

Cornell University University Assembly

Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the November 16th, 2021 Meeting 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM 401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. B. Fortenberry called the meeting to order at 4:31pm.
 - b. *Members Present:* I. Akisoglu, M. Benda, R. Bensel, D. Cady, J. Feit, B. Fortenberry, T. Fox, P. Hanley, D. Hiner, D. Howell, C. Levine, A. Ononye, J. Richards, D. Sharp, J. Withers.
 - c. Members Absent: V. Aymer, N. Danev, E. DeRosa, M. Louis.
 - d. Also Present: M. Pollack, J. Malina, K. Cunningham, A. Breitstein, G. Giambattista
- II. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogoho:no (Cayuga Nation)
- III. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. November 2, 2021
 - i. R. Bensel motioned to approve the minutes.
 - ii. D. Cady seconded the motion.
 - iii. The minutes were approved with unanimous consent.
- IV. Business of the Day
 - a. President Martha E. Pollack and Vice President for the University Relations Joel Malina
 - i. M. Pollack spoke about faculty achievements and awards, incoming student demographics, sustainability, housing re-investment plans, public safety, and University finances.
 - ii. Q & A following brief comments from President Pollack
 - 1. T. Fox, R. Bensel., B. Fortenberry, D. Cady, J. Richards, and J. Feit asked questions including topics on Cornell's involvement in China, mental health, COVID masking policy, sustainable endowment.
 - b. D. Sharp introduced themselves as a GPSA representative to the UA.
 - c. Update on upcoming visits
 - i. Public Safety Advisory Committee February 8, 2022 (pending)
 - ii. Cornell Earth Source Heating (pending)
- V. Assembly Reports
 - a. Student Assembly
 - A. Ononye stated they passed SA Res. 32: Calling on Cornell University to Appropriately Recognize and Honor Veterans Day and SA Res. 33: Confronting Cornell's Legacy in American Imperialism in the Philippines, had a vacancy for VP of Finance for two weeks, received a report from PSAC, received a speech from the Athletics and Physical Education Department, and heard byline funding information.
 - b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly



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- i. P. Hanley stated they rescheduled a presentation from President Pollack to the 29th, found programming board chairs; and presented a resolution on establishing a VP of Finance.
- c. Employee Assembly
 - i. J. Withers stated the EA had the Annual President's Address to Staff, presented the EA Appreciation Award, and reported President Pollack and VP Opperman will be coming to the EA.
 - 1. Discussion ensued on the viewing metrics of the President's address.
- d. Faculty Senate
 - i. R. Bensel reported the President came to present and three resolutions were also presented: two resolutions on standardizing tenure processes across the university and one on following due process with regards to Global Hubs.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. J. Feit reported they discussed Robert's Rules, questions for Pres. Pollack, and attendance.
 - 1. Discussion ensued about Robert's Rules.
- b. Code and Judicial Committee
 - i. J. Richards stated they were planning the next meeting.
- c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. D. Howell stated they had met twice a month, the committee has several vacancies, and they had brought chairs from similar assemblies to speak.
- d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment.
 - i. I. Akisoglu stated they are still getting feedback for waste receptacle placement.
- VII. Liaison Reports
 - a. I. Akisoglu reported that the CPC has discussed the ILR Courtyard and landscape design process and plant science renewal project, received a presentation on the Circular Construction Laboratory, and discussed how to improve NCRE.
 - i. Discussion ensued about the NCRE.
 - b. D. Cady reported that the Ombud Search Committee found candidates and will be putting together a report.
 - c. A. Ononye reported that the PSAC had a meeting with CUPD on Friday and looked at their facilities. They will also be meeting this week to talk about the bombing threats.

VIII. Open Discussion

- a. Discussion ensued on sustainability, infrastructure with regards to crosswalks and lighting, the last leadership breakfast, and creating a network group for non-native English speakers.
- IX. Adjournment
 - a. R. Bensel moved to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. J. Feit seconded the motion.



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ii. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Kassandra Jordan Clerk of the Assembly