



Cornell University University Assembly

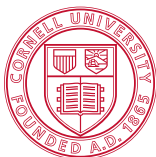
Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the November 14, 2017 Meeting

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

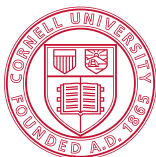
Room 401, Physical Sciences Building

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - a. Roll Call
 - i. *Present:* J. Anderson, M. Battaglia, R. Bensel, L. Copman, M. de Roos, K. Fitch, M. Hatch, N. Jaisinghani, G. Kaufman, J. Kruser, J. Kim, E. Michel, K. Quinn, U. Smith, C. Van Loan, A. Waymack, E. Winarto
 - ii. *Absent:* R. Howarth, E. Loew, A. Martinez
 - b. Welcome and Introduction (3 minutes)
 - c. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda (1 minute)
- II. President Martha Pollack and Vice President for University Relations Joel Malina (25 minutes)
 - a. President Martha Pollack gave some updates to the University Assembly.
 - i. She said that the Breazzano Family Center for Business Education in Collegetown was dedicated on October 18, 2017, and that the newly renovated Cornell Health was dedicated on October 20, 2017.
 - ii. She said that are five new hires to the CAPS program. She also discussed the campus climate, speaking on the Alternative Dispute Resolution program, the Presidential Task Force, the Panhellenic Council, and the new Free Speech Presidential Speaker Series.
 - iii. She said that she is pleased with the University Assembly's work on the Campus Code of Conduct and the issues of Hate Speech. She said that she encourages the Codes and Judicial Committee and the Presidential Task Force to work together and engage in outreach.
 - iv. She said that she received Resolution #4: Addressing Housekeeping Changes and Laying the Groundwork for a Holistic Evaluation of the Campus Code of Conduct last week, and that she is reviewing the resolution, and may be able to accept nearly all of the changes.
 - b. After her updates, President Pollack and Vice President for University Relations Malina answered some questions from the University Assembly.
 - i. M. Battaglia asked about Cornell Tech and potentially mirroring Cornell Tech to the Ithaca Campus to include a Judicial Administrator and Ombudsman.



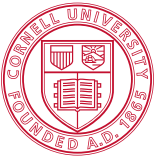
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1. President Pollack said that there are only 300 students at Cornell Tech, but that she would look into it.
 - ii. J. Anderson asked about the impact of the proposed tax legislation.
 1. President Pollack said it would not be beneficial for Cornell.
 2. VP Malina acknowledged the GPSA Dial-a-thon and was grateful for the support. He said Cornell is aggressively advocating and expressing our concerns and encourages the community to do the same.
 - iii. President Pollack expressed desire to implement a Consensual Relationship Policy. Cornell does not have a policy. What we have is quite vague. We need to have this policy to protect faculty, students and the university. Many of our peers already have a policy.
 1. C. Van Loan will co-chair the committee. President Pollack has asked for a policy to be adopted by the end of the year; and in the absence of such a policy, she will go to the Board of Trustees to adopt one.
 - iv. L. Copman asked about the Strategic Plan for the university. Where do you see us going and how are we going to get there?
 1. President Pollack stated she would review and respond to the GPSA resolution.
 - v. R. Bensel – on the Consensual Relationship Policy, the FS has been discussing this for quite some time. If there is such a policy, suggest it is provisional, pending approval by the governance bodies.
 1. President Pollack stated that if campus governance can't propose a policy –with the Dean of Faculty and a member of the GPSA as co-chairs—then she would step in to ensure there is a policy adopted.
- III. Approval of the Minutes (Chair)
 - a. October 17, 2017 (2 minutes) – M. Battaglia motioned to amend pg. 4 at VI.d.i “discusses UA R5; it was briefly introduced before it was tabled”
 - b. **Motion to table meeting** minutes until some of the edits could be sorted out.
Motion approved to table meeting minutes.
- IV. Assembly Reports
 - a. Student Assembly (J. Kim) (2 minutes)
 - i. J. Kim - Cornell Cinema has been on the agenda; we will be meeting with the administration and staff of Cornell Cinema to find a compromise.



