

Cornell University University Assembly

109 Day Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853
p. 607.255.3175
f. 607.255.2182
e. assembly@cornell.edu
w. <http://assembly.cornell.edu>

Agenda

University Assembly

March 21, 2017

4:30pm - 6:00pm

401 Physical Sciences Building

- I. Call to Order (Chair)**
 - i. Roll Call (1 minute)
 - ii. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda (1 minute)
- II. Approval of Minutes (Chair)**
 - i. 2.14.2017 Meeting Minutes, 2017 (2 minute) ^[1]
 - ii. 2.28.2017 Meeting Minutes, 2017 (1 minute) ^[2]
- III. Assembly Reports**
 - i. EA Chair (U. Smith) (2 minutes)
 - ii. SA President (J. Berger) (2 minutes)
 - iii. Dean of Faculty (C. Van Loan) (2 minutes)
 - iv. GPSA President (N. Rogers) (2 minutes)
- IV. Committee Reports**
 - i. Executive Committee (E. Baptist) (10 minutes)
 - ii. Campus Welfare Committee (U. Smith) (3 minutes)
 - iii. Campus Infrastructure Committee (J. Kruser) (3 minutes)
 - iv. Codes and Judicial Committee (M. Battaglia) (3 minutes)
- V. Liaison Reports**
 - i. Policy Advisory Group (E. Winarto) (4 minutes)
 - ii. Student Health Advisory Committee (J. Berger) (4 minutes)
 - iii. Campus Planning Committee (R. Howarth) (4 minutes)
- VI. Business of the Day**
 - i. Appointment of UA Representative to Judicial Codes Counselor Search Committee (5 minutes)
 - ii. For Introduction: UA AY 2016-2017 Resolution #6: "Commitment to Web Accessibility" (J. Kruser) (30 minutes) ^[3]
 - iii. For Discussion: Tobacco-Free Referendum (10 minutes) ^[4]
- VII. Late Additions to the Agenda**
 - i. Late Additions to the Agenda (2 minutes)
- VIII. Adjournment**
 - i. Adjournment (2 minute)

If you are in need of special accommodations, contact Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 prior to the meeting.

IX. Attachments

1. UA Meeting Minutes – 2.14.2017
2. UA Meeting Minutes – 2.28.2017
3. UA AY 2016-2017 Resolution #6
4. CWC Meeting Report from 3.7.2017



AGENDA

Campus Welfare Committee

March 7, 2017

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Day Hall 316

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Review of Semester Priorities**
- III. Tobacco-Free Campus Referendum**
 1. CWC Recommendation from Fall 2016
 2. Referendum Process Outline
 3. Educational Campaign Design
- IV. Affirming Transgender Rights at Cornell**
 1. [SA Resolution 30](#) and [Appendix](#)
- V. Ithaca Plan Endorsement Follow-Up**
 1. [UA Resolution 3](#) – Returned by President
- VI. Questions**
- VII. Adjournment**



RECOMMENDATION RE: TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS INITIATIVE

Background

The topic of becoming a tobacco-free campus was referred to the UA Campus Welfare Committee on September 20, 2016. The Committee sought to gather information about the feasibility, the attitude of the campus community, and impact of becoming a tobacco-free campus, and to make a recommendation to the voting membership of the University Assembly.

The Committee met three times over the course of the fall semester: September 27th, October 25th, and November 8th, each time inviting key stakeholders and policy advisors. Guests included representatives from Tompkins County, Gannett Health Services (Cornell Health), Cornell Wellness, and Environmental Health and Safety. All Committee minutes and agendas are posted online at: dashboard.assembly.cornell.edu.

The Committee gathered information from a number of sources that spanned a wide range of topics, including, but not limited to:

- Definitions of “smoke-free” vs. “tobacco-free”
- Policies and challenges of other colleges and universities
- Policies of Tompkins County and the City of Ithaca
- Insurance coverage of cessation programs and medication
- Sample educational materials

Challenges

One of the challenges that the Committee identified was the lack of information around smoking behavior at Cornell. While there was a survey conducted in fall 2015 that included questions about tobacco use, it was sent only to undergraduate students. There is currently no data from employees (faculty and staff) or graduate and professional students.

Recommendation

Based on the information gathered and the discussions held, the Committee focused on four possible options for addressing tobacco use on-campus:

1. Passing legislation to become a tobacco-free campus (with a phased implementation);
2. Passing legislation to designate smoking areas across campus;
3. Revising the current policy to extend the 25ft minimum;
4. Hold a campus-wide referendum on the matter.

After careful consideration of each of the outlined options, the Committee voted to recommend a campus-wide referendum to be held in spring 2017. The Committee felt that the question of whether or not to become a tobacco-free campus would be most appropriately answered by the campus community, recognizing differences between each of the constituent groups. This is especially important given that there is limited information about smoking behavior on campus. The

Committee also felt the referendum would be an avenue to begin a robust dialogue about tobacco use and campus wellness initiatives.

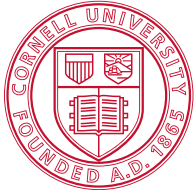
The Committee proposes the following language for the referendum:

“Should Cornell launch a two-year initiative to become tobacco-free? The goal is to create a healthier university community and foster a campus culture in which tobacco users are supported in their efforts to adapt or quit through awareness events, smoking cessation support programs, and community engagement.”

