

Cornell University University Assembly

Cornell University's University Assembly

Minutes of the March 28th, 2023 Meeting

4:45 pm – 6:15 pm

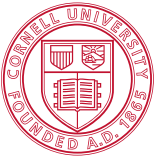
401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. D. Cady called the meeting to order at 4:49 pm.
 - i. *Members Present:* G. Akkan, M. Benda, R. Bensel, D. Cady, K. Carter-Cram, E. DeRosa, A. Haenlin-Mott, I. Hewson, D. Howell, Y. Hua, A. Juan, J. Kruser, M. McEntee, B. Milles, J. Sun, V. Valencia, S. Williams
 - ii. *Members Absent:* O. Akujuo, S. Aysola, M. Heeney, D. Hiner
 - iii. *Also Present:* I. Chasen, B. Fortenberry, E. Kalweit, R. Platt
- II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohono (Cayuga Nation)
 - a. D. Cady stated the UA's acknowledgment of the Cayuga Nation.
- III. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - a. D. Cady called for late additions to the agenda. No late additions were reported.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes from March 21st, 2023
 - a. R. Bensel motioned to approve the minutes from the March 21st, 2023 meeting.
 - i. M. Benda seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.
- V. Open Forum
 - a. Introduction of [UA Resolution #8 – Awareness, Prevention, and Training \(APT\) Measures Against Opioid Overdose Crises](#)
 - i. A. Juan introduced the Resolution to the Assembly urging the university to take action on preventing overdoses on campus.
 - ii. Questions for A. Juan led to discussions over how many overdoses have occurred on campus and Narcan availability in residential halls.
 - iii. D. Cady stated that the Resolution would be voted on at the April
- VI. Business of the Day
 - a. Consideration of [UA Resolution #6 – Declaring Cornell University a Purple Heart Facility](#)
 - i. D. Howell stated that the only change to the Resolution made since the last meeting was the addition of two sponsors.



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- ii. R. Bensel motioned to end debate on Resolution #6
 1. J. Kruser seconded the motion.
 2. The motion **passed** by unanimous consent.
 3. The resolution **passed** by a vote of 15-0-1.
- b. Consideration of [UA Resolution #7 – Protecting the Right to Protest](#)
 - i. I. Chasen stated that the Resolution was altered to address shared concerns over accountability and to emphasize the administration’s development of concrete plans to protect free speech.
 - ii. A. Haenlin-Mott put forward a motion to amend the resolution to include “disability status” after “ethnicity” and before “socioeconomic status” on line 41.
 1. J. Kruser seconded the motion.
 2. The amendment **passed** by unanimous consent.
 - iii. R. Bensel put forward a motion to amend the resolution to edit “political preference” on line 46 to read “political opinion”.
 1. D. Howell seconded the motion.
 2. The amendment **passed** by unanimous consent.
 - iv. J. Kruser put forward a motion to amend the resolution to include an additional result clause on line 78 before the final clause to read:
“Be it therefore resolved that the panel members of the University Hearing Board and University Review Board, as well as the staff of the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, shall receive annual training on freedom of speech and peaceful assembly;”.
 1. R. Bensel seconded the motion.
 2. I. Chasen stated his dissent on the amendment and his intent for the line to be broader.
 3. R. Bensel rescinded his second from the motion.
 4. J. Kruser **withdrew** the amendment and stated that the Assembly should work on a subsequent resolution addressing training on free speech and peaceful assembly.
 - v. Discussion ensued over the purpose and structure of lines 69-72 of the resolution in addressing the university’s administration.
 - vi. I. Chasen requested a motion to amend the resolution to change lines 69-72 to read:
“Be it therefore resolved, the University Assembly’s members, committees, and constituencies will engage in fact-finding in an effort to develop concrete plans to support and engage directly with these constituent-led



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efforts to keep free expression and the right to protest front of mind across the Cornell community;”.

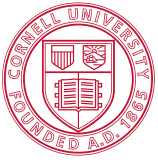
1. S. Williams put forward the motion.
 2. R. Bensel seconded the motion.
 3. The motion to amend **passed** by unanimous consent.
- vii. E. DeRosa put forward a motion to make the resolution available for public comment.
1. J. Kruser seconded the motion.
 2. The motion **passed** by a vote of 15-1-1.

VII. Assembly Reports

- a. Student Assembly
 - i. V. Valencia stated that the Student Assembly passed Resolution 31, which added content warnings to students for certain classes, and discussed their election rules with two resolutions on slating coming soon.
- b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
 - i. K. Carter-Cram stated that the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly is still working on elections.
- c. Employee Assembly
 - i. A. Haenlin-Mott stated that the Employee Assembly is preparing for elections and are looking for candidates. She also stated that the Assembly has prepared an employee forum with Christine Lovely, Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, for April 28th.
- d. Faculty Senate
 - i. B. Milles stated that the Faculty Senate will be bringing a resolution from the Research Teaching Extension Faculty Task Force at their next meeting.

VIII. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. Nothing to report
- b. Campus Codes Committee
 - i. R. Bensel stated that the Campus Codes Committee is working on the best way to revise the University Assembly’s governing documents and requests that Assembly members consider what aspects of the document they would like changed.
- c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. A. Juan stated that the Campus Welfare Committee passed Resolution #8.
- d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment



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i. Nothing to report

IX. Liaison Reports

- a. A. Haenlin-Mott stated that the Campus Planning Committee had a 10-year parking trend and transportation issue update at their last meeting.

X. Adjournment

- a. R. Bensel motioned to adjourn the meeting.
i. M. Benda seconded the motion.
ii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
P.J. Brown
Clerk of the Assembly