

Cornell University University Assembly

Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the March 2, 2021

Meeting 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

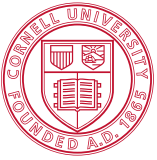
Zoom

I. Call to Order

- a. L. Kenney called the meeting to order at 4:32 PM.
- b. *Members Present:* V. Aymer, U. Chukwukere, H. Depew, C. Duell, D. Dunham, J. Feit, B. Fortenberry, T. Fox, D. Hiner, A. Hong, R. Howarth, L. Kenney, C. Levine, J. Pea, L. Smith, C. Van Loan, P. Villablanca Thompson, J. Withers
- c. *Members Absent:* C. Huang, B. Sherr
- d. *Also Present:* S. McMullen,

II. Presentation regarding Cornell's COVID-19 Response and Efforts: Anne Jones DO, MPH, and Sharon McMullen RN, MPH, FACHA.

- a. Sharon McMullen presented on Cornell's response to COVID, data trends, and interpretation of data.
 - i. A. Jones talked about key mitigation factors, testing (surveillance testing and testing for a cause), contact tracing, quarantine, and support be it physical or mental.
 1. They wanted to emphasize that in the process of contact tracing and quarantine medical information and is kept confidential.
 2. They touched on access to the COVID vaccine and eligibility within New York state. Cornell has received preliminary approval and they are waiting for final approval.
 - ii. S. McMullen talked about efforts on improving mental health at Cornell.
- b. L. Kenney opened the floor for questions.
- c. J. Feit thanked S. McMullen and A. Jones. They asked if there is transportation support in regards going to and from the hospital. They also asked for their take on daily check enforcement wording.
- d. A. Jones affirmed that they do have transportation infrastructure in place to and from the hospital.
- e. S. McMullen stated that they are dedicated to balancing commitments to both Cornell Health and enforcement, and that the aforementioned wording is a subject discussed.
- f. C. Van Loan asked is they have or keep a record of who is vaccinated.
- g. S. McMullen stated that students can upload records to Cornell Health, however they do not know if that is going to be the correct place to record data in the future as the data will be vital to understanding dedensification.



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- h. A. Jones stated that they are trying to see if they have the infrastructure to make it happen and still respect HIPPA, protection of information, and collect an earnest number of those who are vaccinated.
- i. D. Dunham asserted that the Daily Check is not HIPPA protected.
- j. A. Jones stated that they are currently looking at how to stratify the information on multiple committees.
- k. J. Pea asked if there were any updates regards to the staffing concerns in Cornell Health.
- l. A. Jones stated that Cornell Health has been supported in filling positions that are needed to provide student care. In January, they received permission to have 22 temporary physicians to see Cornell through these challenges.
- m. N. Danev asked who has access to the information on the Daily Check if it is not HIPPA protected.
- n. S. McMullen said that the Daily Check is a self-screening to take inventory of health in the moment and if there are things that indicated necessary care then the information would be presented to the user.
- o. D. Dunham motioned to add the slides to the minutes of the day (See Appendix B).
 - i. P. Thompson seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.

III. Business of the Day

- a. L. Kenney recited the Land Acknowledgement.
- b. Approval of the Meeting Minutes (11-24-2020, 12-01-2020, 12-08-20, 01-25-21, 02-16-21.)
 - i. J. Withers motioned to approve all the minutes.
 - 1. A. Hong seconded the motion.
 - 2. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.

IV. Resolution #13: Amending the University Assembly Bylaws to allow for the Continuation of Ad Hoc Committees and Subcommittees

- a. L. Kenney stated that since it is a by-law change and it was not presented a week before they would not be able to vote on it today.
- b. B. Fortenberry motioned to correct the resolution number from 14 to 13.
 - i. A. Hong seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion was **passed** with unanimous consent.
- c. J. Feit stated that while the intention of the CWC was to propose names, the committee came to the conclusion that a simple list of names would not be appropriate. They instead proposed an ad-hoc committee on this topic of naming. While on this topic, they addressed the topic of the permanence of ad-hoc



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committees. This resolution allows the ad-hoc committee to last beyond the limits of the University Assembly term.