Prior to a referendum, the Committee recommends that the voting members of the UA determine the appropriate procedures to be used to conduct a referendum and codify them in the governing documents of the Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

Ulysses J. Smith, Employee, Chair, Campus Welfare Committee



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U.A. Resolution # 6

Cornell Commitment to Web Accessibility

March 14, 2017

1 **Sponsored by: Jeramy Kruser, Employee; CIC Chair, University Assembly;**
2 **Ulysses Smith, Employee; CWC Chair, University Assembly**

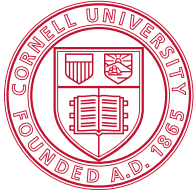
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4 **On Behalf Of: UA Campus Welfare Committee (U. Smith, J. Anderson, L.**
5 **Copman, M. Indimine, J. Kruser, E. Loew, S. Park, S. Taborski)**

6
7 **Whereas**, worldwide there are 285 million people with visual impairment, 275 million
8 people with moderate-to-profound hearing impairment, and many more with physical,
9 speech, cognitive, neurological disabilities, or a limited understanding of English, all of
10 whom could benefit from web technology that meets accessibility standards; and

11
12 **Whereas**, in 1990 the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a federal civil rights law
13 that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in areas of public life, was
14 passed; and

15
16 **Whereas**, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states, “No otherwise qualified
17 individual with a disability in the United States...shall...be excluded from the
18 participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any
19 program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance or under any program or
20 activity conducted by any Executive agency...”;

21
22 **Whereas**, under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, federal agencies are
23 required to make their electronic and information technology accessible to people with
24 disabilities, and standards are provided; and



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26 **Whereas**, the Cornell motto reflects our inclusive goal of “... any person ... any study”;
27 and

28

29 **Whereas**, The University’s Equal Education and Employment Opportunity Statement
30 declares that Cornell is “committed to assisting those persons with disabilities who have
31 special needs related to their educational pursuit or employment” and prohibits
32 discrimination on this basis; and

33

34 **Whereas**, The Campus Master Plan states that, “Cornell campus will support and
35 cultivate academic success and growth, providing high quality open, collaborative and
36 adaptable environments for teaching, research, service and outreach, the exchange of
37 ideas and the nurturing of innovation...”; and

38

39 **Whereas**, Cornell’s websites are one of our most visible communications tools, and any
40 site on the Cornell.edu domain is a representation of the university, reflecting our
41 competency, values, and standards; and

42

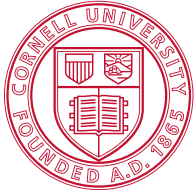
43 **Whereas**, in order to meet our stated institutional commitment to accessibility, our
44 web administrators, content providers, and developers need institutional support and a
45 set of published standards to work from when creating new websites and remediating
46 legacy sites; and

47

48 **Whereas**, an inaccessible website can exclude faculty, staff, prospective and existing
49 students, and their families, due to their abilities or the method they use to access the
50 web; and

51

52 **Whereas**, a similar resolution has been passed with the unanimous support of the
53 Employee Assembly on December 21, 2016;



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55 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Divisions of University Relations, Cornell Information
56 Technologies, and Human Resources by August 1, 2017 will set, publish, and
57 disseminate to all levels of University personnel, an Accessibility Policy for all websites
58 on the Cornell.edu domain which will:

- 59 1. Set a baseline standard to meet either Section 508 or WCAG 2.0 AA Standards.
- 60 2. Require all newly created sites to conform with one of these two standards.
- 61 3. Require all legacy sites to be remediated for conformance upon any major
62 update.
- 63 4. Using the model for IT Security exemptions, provide a process for exemption of
64 sites for which conformance would impose an undue burden.

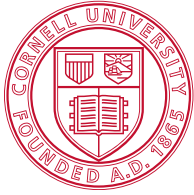
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66 **Be it further resolved**, Cornell Administration, in consultation with the Department
67 of Inclusion and Workforce Diversity, the ADA Coordinator Team, the Divisions of
68 University Relations, and Cornell Information Technologies, will name and/or identify
69 an office or person(s) as a point of contact on campus to handle reporting, assist with
70 procedures, and periodically assess the resources needed to ensure successful
71 implementation of the policy.

72

73 **Be it finally resolved**, the Divisions of University Relations and Cornell Information
74 Technologies will:

- 75 1. Revise the Brand Book by August 1, 2017 to include accessible templates for items
76 including but not limited to presentations, videos, posters, and digital media.
- 77 2. Provide and make readily available information on making digital information
78 accessible and using automated tools to check the accessibility of content.
- 79 3. Provide guidance, incentive, and encouragement to all University academic,
80 administrative, and business units, aiming for the highest level of conformance in
81 all possible cases.



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- 82 4. Provide tools to all University academic, administrative, and business units to
83 perform standardized evaluations of conformance.
- 84 5. Compile annual surveys from all University academic, administrative, and
85 business units for their level of conformance, making the survey results available
86 to the Assemblies. The first survey is to be completed before January 1, 2018.
- 87 6. Set a goal for domain-wide conformance exceeding 85% within 5 years.
- 88 7. After this goal is reached, refer any non-exempt sites falling below 75%
89 conformance to the administrator for remediation or exemption.
- 90 8. Re-evaluate exemptions at least once per year.

91

92 **Adopted by Vote of the Assembly (_ - _ -), _____, 2016,**

93 **Gabriel Kaufman** Chair, University Assembly

Chair, University Assembly