

Cornell University
University Assembly

Cornell University's University Assembly
Agenda of the November 30th, 2021 Meeting
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM
401 Physical Science Building | Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohono (Cayuga Nation)
 - c. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. [11/16/2021 Meeting Minutes](#)
- III. Open Forum
 - a. Upcoming Visits
 - i. Earth-Source Heating (CUBO) - January 25th, 2022
 - ii. Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) - February 8th, 2022
 - iii. Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards - March 8th, 2022
 - b. Visits to be Scheduled
 - i. David Cutter – University Signage
 - ii. Liz Davis Frost – Free Period Product Initiative
- IV. New Business
 - a. [U.A. Resolution #3 -- Increasing the Number of Sustainable Waste Receptacles on Campus](#)
- V. Assembly Reports
 - a. Student Assembly
 - b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
 - c. Employee Assembly
 - d. Faculty Senate
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee
 - b. Codes and Judicial Committee
 - c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology and the Environment
- VII. Liaison Reports
- VIII. Adjournment

If you are in need of special accommodations in order to fully participate, please contact Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 or the Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or assembly@cornell.edu prior to the meeting.



Cornell University University Assembly

Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the November 16th, 2021 Meeting

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

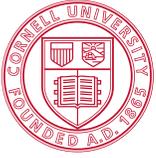
401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. B. Fortenberry called the meeting to order at 4:31pm.
 - b. *Members Present:* I. Akisoglu, M. Benda, R. Bensel, D. Cady, J. Feit, B. Fortenberry, T. Fox, P. Hanley, D. Hiner, D. Howell, C. Levine, A. Ononye, J. Richards, D. Sharp, J. Withers.
 - c. *Members Absent:* V. Aymer, N. Danev, E. DeRosa, M. Louis.
 - d. *Also Present:* M. Pollack, J. Malina, K. Cunningham, A. Breitstein, G. Giambattista
- II. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohono (Cayuga Nation)
- III. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. November 2, 2021
 - i. R. Bensel motioned to approve the minutes.
 - ii. D. Cady seconded the motion.
 - iii. The minutes were approved with unanimous consent.
- IV. Business of the Day
 - a. President Martha E. Pollack and Vice President for the University Relations Joel Malina
 - i. M. Pollack spoke about faculty achievements and awards, incoming student demographics, sustainability, housing re-investment plans, public safety, and University finances.
 - ii. Q & A following brief comments from President Pollack
 1. T. Fox, R. Bensel., B. Fortenberry, D. Cady, J. Richards, and J. Feit asked questions including topics on Cornell's involvement in China, mental health, COVID masking policy, sustainable endowment.
 - b. D. Sharp introduced themselves as a GPSA representative to the UA.
 - c. Update on upcoming visits
 - i. Public Safety Advisory Committee – February 8, 2022 (pending)
 - ii. Cornell Earth Source Heating (pending)
- V. Assembly Reports
 - a. Student Assembly
 - i. A. Ononye stated they passed SA Res. 32: Calling on Cornell University to Appropriately Recognize and Honor Veterans Day and SA Res. 33: Confronting Cornell's Legacy in American Imperialism in the Philippines, had a vacancy for VP of Finance for two weeks, received a report from PSAC, received a speech from the Athletics and Physical Education Department, and heard byline funding information.
 - b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly



