornell's 2015 commitment to the American Campuses Act on Climate Pledge, which echoes the terms of the Paris Agreement;

**Whereas,** Cornell University has publicly committed to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035;

**Whereas,** in 2016 the Cornell University Board of Trustees directed the university's chief investment officer to actively seek investments in alternative energy;

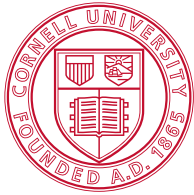
**Whereas,** Martha Pollack divulged to the authors of AY 2016-17 Resolution 36 that as of December 31, 2016, Cornell held approximately \$40 million of private investments in alternative energy-related businesses;

**Whereas,** Cornell has reduced carbon emissions by over 30 percent since 2008, and by almost 50 percent since 1990 despite a 20 percent growth in square footage;

**Whereas,** Martha Pollack reiterated this information in a July 5, 2017 letter to Climate Justice Cornell;

**Whereas,** these disclosed investments give climate justice advocates hope that Cornell University is moving its investment portfolio away from fossil fuels and towards renewable-based businesses;

**Whereas,** sustainable investments also figure into public rating systems that weigh Cornell University's commitment to sustainability;



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**Whereas**, as of April, 2017, the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) gives Cornell a gold rating and exceptional score of 68.49, down from our previous score of 70.05;

**Whereas**, Cornell lags behind its peer institutions only in the said rating system's "Investment" metric, scoring a paltry 0.13 out of 7.0 points;

**Whereas**, the disclosed endowment investments in renewable energies give climate justice advocates hope that the Board of Trustees intends to remedy this inadequacy;

**Whereas**, the regular publication of the aforementioned renewable investment figures, and the University's purposeful increase of the STARS Investment metric, would increase the university's financial transparency; and embolden its reputation as a leader on climate action;

**Be it therefore resolved**, that the Board of Trustees make a concerted effort to improve Cornell University's STARS "Investment & Finance" Rating;

**Be it further resolved**, that as part of this effort, Cornell pursues the "Investment Disclosure" and "Committee on Investor Responsibility" credits as described by the STARS program by creating a committee, or adding the charge to an existing committee.

**Be it further resolved**, that the Board of Trustees disclose positive sustainability investment figures, as defined by STARS, in its quarterly endowment reports or on some other publicly accessible platform deemed appropriate;

**Resolved**, that the Executive Committee of the President's Sustainable Campus Committee and the Senior Leaders Climate Action Group coordinate with the Board of Trustees to integrate all relevant energy investment considerations into Climate Action Plan updates;

**Be it finally resolved**, that President Martha Pollack forward this resolution to the Board of Trustees, the President's Sustainable Campus Committee, and Senior Leaders Climate Action Group.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Christopher Hanna '18**

***Co-Founder and former Co-Facilitator of Amnesty International at Cornell University***

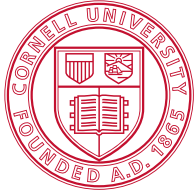
**Julie Kapuvari '19**

***Co-Campaign Coordinator of Climate Justice Cornell***

**Jesse Pollard '17**

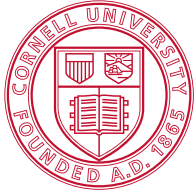
***CALS Representative, Student Assembly***





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79 **Emma Badini '20**  
80 ***G-Body Organizer of Climate Justice Cornell***  
81  
82 **Helen Shanahan '18**  
83  
84 **Matthew Indimine '18**  
85 ***Former Executive Vice President, Student Assembly***  
86 ***Founder & Co-Chair, Mental Health Awareness Week***  
87  
88 **Mayra Valadez '19**  
89 ***Undesignated at-Large Representative, Student Assembly***  
90  
91 **Nathanael Cheng '20**  
92 ***Environmental Committee Chair, Student Assembly***  
93  
94 **Cecilia Faringer-Perez '18**  
95 ***Member of Amnesty International at Cornell University***  
96  
97 **Gabriela Vega '19**  
98 ***Former G-body Organizer of Climate Justice Cornell***  
99 ***Community and Retention Co-Chair of Climate Justice Cornell***  
100  
101 **Grace Bogdanove '18**  
102 ***Facilitator, Amnesty International at Cornell University***  
103  
104 **Janet Back '19**  
105 ***Public Relations, Amnesty International at Cornell University***  
106  
107 **Julian Goldberg, '19**  
108 ***Former Campaign Coordinator, Climate Justice Cornell***  
109  
110 ***(Reviewed by: Environmental Committee, 9/28/17, 8-0-1)***  
111 ***(Passed by: Student Assembly, 10/5/17)***



Cornell University  
University Assembly

**U.A. Resolution # 3**

**Calling for the Development of a Strategic Plan**

*September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

**Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson, Undergraduate; University Assembly and Linda Copman, Employee; University Assembly**

**On Behalf Of: University Assembly Campus Welfare Committee**

**Whereas**, senior leadership recognizes the critical need to address issues of injustice, racism and bigotry, in the wake of separate incidents on or near campus this semester, and to develop and/or enhance programs and services that support **diversity** and inclusion on our campuses; and

**Whereas**, many in our campus community are dealing with questions and concerns about recent U.S. executive actions on immigration travel bans, and DACA and undocumented students—and the current and future implications for student, faculty, and staff activities and our **international** programs; and

**Whereas**, the Senior Leaders Climate Action Group is working to integrate **sustainability** and climate action strategies into the campus culture and strategic planning process; and