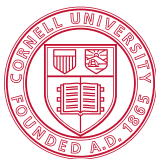
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- ii. There is an SA resolution pending to ask the Breazzano Family Center in Collegetown to be open to undergraduate students after 9:00pm.
 - b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (E. Winarto) (2 minutes)
 - i. E. Winarto – working on the Student Activity Fee allocation; GPSA R3; and GPSA R8; also GPSA R6, development of a university strategic plan; Dial-a-thon planned to address the federal tax plan.
 - c. Employee Assembly (U. Smith) (2 minutes)
 - i. U. Smith - The EA has been busy with Gordon Barger, University Benefits, to discuss LGBTQ family benefits, specifically regarding surrogacy and adoption. The Climate and Sustainability update is coming up; also a resolution on Condemning Violence and Hate.
 - d. Faculty Senate (C. Van Loan) (2 minutes)
 - i. C. Van Loan – passed a resolution which re-defines the process for becoming Emeritus. Also had three speakers attend to discuss Free Speech, Wendy Tarlow, Risa Lieberwitz, Prof. Tebbe; a high point. We talked about the issues with how to upload syllabi. The Provost has left the process to the colleges and there are some inconsistencies, so we are trying to work out the details.
 - 1. J. Kruser – interested in the details about Emeritus process.
 - 2. C. Van Loan – the colleges make the recommendations. The Trustees will have to vote on the changes. The idea is to make “Emeritus” a modifier for an academic position. It is a status, not a promotion.
- V. Committee Reports
- a. Executive Committee (A. Waymack) (2 minutes)
 - i. A. Waymack - We discussed invoking Speaker time limits. One minute with a 10-second warning; We passed a statement on hate crimes, but need the amendments made on the floor. Request to email Anna directly. Any requests for time at the UA, please have them reach out the Anna directly for consideration on an agenda.
 - 1. M. Battaglia – against speaker time limits.
 - ii. A. Waymack – **moved to establish a one-minute time limit**. Seconded.
 - iii. Discussion:
 - 1. M. Battaglia – clarified that the motion would limit any member of the assembly to speak for one minute.



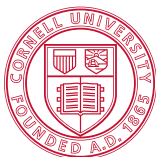
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2. J. Kruser – clarified rationale – the meetings have been running over quite regularly. A time limit would allow all voices to be heard. Process would allow for multiple opportunities (first, second speaker's lists, etc.), but in one-minute increments.
3. M. Battaglia – opposed to rationale. Feels cutting off members would stifle discussion. Curtailing the rights of members to speak will diminish free and open discussion.
4. C. Van Loan – agrees with Jeramy. Forces people to do their homework ahead of time and use speaking time succinctly.
5. A. Waymack – it would allow an opportunity to hear from all members. It does not cut off discussion – it merely postpones them so that other members may speak.
6. U. Smith – Agree with Jeramy, Charlie and Anna. Called the question.
7. Vote called. Adoption of a Standing Rule requires 2/3 vote of members present. Requires 14 members to approve.
 - a. **Motion failed. Vote 10-5-1**
 - b. A. Waymack – in light of vote, a personal request to members to curtail their time and respect all members' voices.
- b. Codes and Judicial Committee (M. Battaglia) (5 minutes)
 - i. Finalizing the questions for the UHRB application.
 - ii. Process of examining how we will approach amending the Campus Code of Conduct.
 - iii. UHRB Chairs will attend an upcoming meeting
 - iv. HSWG charge has been established; there was be a public forum on Friday; people were very impassioned about the topic of Hate Speech; forum was not well attended.
 - v. Requested an extension of time for the CJC to provide language to the UA regarding hate speech provisions in the Code.
 - vi. Has received comments and intimidating messages from members of the community, but will not be deterred (M. Battaglia). Wanted to bring these matters to the assembly.
 1. J. Anderson – agrees timeline should be extended in order to give members enough time to engage with the community. Wants all members to be supported. Concerned that members of committees



may feel their mental health is affected. Encourage all members to support each other and reach out.

2. C. Van Loan – asked for clarification on the nature of the threats.
3. M. Battaglia – declined to specify. Confidential.
4. A. Waymack – asked if the UA should be notifying Campus Police?
5. M. Battaglia – people are passionate, and these may or may not be direct threats; rather perceptions; but UA should be aware.
6. G. Kaufman – Chief Zoner is a member of the CJC, so she would be aware.
7. J. Kruser – if there are tense relationships, we should discuss how best to proceed as a body, so no individual is singled out and feels threatened.
8. M. Battaglia – **Motion to extend timeline of charge to the CJC** to the end of the academic year. Also, request the chair of the HSWG provide a report to the UA during the spring semester. Seconded.
 - a. A. Waymack – if we extend to the end of the academic year, we are foisting the situation to the next UA, essentially passing the buck.
 - b. J. Kruser – **amendment** – CJC provide regular progress reports during the semester to the UA; until such time as the recommendation is received.
 - c. U. Smith – dissent. Does think the extension should be considered at this time, but that the exact deadline for submission of a recommendation should not be determined at this meeting. The CJC has had 6 or 8 weeks to discuss this and we have nothing. Propose that the CJC should instead come back with a full and articulated timeline that the UA can review. We have to stop the practice of giving ‘blank checks’ to the CJC.
 - d. R. Bense – doubts the CJC will be able to come up with a timeline of its own, since there is no way yet to coordinate with the Presidential Task Force. There is a fire here. If we don’t move quickly, the Task Force will preempt our own recommendation.
 - e. A. Waymack – move the question. Suggest voting it down, and ask the CJC to come back at the next meeting with a



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timeline such as was suggested by U. Smith. Also, inviting members of the HSWG.

f. M. Hatch – **moved to table. Second.**

i. **Vote: 9-5-2; motion tabled.**

ii. G. Kaufman - Recommendation to M. Battaglia to come back to the next UA meeting with a timeline from the CJC.

iii. M. Battaglia – the agendas of the CJC are very full; we should not have to rush. Hammering out a timeline will be difficult.

g. A. Waymack – **motion to extend meeting by 15 minutes.**

i. Second. Dissent. Debate.

