



Cornell University University Assembly

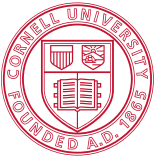
Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the February 22, 2022 Meeting

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

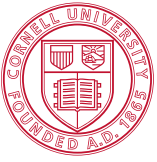
401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. B. Fortenberry called the meeting to order at 4:32.
 - b. *Members Present:* I. Akisoglu, M. Benda, R. Bensel, D. Cady, N. Danev, E. DeRosa, J. Feit, B. Fortenberry, T. Fox, P. Hanley, D. Hiner, D. Howell, A. Ononye, J. Richards, D. Sharp, J. Withers
 - c. *Members Absent:* V. Aymer, C. Levine, M. Louis
 - d. *Also Present:* M. Pollack, J. Malina
- II. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohó:nq' (the Cayuga Nation)
 - a. B. Fortenberry recited the Land Acknowledgement.
- III. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. February 8th, 2022 Minutes
 - i. R. Bensel motioned to approve the minutes.
 - ii. P. Hanley seconded the motion.
 - iii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.
- IV. Business of the Day
 - a. Cornell University Present Martha Pollack
 - i. M. Pollack presented on academic distinctions, wellness, sports acknowledgments, and sustainability.
 - b. Q&A
 - i. B. Fortenberry asked about graduate student payments as many institutions have increased payments across the staff and students.
 1. M. Pollack stated that they are planning for a larger stipend for Graduate and Professional students.
 - ii. B. Fortenberry relayed a question proposed by R. Bensel on academic freedom.
 1. Discussion by M. Pollack and R. Bensel ensued on if and how the current statement of academic freedom applies to programs abroad.
 - iii. B. Fortenberry asked about the student growth on campus and the faculty-to-student ratio.
 1. M. Pollack stated that their target is 15,800 students by 2025. They would like to allocate those slots to the places that have the capacity and strengthen departments that are overfilled.



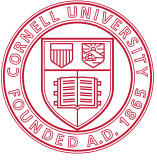
Cornell University University Assembly

- iv. J. Feit asked about how they plan to maintain diverse faculty and respond to the skyrocketing housing prices.
 - 1. Discussion by M. Pollack and J. Malina ensued on their current efforts and status in the local housing arena.
 - v. D. Cady asked about the new health officers and their current progress towards goals.
 - 1. Discussion by M. Pollack, D. Cady, and J. Richards ensued on the mental health review, gym reimbursement, alumnae funding, and free speech.
 - vi. A. Ononye asked about how they are thinking about COVID moving forward.
 - 1. M. Pollack stated that they will be following the science and trying to find the best way to keep the community as safe as possible while facilitating learning. Currently, M. Pollack noted, there are no plans to restrain Spring Break.
 - c. Presentation on the Natatorium
 - i. A. Newman presented about the Natatorium.
 - ii. Discussion by D. Howell, J. Withers, A. Newman, T. Fox, A. Ononye, D. Cady, J. Feit, and R. Bensel ensued on development, the current state of the pools, predicted declines, potential new locations, and anchor donors.
 - iii. B. Fortenberry motioned to move UA R5 up the agenda.
 - 1. The motion **passed** without objection.
 - d. UA R5: Support for Faculty Senate Proposed Resolution: Inclusion and Prioritization of a New Natatorium in the 'Do the Greatest Good' Capital Campaign.
 - i. D. Howell presented UA R5 and asked that the assembly review the resolution then bring the resolution back next session for a vote.
 - ii. D. Cady made a friendly amendment to add themselves as a co-sponsor as a Welfare Committee Member and Undergrad.
 - 1. D. Howell stated that there were updates in the Box, one of which reflected this addition.
 - 2. D. Cady retracted the motion.
 - iii. D. Cady motioned to table UA R5 until the next meeting.
 - 1. J. Withers seconded the motion.
 - 2. The motion passed and the resolution was **tabled** with 13-0-1.
 - e. Attendance
 - i. B. Fortenberry outlined attendance expectations as stated in the by-laws.
- V. Assembly Reports



Cornell University University Assembly

- a. Student Assembly
 - i. A. Ononye reported the SA approval of Resolution 40: Spring Festival Gala Special Funding Project, Resolution 39: Zoom Live Transcription Implementation, Resolution 38: Establishing the Public Health and Safety Committee, and special project funding. Additionally, Resolution 42: Establish Feb 21st as the US-China Friendship Day at Cornell was tabled indefinitely.
 - ii. J. Feit asked if A. Ononye could speak more to Resolution 42.
 - iii. A. Ononye stated that the resolution was proposed by an international student representative to re-affirm support for Chinese students on campus. They attempted to do this through a proposed letter to the ambassador which also recommended actions in foreign policy.
- b. Graduate Professional Student Association
 - i. P. Hanley reported that they passed Resolution 13: Commending the Service of Wendy Treat.
 - ii. D. Cady asked if Resolution 13 is available for the SA to see.
 1. P. Hanley confirmed.
- c. Employee Assembly
 - i. J. Withers relayed COVID in the New Semester forum metrics.
 - ii. G. Giambattista stated that the 600 plus staff turn-out is more than they had in in-person years.
- d. Faculty Senate
 - i. E. DeRosa affirmed G. Giambattista's point. They reported the Faculty Senate had two discussions surrounding the pool and will give the UA an update in two weeks.
 - ii. R. Hanley motioned to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.
 1. J. Feit seconded the motion.
 2. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
- e. Executive Committee
 - i. J. Feit stated that they discussed the attendance expectations and questions submitted to M. Pollack.
- f. Campus Judicial Committee
 - i. J. Richards stated that they are scheduling their next meeting and presenting a resolution regarding CJC in the UA.
- g. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. D. Howell did not have an update.
- h. Campus Committee on Infostructure, Technology, and the Environment
 - i. A. Akisoglu did not have an update.



Cornell University
University Assembly

- VI. Liaison Reports
 - a. Carbon Neutral Campus Committee
 - i. I. Akisoglu relayed an update on the CUBO funding status.
 - b. B. Fortenberry thanked W. Treat for their hard work.
- VII. Adjournment
 - a. D. Sharp motioned to adjourn the meeting
 - i. J. Feit seconded the motion
 - ii. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kassandra Jordan
Clerk of the Assembly