

# Cornell University University Assembly

## Cornell University's University Assembly

Minutes of the November 28<sup>th</sup> , 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 4:56 pm
    - i. *Members Present*: M. Benda, A. Broad, E. Crawley, E. DeRosa, D. Dinner, M. Heeney, I. Hewson, J. Kruser, P. Kuehl, M. Matthews, J. VanHouten, A. Vinson, J. Wallen, S. Williams
    - ii. Members Absent: A. Haenlin-Mott, M. McEntee, B. Milles, C. Ting
    - iii. *Also Present*: A. Breitstein, R. DeLorenzo, J. Hecht, E. Kalweit, C. Lederman, R. Platt, M. Pollack, J. Withers
- II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogoho:no (Cayuga Nation)
  - a. S. Williams stated the UA's acknowledgment of the Cayuga Nation.
- III. Approval of the Minutes from the November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting
  - a. A. Broad motioned to approve the minutes from the November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting.
    - i. J. Kruser seconded the motion.
    - ii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.
- IV. Business of the Day
  - a. President Pollack's Remarks
    - i. M. Pollack provided remarks on updates on the university and on the university's response to calls to limit free speech on campus following conflict on campus over the ongoing Israel-Hamas war.
  - b. Q&A with President Pollack
    - i. M. Pollack answered questions from the Assembly on fostering informed dialogue, institutional plans for improving regional transportation infrastructure, the importance of free expression on campus, a forthcoming anti-doxing statement from the university, when and how the university's administration decides to release a statement, and treatment of graduate fellows on campus.
  - c. Presentation from J. Hecht on S.H.A.R.E.
    - i. J. Hecht provided a presentation on the 2023 Cornell Survey of Sexual Assault and Related Misconduct.



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- ii. M. Heeney put forward a motion to extend the meeting for ten additional minutes.
  - 1. M. Matthews seconded the motion.
  - 2. The meeting was extended to end at 6:25pm.
- iii. Discussion ensued over the university's response to sexual misconduct on campus, whether attacks have reoccurred, and whether the survey's metrics for TGQN individuals have increased alongside a higher number of members identifying as TGQN who fill out the survey.

#### V. Assembly Reports

- a. Student Assembly
  - i. P. Kuehl stated that the Student Assembly has a final meeting where they will pass their student activity fee, which is expected to increase.
- b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
  - i. M. Matthews stated that the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly passed their student activity fee for the next two years and is planning to send it for approval by the President soon. She also stated that graduate students have unionized and that the assembly's final meeting will include a vote on a resolution to use some of their reserve funds to help Cornell Cinema host outdoor screenings in the summer.

### c. Employee Assembly

- i. J. VanHouten stated that the Employee Assembly added two new members as incidental vacancies and that there will likely be more incidental vacancies filled at future meetings.
- d. Faculty Senate
  - i. Nothing to report

### VI. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee
  - i. E. Crawley stated that the Executive Committee discussed questions for President Pollack, a meeting structure for future assembly meetings, organizing committee meetings, and the partnership across the other assemblies.
- b. Campus Codes Committee
  - i. R. DeLorenzo stated that the committee has yet to meet but that he met with the Office of Conduct and Community Standards to discuss issues that the committee has previously noted.
- c. Campus Welfare Committee



- i. Nothing to report
- d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment
  - i. J. Wallen stated that the committee discussed securing funding, supporting sustainability initiatives, and sending out a survey to sustainability organizations across campus.

#### VII. Adjournment

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

This meeting was adjourned at 6:26pm.

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