1. M. Hatch – we should adjust the agenda and not have reports; and go right into business without extending. Move to suspend reports.

ii. **Chair acted to extend meeting by 15 minutes** and move directly to business of the day, dispensing with Liaison Reports.

~~e. Campus Welfare Committee (J. Anderson) (2 minutes)~~

~~d. Campus Infrastructure Committee (N. Jaisinghani) (3 minutes)~~

~~VI. Liaison Reports~~

~~a. Policy Advisory Group (E. Winarto) (1 minute)~~

~~b. Transportation Task Force (K. Fitch) (1 minute)~~

~~c. Council on Sexual Violence Prevention (K. Quinn) (2 minutes)~~

~~d. Student Health Benefits Advisory Council (J. Anderson) (2 minutes)~~

~~e. Campus Planning Committee (M. Hatch) (1 minute)~~

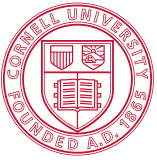
VII. Business of the Day

a. Resolution 6: Integrating Sustainable Investments into Endowment Reports (N. Jaisinghani) (10 minutes)

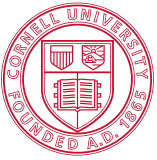
i. N. Jaisinghani – Resolution has passed through the SA and the CIC already.

ii. Co-sponsor (?) would like UA support. Two main points: Investment transparency and investment responsibility (aligning with STARS recommendation).

1. G. Kaufman – **Amend lines 6-8 to read, “University Assembly Campus Infrastructure Committee” – second. Passed.**



2. M. Battaglia – is the CIC fully staffed and have you spoken to stakeholders about this? What goes into the STARS metrics?
 - a. Co-sponsor – Have spoken with SCLAG and S. Zamenick to understand the STARS scores, which overall is very high for Cornell. The only metric we lag behind our peer institutions is “Investment Disclosures and Committee on Investor Responsibility”.
3. A. Waymack – **motion to table**; second.
 - a. No dissent – **Resolution is tabled.**
- b. Resolution 3: Calling for the Development of a Strategic Plan (J. Anderson) (10 minutes)
 - i. J. Anderson – resolution is not the amended version that we discussed last meeting. Line 40 – **motion to amend**, “strike the word “spring” from the resolution” Amend to “completed IN 2018”.
 1. C. Van Loan – strategic plans are a lot of work. All of the things requested in the resolution require research. But the Provost has the 7 strategic initiatives. There are over 60 faculty working on these. There is a “Visionary Committee” looking at Cornell Tech; plus three Task Forces. There is so much going on already that intersects the requests in the resolution. It is laudable to do a strategic plan, but the timing is not good. We are already doing most of these things. Plus, there is a matter of work-load, in trying to staff these committees... If there was an argument for “even though we are already doing much of these things, there is a reason to do more...” but that argument is not made in the resolution.
 2. U. Smith – Agree with Charlie. Does not disagree with the sentiment of the resolution to coordinate the initiatives already under way; but the timing is flawed. Give the president time to establish her cabinet before establishing a timeline of “2018”. Better to table this resolution.
 3. R. Bensel – agree with Charlie; so many task forces already in play. This resolution is not the way to address it. If there could be a Monitoring Committee, we would be kept apprised.
 4. L. Copman – Number one recommendation from working on a Sustainability Plan is to develop a strategic plan. Cornell’s last strategic plan only went through 2014. Our peer institutions have

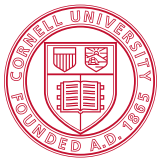


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overarching global strategies. We should have one as well. We should have a proactive position, rather than reactive. We should know what is most important for the university. There is nothing integrated in the list of all of the initiatives Charlie mentioned; which of those is a priority?

5. M. Hatch – to Charlie’s point, all of the people working on the existing initiatives should be taken into account. The authors of the resolution should take a look at the specific components in the resolved clauses to integrate them into a holistic committee. Suggests tabling the resolution.
6. M. Battaglia – **motion to extend meeting** by 5 meetings.
 - a. U. Smith dissent.
 - i. K. Fitch has to leave to drive home
 - ii. U. Smith – has to leave the meeting
 - b. **Vote: majority voted to extended** the meeting by 5 minutes
7. A. Waymack – sees merit to urgency. Would there be compromise to changing the dates on the resolution to “end of this academic year, and moving forward”? **Motion to table** – so that Anna can work with sponsors to modify the resolution and bring it back at a later time.
8. G. Kaufman – encourage well thought-out amendments, not on the fly.
9. A. Waymack – **motion to amend**, line #39, removing the date parameters: “begin in fall 2018 ... spring of 2019” and line #50: “update on the strategic plan to the UA by October of 2019”.
Second
 - a. C. Van Loan – everything I mentioned before will be over by then.
 - b. Called the question. **Amendments passed.**
10. A. Waymack moved the question – amended resolution:
 - a. **Vote: 15-0-1 motion approved.**
 - c. Resolution 5: Bylaws Change Clarifying the Charge of the Codes & Judicial Committee (M. Battaglia) (5 minutes)
 - i. De facto tabled to next meeting.
 - d. **Motion to adjourn.** Seconded.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned (1 minute)



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