U.A. Resolution # 9

Reinstating the Budget Planning Committee

February 13th, 2018

Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson, Chair of Campus Welfare Committee; University Assembly and Linda Copman, Employee; University Assembly

On Behalf Of: University Assembly Campus Welfare Committee

Whereas, the Budget Planning Committee was a former working committee that convened from 2006-2009; and

Whereas, the Faculty Senate still continue to be involved in the budget planning process regarding specific needs and concerns of faculty via the Financial Policies Committee; and

Whereas, shared governance at Cornell University enables members of the community to have access to information, involvement in matters of concern to them, and the authority to examine these issues and make recommendations to the appropriate administrative officers and the President; and

Whereas, the University Assembly is a stakeholder in major university policy initiatives and works to establish and maintain open, effective, and efficient channels of communication between and amongst the community and university administration; and

Whereas, the University Assembly Committees report to the University Assembly and are charged with seeking advice and comments from non-members while discussing a specific issue or policy which impacts a substantial segment of the university community; and

Whereas, the University Assembly’s Budget Planning Committee was previously charged with reviewing policy and making recommendations to the university provost concerning development of the university’s long-range plan and budget policies with regards to such financial issues as tuition, student fees, financial aid, graduate student stipends, enrollments, compensation, and endowed Ithaca employee benefits rates; and

Whereas, the university’s budget guides institutional decisions about where to invest resources; and

Whereas, the university’s budget is of common interest to all members of the Cornell community since it impacts a substantial segment of the university community; and
Whereas, the University Assembly wishes to reinstate its Budget Planning Committee and charge this committee with reviewing policy and making recommendations to the university provost concerning development of the university’s long-range plan and budget policies; therefore

Be it therefore resolved, that the University Assembly formally requests that the president and provost, and the University Assembly reinstate the Budget Planning Committee as an associated committee of the University Assembly, to convene its first meeting in September 2018; and

Be it Further Resolved, that all assemblies will have the ability to appoint members to the Budget Planning Committee; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the bylaws be amended to reflect the changes in the attached appendix; and

Be it Finally Resolved, that the university administration should consult with the Budget Planning Committee to ensure that members of the Cornell community are invited to share in the budget planning process and participate in shaping the university’s budget policies.
Appendix

Section 5.4: Budget Planning Committee

The Budget Planning Committee (the “Committee”) supports comprehensive and financial stewardship and clear budgetary planning processes across the university.

Sub-Section 5.4.1: Responsibilities

A. The Committee’s charge is to review and make recommendations to the President regarding budget and financial planning, including, but not limited to:

1) Long-range budget planning;
2) Tuition;
3) Financial Aid;
4) Graduate student stipends;
5) Enrollment management;
6) Endowed Employee compensation and benefit rates

B. Furthermore, the BPC shall review, in consultation with the appropriate committees of the University Assembly, all plans for alterations of or additions to policies regarding Financial Aid, tuition, enrollment management, graduate student stipends and endowed employee compensation and benefits, all matters related to the business development of the university, and all matters relating to campus planning and infrastructure

C. The BPC shall conduct meetings in closed session, and all members will hold seats contingent upon their maintaining a high-level of confidentiality and their written consent to non-disclosure agreements. The Chair of the Committee may hold public meetings to solicit public feedback, as needed, but must hold at least one open meeting per semester.

D. In order to serve on the BPC all members must agree to the condition of confidentiality

Sub-Section 5.4.2: Composition

A. The BPC shall consist of eight members: two Presidential Appointments, one from the Student Assembly, one from the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, one from the Employee Assembly, one from the Faculty Senate, one from the University Assembly, and the Chair will be appointed by the University Assembly with approval by the President
B. The President of the University shall make two appointments, and those individuals will serve three-year terms.

C. The five members from the Student Assembly, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Employee Assembly, Faculty Senate, and University Assembly shall serve two-year terms.

D. The University Assembly shall appoint a Chair, upon approval of the President of the University, and shall serve a three-year term.