

# Cornell University University Assembly

## Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the September 20, 2022 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:00 PM

Room 401, Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

### I. Call to Order

- a. Chair D. Cady called the meeting to order at 4:50 pm in the lobby of the fourth floor of the Physical Sciences Building.
- b. *Members Present:* G. Akkan, M. Benda, R. Bensel, D. Cady, K. Cram, E. DeRosa, A. Haenlin-Mott, P. Hanley, I. Hewson, D. Howell, Y. Hua, A. Juan, J. Kruser, M. McEntee, B. Milles, V. Valencia
- c. *Members Absent:* O. Akujuo, S. Bhardwaj, I. Hewson, D. Hiner, J. Sun
- d. *Also Present:* G. Giambattista, D. Honan, D. Krahmer, N. Lendved, D. Maas, K. Reichenbach

### 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 provided an overview of the current agenda.
- b. No late additions

### IV. Approval of the May 10, 2022 and September 6, 2022 Minutes

- a. A. Juan motioned to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2022 and September 6, 2022 meetings. P. Hanley seconded and the motion passed by unanimous consent.

### V. Motion to Recess

- a. D. Cady motioned to take a five-minute recess. D. Howell seconded.
- b. D. Cady resumed the meeting at 5:12 pm in Room 401, Physical Sciences Building.

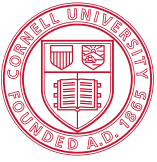
### VI. Open Forum

- a. D. Honan and D. Maas provided a presentation on Cornell University Emergency Management. They detailed efforts to increase university capabilities to prepare and plan for emergencies.
  - i. D. Maas detailed the Emergency Operations Plan utilized by the Office of Emergency Management, including roles, responsibilities, incident management structure, strategies, and capabilities for the Office. He detailed the responses from individuals that the Office expects, including calling for



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- help and providing help until help arrives, and directed the Assembly to the Emergency Action Guide found on the OEM website. He also detailed their Emergency Management Structure, first identifying and describing the role of first responders, local emergency services, the Incident Management Team, the Incident Leadership Team, and the President's Office.
- ii. J. Kruser asked whether the Emergency Operations Plan covers other Cornell campuses aside from the Ithaca campus. D. Maas stated that the Plan only addresses the Ithaca campus, but that Emergency Management is available to support the operations of other Cornell campuses and that the plan is open to the public.
  - iii. D. Honan introduced examples of the Office of Emergency Management's involvement in recent emergencies on campus, including the weapon and bomb threat that took place on November 9, 2021, and the armed suspect on campus on November 11, 2021.
  - iv. D. Maas emphasized the importance of the limitations in providing information to the public in real-time that the Office of Emergency Management faces. He then detailed several improvements that the Office has made following these incidents.
  - v. R. Bensel asked about the possibility of improving the 15-minute gap for cellphone alerts during an emergency. D. Honan and D. Maas stated that this is one of the limitations that the Office of Emergency Management faces in communicating with the public and that text alerts and the Emergency Management website are faster in providing updates.
  - vi. K. Cram asked how the Office of Emergency Management was able to receive feedback. D. Maas stated that the Office of Emergency Management receives unsolicited feedback and will also ask the community for feedback following an emergency.
  - vii. D. Cady motioned to extend the meeting by ten more minutes. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
  - viii. D. Cady asked about the infrastructure for promoting the Emergency Management Plan and providing updates during an emergency. D. Maas stated that text messages and emails include a URL link to [emergency.cornell.edu](https://emergency.cornell.edu) and that the Plan was promoted in a video that should have been distributed to new students. D. Honan states that the Plan is also promoted in his weekly updates sent to the Cornell community.
  - ix. A. Haenlin-Mott asked whether there is a similar report to that distributed by Ithaca Fire. D. Maas states that the report mentioned was conducted



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mainly by first responders and that the Office of Emergency Management uses the concept to review activities and incidents.

- x. V. Valencia asked whether part of the change following the two incidents involved rewording alerts sent to the community to avoid misinterpreted messaging. D. Maas responded that the Office of Emergency Management has pre-existing templates and that a bomb threat template has been added to that collection.

### **VII. Business of the Day**

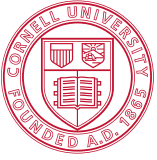
- a. D. Cady stated that questions for President Pollack are due by November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- b. D. Cady motioned to extend the meeting by five minutes. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

### **VIII. Assembly Reports**

- a. Student Assembly
  - i. V. Valencia stated that there is a new University Assembly representative from the Student Assembly, G. Dong, who will begin attending meetings beginning the October 18 meeting.
- b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
  - i. Nothing to report
- c. Employee Assembly
  - i. A. Haenlin-Mott stated that the EA meets tomorrow and that there are major appointments that have yet to be filled, though G. Giambattista has collected some names. A. Haenlin-Mott stated that a priority for the EA is to send out their Priorities Poll by the end of September.
- d. Faculty Senate
  - i. E. DeRosa stated that the Senate met on September 14 related to the super-department of Design + Technology, which synthesizes the College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, College of Human Ecology, College of Computing and Information Sciences, and Cornell Tech.

### **IX. Committee Reports**

- a. Executive Committee
  - i. D. Howell stated that the Committee met last week to review President Pollack's visit and that Bruce Lewenstein, the new university Ombuds, will attend the next meeting.
- b. Codes and Judicial Committee



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- i. R. Bensel stated that the Committee is still recruiting members. D. Cady reminded the Assembly that each Committee is required to produce two voting members and two community members. B. Milles expressed the importance of being updated by committee chairs as appointments.
  - c. Campus Welfare Committee
    - i. Nothing to report
  - d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment
    - i. D. Hiner stated that the Committee is still recruiting members and has just received a new and larger list of members. D. Cady stated that there will not be a meeting on October 4, 2022, to respect Rosh Hashanah but that there is an expectation that Committees continue to meet.

### **X. Liaison Reports**

- a. D. Hiner stated that the Sustainability Committee will be holding a State of Cornell Sustainability Address on September 27 from 12-1pm and a Fall Sustainability Mix-and-Mingle on October 19 from 4:30-6:30pm in Willard Straight Hall.

### **XI. Adjournment**

- a. D. Cady stated that this will be the last day for G. Giambattista. G. Giambattista stated that working in the Office of the Assemblies has been so rewarding because of the people involved in the Assemblies. G. Giambattista stated that E. Kalweit will step in as the interim director of the Assemblies and that a search for a permanent director has been opened.
- b. D. Cady motioned to adjourn the meeting. R. Bensel seconded.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*PJ Brown*

Clerk of the Assembly