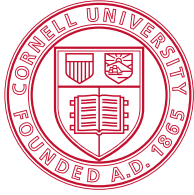
**Whereas**, the opening of the tech campus in New York City marks the beginning of a new era of unprecedented opportunity for Cornell, which hinges upon our ability to take advantage of cross-college synergies and develop institutional capacity to act as “**One Cornell**” and create more connections among the distinct parts; and

**Whereas**, there is an ongoing tension between our ambitious aspirations to enhance diversity, sustainability, connectivity between colleges and campuses, and global impact, and the limited availability of new resources to fund these aspirations; and

**Whereas**, the most recent strategic plan was completed in May 2010 and set forth specific objectives and actions for the university for the period of 2010-2015; and

**Whereas**, this plan has not been updated to reflect the changing environment for higher education in general and for Cornell in particular; and

**Whereas**, the strategic plan will guide institutional decisions about where to invest resources (i.e., time, effort, and money); therefore



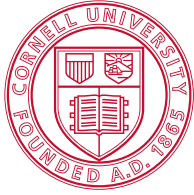
## Cornell University University Assembly

**Be it therefore resolved,** that the University Assembly formally requests that the president and provost of Cornell University initiate a strategic planning process to begin in fall 2017 and be completed by spring of 2018; and

**Be it Further Resolved,** that the university administration should partner with all assemblies and ensure that faculty, students, and staff share in the strategic planning process and have a meaningful role in shaping the final strategic plan; and

**Be it Further Resolved,** that all assemblies will have the ability to appoint members to the strategic planning advisory council in the process of crafting the new strategic plan; and

**Be it Finally Resolved,** that the university administration should formally present a status update on the strategic plan to the University Assembly by October 2018.



## U.A. Resolution # 5

### Bylaws Change Clarifying the Charge of the Codes & Judicial Committee

October 17, 2017

**Sponsored by: Matthew Battaglia, Graduate and Professional; Chair, Codes & Judicial Committee**

**Whereas**, the object of the University Assembly (the Assembly), "...is to improve and sustain the involvement of the campus community in the governance of campus affairs affecting the broad campus community by establishing open, effective, and efficient channels of communication between and amongst the community and university administration" [Charter, Article Two]; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to Article Three, § 3.3 of its Charter "The Assembly has authority in matters concerning its internal operation and maintenance, including provisions for the creation of bylaws and procedures"; and

**Whereas**, the Codes and Judicial Committee (the Committee) over time has been charged with and has reviewed all resolutions concerning the Campus Codes of Conduct (the Code); and

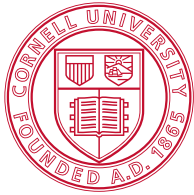
**Whereas**, in the Committee's work it has examined areas that are adjacent to and similar in scope and application to the Code both of its own volition and upon request of the Assembly; and

**Whereas**, in the past some areas of responsibility of the Assembly and the Committee have been examined sparingly as they have not been formally documented in the standing charge to the Committee; and

**Whereas**, the Committee in its discussion of the role of non-matriculated minors in the Code expressed a concern that by removing these individuals from the Code the Committee would lose touch with these groups and the policies governing them; and

**Whereas**, the Assembly traditionally has worked with the Committee and Cornell Environmental Health and Safety to approve Guidelines for Display of Religious Symbols in the Fire Safety Guidelines for Holiday Displays<sup>1</sup>; and

<sup>1</sup> Attached as Appendix A to this resolution.



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**Whereas**, in his letter of April 22, 2012 then-President David Skorton accepted the University Assembly's request to be a stakeholder under the definition of Policy 4.1 for Policy 6.4 stating "I very much appreciate and welcome the participation of the University Assembly as a stakeholder in the process of amending Policy 6.4 and know that the community will benefit from the "robust participation" of the University Assembly"; and

**Whereas**, by adding these responsibilities and areas of examination to the Committee's standing charge it records them in our permanent governing documents, minimizing the risk that responsibilities are inadvertently neglected; and

**Whereas**, these changes are not modifying the existing authority of the Assembly or Committee but rather documenting and aligning the Committee's charge with its current and historical areas of examination and responsibility; and

**Whereas**, the Committee in its examination of the Code and other documents has emphasized taking steps to align practice and written procedure; and

**Whereas**, the Assembly strives to be a partner with the Administration; and

**Whereas**, effective partnership requires that the Assembly maintain and exercise its responsibilities judiciously; and

**Whereas**, these changes assist the Assembly and the Committee in keeping track of and carrying out their respective responsibilities; therefore

**Be it Resolved**, that Article Four, § 4.1 of the University Assembly Bylaws be amended to add:

By delegation from the Assembly, the Committee will review any proposed motion related to:

- Campus Code of Conduct;
- recruitment and appointment of members to the University Hearing and Review Boards;
- the Assembly's role as a Policy 4.1 stakeholder in Policy 6.4 (or its successor);
- the Assembly's approval of the Guidelines for the Display of Religious Symbols contained within the University's Fire Safety Guidelines for Holiday Displays; and
- written behavioral policies regarding non-matriculated minors who are outside the full Campus Code of Conduct.

**No signature block is present until the resolution has been disposed of by the Assembly (Passed, Failed, Withdrawn, etc.) Then a block with the certifying member (customarily Chair/Vice-Chair) verifying the authenticity and vote tally of the resolution.**