



Minutes
University Assembly
March 21, 2017
4:30pm-6:00pm
401 Physical Sciences Building

- I. Call to Order
 - a. G. Kaufman called the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M.
 - b. *Present:* J. Berger, L. Copman, M. de Roos, M. Hatch, R. Herz, G. Kaufman, J. Kruser, A. Loiben, M. McBride, M. Munasinghe, S. Park, N. Rogers, C. Van Loan, A. Waymack, E. Winarto
 - c. *Absent:* E. Baptist, K. Fitch, R. Howarth, E. Loew, U. Smith
 - d. *Others present:* M. Battaglia, V. Bhaya, T. Schilly
 - e. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - i. G. Kaufman said the UA should leave some time at the end to discuss the Executive Meeting with the Trustees.

- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. 2.14.2017 Meeting Minutes, 2017
 - i. Minutes were approved by unanimous consent
 - b. 2.28.2017 Meeting Minutes, 2017
 - i. L. Copman motioned to amend Section IV, line 23.
 - ii. M. Hatch motioned to amend the third bullet point under Section IV to add "rather than the Executive Committee."
 - iii. Minutes were amended and approved.

- III. Assembly Reports
 - a. EA Chair
 - i. No updates.
 - b. SA President
 - i. J. Berger said the SA talked to the Provost about financial aid and that he will bring forward the recommendations soon.
 - ii. She said that the SA is in the midst of elections and should have winners by end of next week.
 - c. Dean of Faculty
 - i. C. Van Loan said that the calendar survey just ended and the results are up on the website.
 - ii. C. Van Loan said that they need a protocol to handle makeup prelims more effectively so that when an event like the snow day of last week happens, there is a better method. He said he would like to collect people's thoughts about the issue of snow days and their sensitivity to the issue.
 - d. GPSA President
 - i. N. Rogers said the GPSA is a little less than a week away from their election regarding whether they want to be part of the Cornell Graduate Student Union (CGSU). They had a representative from the CGSU who answered broader questions about unionization.

- ii. N. Rogers said that the GPSA also discussed a separate topic on workers compensation and that they been having trouble getting sound legal advice.

IV. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. G. Kaufman said that since the last meeting, the Executive Committee removed M. McBride from CJC membership, appointed J. Kruser to fill that seat, and made M. Battaglia the chair of the CJC.
- b. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. No updates.
- c. Campus Infrastructure Committee
 - i. J. Kruser said that they have gained a lot more participation in their meetings. He said that UA R6 would be discussed later in the UA Meeting.
- d. Codes and Judicial Committee
 - i. M. Battaglia said the CJC is working on a proposal from the Risk Management department to clarify the definition of student in the Campus Code.
 - ii. He said the CJC is also working with the Judicial Administrator to update the Campus Code of Conduct to include a provision for transcript notations.
 - iii. The CJC is undergoing the search process for University Hearing and Review Boards (UHRB) members and updating questions for candidates to fill out.
 - iv. R. Herz said she knows there was a problem last year about requesting information from the Office of Assemblies about candidates for the UHRB, and asked if M. Battaglia could elaborate on it.
 - 1. M. Battaglia said that last year, the Assembly asked the Office of Assemblies about the UHRB candidates' constituent information and passed a formal motion to request that information from the Office of Assemblies. He said that they made a Campus Code of Conduct change but it was sent back from the president. He said the issue is unresolved but hopefully they will not need a formal motion.
 - 2. R. Herz asked M. Battaglia if the Assembly can motion to get that info from the Office of Assemblies, and he said that is welcome. R. Herz motioned to have the UA request that the Office of the Assemblies give the CJC information on the total number of UHRB applicants from each constituency when requested.
 - a. M. McBride dissented and said he thinks they should also see the subgroups from each constituency, for example which schools undergraduate and graduate students are from.

