

Cornell University University Assembly

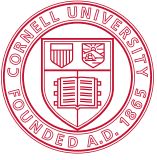
Cornell University's University Assembly

Minutes of the October 17th, 2023 Meeting

4:45 pm – 6:15 pm

401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. S. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:52pm.
 - i. *Members Present:* M. Benda, A. Broad, E. Crawley, E. DeRosa, D. Dinner, A. Haenlin-Mott, M. Heeney, I. Hewson, J. Kruser, P. Kuehl, M. Matthews, M. McEntee, B. Milles, J. VanHouten, A. Vinson, J. Wallen, S. Williams
 - ii. *Members Absent:* C. Ting, A. Vinson
 - iii. *Also Present:* E. Kalweit
- II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohono (Cayuga Nation)
 - a. S. Williams stated the UA's acknowledgment of the Cayuga Nation.
- III. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - a. J. Wallen put forward a motion to add Resolution 1 – Removing Median Grades to the agenda.
 - i. P. Kuehl seconded the motion.
 - ii. The resolution was **added** to the agenda under Business of the Day.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes from the October 3rd, 2023 Meeting
 - a. P. Kuehl motioned to approve the minutes from the October 3rd, 2023 meeting.
 - i. E. DeRosa seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.
- V. Open Forum
 - a. Processing Space for Campus Well-Being
 - i. B. Milles stated that she is looking for ideas on how to ease the health of the Cornell campus climate and establish safe dialogue on campus considering current world events.
 1. Discussion ensued on connecting with leadership among the Ivies, how the universities can provide tangible impact in world events, providing support for these conversations in a method like Dartmouth's Brave Spaces initiative, and the importance of acknowledging the impact of these events for those who are personally affected.



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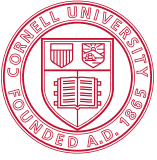
- b. Communications and Outreach Committee
 - i. E. Crawley stated that the Executive Committee is considering creating a committee to help initiate passive and active programming and outreach across campus and called for input from the Assembly.
 - 1. Discussion over ensued on whether the Assembly has the bandwidth to start this committee and whether the role should be occupied by one person.
- c. “Make Cornell Pay” Letter
 - i. S. Williams called for input or thoughts on the Make Cornell Pay initiative.
 - 1. Discussion ensued over the timing of any intervening actions that the Assembly may take given the settlement between the Ithaca Town Board and the university and the importance of discussing the ethical commitment of the university with Vice President Malina.

VI. Business of the Day

- a. University Hearing and Review Panel Members
 - i. E. Crawley stated that there the University Hearing and Review Panel is searching for 9 faculty (open to UA and non-UA members) and 3 students (open to graduate and undergraduate students) to be members.
- b. Presentation on Resolution Drafting, Creation, and Support
 - i. S. Williams provided a presentation on how Assembly members can draft resolutions.
 - 1. Discussion over ensued over the purpose and necessity of submitting resolutions to the President and the process of writing resolutions.
- c. Consideration of Resolution 1 – Removing Median Grades
 - i. J. Wallen introduced Resolution 1 to the Assembly to be voted on that the Assembly’s next meeting and stated that the resolution requests the removal of median grades from student transcripts.
 - 1. E. DeRosa stated that a similar resolution will come to the Faculty Senate at some point in the academic year.
 - 2. Discussion ensued over the demoralization students feel with the inclusion of median grades on a transcript, whether the resolution applies to all members of the Assembly, and the timing of voting on the resolution.

VII. Assembly Reports

- a. Student Assembly



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- i. Nothing to report
- b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
 - i. M. Matthews stated that the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly filled all but one voting position and sent out a survey to students on engagement with Cornell Cinema.
- c. Employee Assembly
 - i. J. VanHouten stated that the Employee Assembly will be focusing on filling vacant committee seats at their next meeting.
- d. Faculty Senate
 - i. E. DeRosa stated that the Faculty Senate had visits from the Vice President of Undergraduate Education to discuss removing incompletes from transcripts, the Chief Integrity Officer for an audit of academic misconduct, and members of a faculty task force to revisit undergraduate admissions.

VIII. Committee Reports

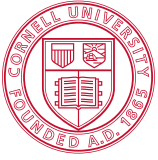
- a. Executive Committee
 - i. E. Crawley stated that the Executive Committee has discussed agenda items for this meeting.
 - ii. B. Milles stated that the Executive Committee is considering bringing in a speaker to discuss the report on sexual violence on campus.
- b. Campus Codes Committee
 - i. Nothing to report
- c. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment
 - i. Nothing to report
- d. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. Nothing to report

IX. Adjournment

- a. M. Matthews motioned to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. A. Broad seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm.

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



Cornell University
University Assembly