- d. L. Kenney asked why they created a Bylaw change as opposed to the creating the committee in the Charter, similar to what happened with the CJC.
- e. J. Feit stated that they did not feel as though they, the CWC, had the authority to come up with this list of names as the committee should represent the community and different constituencies.
- f. L. Kenney amended her question. The CJC was able to gather comments and community input, and they were wondering why the CWC could not follow that model with regards to gathering comments and holding forums.
- g. J. Feit stated that they wanted the entire system to come from a diverse group of people.
- h. L. Kenney also noted a naming error in the Resolution.
- i. D. Dunham stated that it would not be feasible to have people serve on committees during the summer when it is already difficult to find those willing to serve during the semester. They do not believe that committees should be making decisions outside of the term in which the UA is in session as the UA would not have the ability to fill vacancies, remove members, or have oversight.
- j. C. Van Loan stated that ad-hoc committees should last a year, and if it lasts longer than it should be a regular committee.
- k. L. Kenney stated this topic should be under the purview of the CWC.
- l. N. Danev stated that it would be hard to staff over the summer. They also expressed that having a sub-committee that outlasts the committee is against Roberts Rules of Order. They recommend hosting community events to get opinions and then disseminate the information to other Assemblies.
- m. J. Feit stated that having people serve over the summer was not the intention. They move to table the resolution as upon listening to the concerns of the assembly members.
- n. J. Feit motioned to table Resolution 13 indefinitely.
 - i. D. Dunham seconded the motion and thanked J. Feit for his openness to tabling the resolution. They offer to help in the future if they wish to rewrite the resolution.
 - ii. The motion passed and Resolution #13 was **tabled** with 17-0-1.
- o. L. Kenney thanked J. Feit and B. Sherr for bringing up an important point to the assembly.

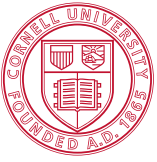
V. Committee Updates

- a. Campus Infrastructure Committee



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- i. J. Feit stated that they will be discussing TIC, a bike sharing platform, lighting on the slope, changing the committees' name, and ways to facilitate communication on the impact of carbon.
 - b. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. J. Feit said that last meeting they discussed renaming Goldwin Smith Hall. They stated that B. Sherr sent a report about the meeting and recommendations from the CWC. J. Feit stated that NAISAC joined them and weighed in on the conversation, they therefore they decided they wanted to avoid having a small committee create the names and are now investigating the best to approach.
 - c. Codes and Judicial Committee
 - i. B. Fortenberry stated they are primarily discussing ushering in the New Code of Conduct. They reported bringing in V.P. Lombardi and consultant Kevin Williams came in to discuss the next steps, especially in regard to the UHRB. They will be crafting a recommendation to V.P. Lombardi in the coming weeks.
 - d. Executive Committee
 - i. L. Kenney said that they discussed the UHRB conflict of interest, best practices to determine and handle conflicts of interest in the emergency capacity. They talked about sub-committees and ad-hoc committees. They also discussed UA By-law and Charter changes in general. For the Bylaws they need to change things for the CJC and the gendered terms within the language itself. They discussed creating an adhoc committee to address this.
 - e. B. Fortenberry motioned to extend the meeting by 10 minutes
 - i. J. Feit seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion passed without any opposition.
- VI. Constituent Group updates
 - a. Student Assembly
 - i. L. Smith stated they had a presentation on using SA funds and community organizations to address homeless needs in the community. They also talked about the re-opening of Anabel's Grocery.
 - b. Graduate & Professional Student Assembly
 - i. D. Dunham stated that GPSA met yesterday and talked about donating GPSA funds to the Access Funds. They are thinking of ways for the reserve fund to benefit graduate and professional students as their operation funds are relatively low. The Student Advocaty will come back with information on a TA issue about increased stress.
 - c. Employee Assembly



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- i. H Depew stated that next week there would be an open forum which would be “COVID, a Year Later” with senior leadership. They have mapped out steps forward from their priorities poll.
 - d. Faculty Senate
 - i. C. Van Loan stated that they will have a meeting on international joint degree program. They want to make the process more transparent and consistent, address how free speech and political factors of other countries might impact the program, and discuss the distinctions between joint-degree programs and individual research projects.
- VII. Open Floor Discussion
 - a. L. Kenney noted to tell P. Thompson if committees have vacancies.
 - b. L. Kenney stated that this is C. Duell’s last session in the UA. They thank C. Duell for serving on the U.A.
 - c. P. Thompson motioned to adjourn.
 - i. D. Dunham seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:0PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kassandra Jordan
Clerk of the Assembly