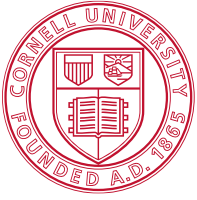


Cornell University University Assembly

Cornell University Assembly
Minutes of the August 5, 2020 Meeting
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Zoom Meeting

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Call to Order
 - i. R. Howarth called the meeting to order at 2:00pm
 - b. Roll Call
 - i. *Present:* A. Howell, C. Duell, C. Levine, C. Van Loan, J. Pea, L. Kenney, P. Thompson, U. Chukwukere
 - ii. *Special Guest:* Vice President of University Relations Joel Malina
- II. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - a. L. Kenney asked to add a late addition to the agenda regarding tuition increase and staff/faculty cuts in pay
 - b. R. Howarth approved the addition.
- III. Business of the Day
 - a. Tuition Increase, Faculty/Staff cuts, and Covid-19 Response
 - i. L. Kenney expressed concern regarding students being able to return safely to campus. She reported dating profiles being submitted from students for shelter during Quarantine/Covid-19. Additionally, she mentioned increasing transparency between the institution and students regarding professor cuts. Lastly, she asked that the tuition increases be reconsidered being that the decision was made in January before the pandemic and thus not considering the pandemic or online learning.
 - ii. R. Howarth discussed equity in terms of socio-economic status within the families coming from Covid-19 hotspots and the topic of mental health during a stressful time.
 - iii. C. Duell expressed concern with the lack of seriousness amongst the student population in response to the 14 day quarantine. He also conveyed that his department (Physics) was directed to provide at least one class for students to be instructed in person.
 - iv. For future reference, J. Pea suggested an opt in policy for teaching modality.
 - v. C. Van Loan described the mask policy on Cornell's campus and the necessity to specify and require a mask to increase confidence in being on campus.



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- vi. Non-UA members conveyed that the school seems to be over ambitiously attempting to meet state/federal guidelines for Covid-19, but not taking into account the actual capabilities of the institution.
- vii. J. Pea responded to the concern and agreed stating a possible decrease in the compliance amongst students if they know there is not a safe place to quarantine.
- viii. U. Chukwukere stated that students are concerned about housing plans in the event that the university shuts down.
- ix. C. Van Loan asks J. Malina about faculty/staff members being cc'd on student emails as well as the institutions willingness to disclose "bad news". J. Malina said cc-ing faculty/staff on student emails is not always necessary and the university will be candid with the information distributed.
- x. A. Howell asked about financial models and J. Malina said the financial models have not been changed,; however, they are looking to minimize financial impact and recognize that some budgets will be impacted.
- xi. L. Kenney moved to extend the meeting for 10 minutes to discuss possible future action. R. Howarth asked for a second to that request and A. Howell seconded.
- xii. L. Kenney suggested either drafting a document that talks to commonalities, concerns, and suggestions from the Assembly, putting forth a formal resolution
- xiii. L. Kenney moved to draft an informal document and called for a vote by Friday by 1PM EST. J. Pea seconded this motion. R. Howarth then called for a vote and 8 "Yes" were counted, so the motion passed.

IV. Adjournment at 3:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Office of the Assemblies