- b. R. Herz said she disagreed because they are not picking applicants based on their major so she does not know if that information would be useful.
 - c. M. Battaglia said that currently, people do not provide that information when they apply to the UHRB.
 - 3. M. Battaglia said that the Employee Assembly (EA) typically does not have enough applicants to the UHRB, and requesting information from the Office of Assemblies would provide them with information about how many applicants they have from the EA.
 - a. M. Munasinghe asked what is being done to ensure that EA members feel more comfortable serving on the UHRB. M. Battaglia said they are trying to centralize UHRB times so that EA members have more freedom to serve.
 - b. J. Kruser said part of the problem is the variance in working hours for employees. He said there is not necessarily a break during the day and that there have been some positive changes, but it is a difficult situation.
 - 4. R. Herz said that this information would help get enough applicants.
 - 5. By a vote of 12-1-1, the motion **passed**.

V. Liaison Reports

- a. Policy Advisory Group
 - i. E. Winarto said that they discussed a policy regarding Political Campaign activities. She said it is not something that the University came up with, but it is a restriction from the IRS.
- b. Student Health Advisory
 - i. No updates.
- c. Campus Planning Committee
 - i. M. Hatch said there was a presentation from Cornell Lands Planning. He said there are intersections between these lands and other policies like housing. He said to think about Cornell holistically because it affects what kind of student you are.
 - ii. They also had a discussion about a trails initiative that Cornell is assisting with.

VI. Business of the Day

- a. Appointment of UA Representative to Judicial Codes Counselor Search Committee
 - i. G. Kaufman said that the JCC Search Committee picks the JCC. The JCC is formally appointed by the president and then confirmed by the UA. The JCC will serve as an associate JCC next year, and then as the JCC the following year. The JCC defends defendants who violate the Campus Code or Code of Academic Integrity.

- ii. M. Munasinghe was nominated as the UA Rep to the JCC Search Committee.
- b. For Introduction: UA AY 2016-2017 Resolution #6: “Commitment to Web Accessibility”
 - i. J. Kruser said he has been working on this project for a year. The EA passed a similar resolution. This resolution advocates for Cornell to officially develop a web accessibility standard on campus. Right now, Cornell does not have a policy in place. There is no requirement for our sites to be accessible to those with disabilities.
 - ii. J. Kruser said that websites are our major outward face to the rest of the world. When we brand ourselves as “any person...any study” we are not putting actions to those words, so he would like to see that change. He said this resolution has changed many times after receiving input and support from Cornell Administration, CIT, Department of Inclusion and Workforce Diversity, ADA Coordinator Team, among others.
 - iii. A. Loiben asked if the UA should be the only front to discuss this issue.
 - 1. J. Kruser said that this resolution has failed in the past because it has been omnibus resolutions dealing with a wide range of disability issues, so the approach he is taking is specifically designed around incremental change. He said he would love to see support from all of the Assemblies and the Faculty Senate. He said we are all affected by a lack of accessibility and that we are self-limiting by being inaccessible.
 - iv. S. Park asked if this means they would have to restructure all their sites.
 - 1. J. Kruser said it is significantly easier to develop a site from scratch correctly with all the accessibility and data in place, rather than fixing a site that was developed incorrectly. He said that this only applies to newly created sites.
 - v. A. Waymack asked why we are keeping Section 508 as a baseline standard, if webpages meeting those standards would have to be updated years in the future.
 - 1. J. Kruser said Section 508 is an anti-discrimination regulation and that it is a subset of WCAG 2.0 AA. He said that he left in the option of Section 508 because that would at least be a move in a positive direction.
 - vi. E. Winarto said she does not agree with a description that groups people with limited understanding of English with other disabilities.
 - 1. J. Kruser said that he is open to suggestions for better wording, but that he tried to separate that group with the “or” in the resolution.
 - vii. E. Winarto asked if there was a punishment for not conforming to these policies.
 - 1. J. Kruser said he would leave that up to the people writing the policy.
- c. For Discussion: Tobacco-Free Referendum

- i. T. Schilly, the coordinator for Tobacco-free Tompkins, said that Cornell and Ithaca College have been unique in that the tobacco-free initiative has come from students.

VII. Late Additions to the Agenda

VIII. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned because Quorum was lost.

Respectfully submitted,

Vishal Bhaya
Assemblies Clerk