Cornell University University Assembly

- i. P. Hanley stated they rescheduled a presentation from President Pollack to the 29th, found programming board chairs; and presented a resolution on establishing a VP of Finance.
 - c. Employee Assembly
 - i. J. Withers stated the EA had the Annual President's Address to Staff, presented the EA Appreciation Award, and reported President Pollack and VP Opperman will be coming to the EA.
 - 1. Discussion ensued on the viewing metrics of the President's address.
 - d. Faculty Senate
 - i. R. Bensel reported the President came to present and three resolutions were also presented: two resolutions on standardizing tenure processes across the university and one on following due process with regards to Global Hubs.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee
 - i. J. Feit reported they discussed Robert's Rules, questions for Pres. Pollack, and attendance.
 - 1. Discussion ensued about Robert's Rules.
 - b. Code and Judicial Committee
 - i. J. Richards stated they were planning the next meeting.
 - c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. D. Howell stated they had met twice a month, the committee has several vacancies, and they had brought chairs from similar assemblies to speak.
 - d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment.
 - i. I. Akisoglu stated they are still getting feedback for waste receptacle placement.
- VII. Liaison Reports
 - a. I. Akisoglu reported that the CPC has discussed the ILR Courtyard and landscape design process and plant science renewal project, received a presentation on the Circular Construction Laboratory, and discussed how to improve NCRE.
 - i. Discussion ensued about the NCRE.
 - b. D. Cady reported that the Ombud Search Committee found candidates and will be putting together a report.
 - c. A. Ononye reported that the PSAC had a meeting with CUPD on Friday and looked at their facilities. They will also be meeting this week to talk about the bombing threats.
- VIII. Open Discussion
 - a. Discussion ensued on sustainability, infrastructure with regards to crosswalks and lighting, the last leadership breakfast, and creating a network group for non-native English speakers.
- IX. Adjournment
 - a. R. Bensel moved to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. J. Feit seconded the motion.

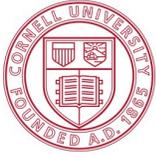


Cornell University
University Assembly

- ii. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kassandra Jordan
Clerk of the Assembly



Resolution 3: Increasing the Number of Sustainable Waste Receptacles on Campus

Abstract: In order to ensure Cornell University remains a clean, safe, environmentally sustainable, and ecologically compatible educational and living community, investments must be made to increase the number of sustainably compatible waste receptacles across the University's Ithaca, New York campus. Additionally, waste receptacles ought to be strategically placed such that both financial and natural resources are conserved, recycling habits are rationally incentivized, in order to protect these lands, public health, natural resources, and regional biodiversity.

Sponsored by: Jacob J. Feit, Executive Vice Chair of the University Assembly; Ian Akisoglu, Chair of the Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment; Duncan Cady, Undergraduate Representative to the University Assembly

Reviewed by: University Assembly, 11/30/2021

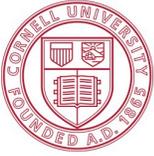
Whereas, Cornell University is recognized as a “global leader in sustainability and climate change research, teaching and engagement,” specifically, such that our “campuses are living laboratories for developing, testing and implementing solutions that address these most challenging issues,” as digitally noted by administrators, and

Whereas, Cornell University is currently “the leading Ivy League institution rated by AASHE STARS, and one of just eight universities in the world to achieve the highest possible STARS rating of Platinum,” and

Whereas, Cornell University's Campus Master Plan promotes the important role of stewardship ensuring that the University's continued development “respect[s] and manage[s] the physical environment of the campus and its broader land base for the health of the university, its constituencies, its neighbors and the larger regional ecosystem,” and

Whereas, in their November 16, 2021 visit to the Assembly, President Pollack and Vice President Malina expressed their support for the sustainable development of campus, noted the important role that sustainable infrastructure plays in the daily happenings of the Cornell community, and

Whereas, the installation of such “smart” waste and recycling infrastructure has the potential to “measure diversion rates and provide a messaging platform to reinforce proper disposal,” using



Cornell University
University Assembly

32 self-harnessed solar power to continuously provide waste accumulation metrics, resulting in
33 informed decision making with respect to collection times, cycles, and/or patterns, and

34 **Whereas**, in the current absence of a similar method of remotely tracking metrics of waste
35 accumulation, our current waste disposal and recycling system inefficiently and unnecessarily
36 burns fossil fuels and wastes financial resources surveying and collecting waste from receptacles
37 that are not fully filled, and

38 **Whereas**, in the current absence of a similar method of remotely tracking metrics of waste
39 accumulation, admirable attempts to conserve financial resources and reducing greenhouse gas
40 (GHG) emissions inadvertently neglect overfilled waste receptacles, resulting in a greater
41 likelihood of wildlife accessing waste, posing a potential danger physical danger, as well as
42 perpetuates existing issues of waste ending up in our local waterways and natural
43 environment(s), resulting in devastating environmental/ecological consequences, and

44 **Whereas**, our peer institutions, including Massachusetts Insitute of Technology, Brown
45 University, University of Washington, Seattle, University of California, Berkeley, and the
46 University of Florida, have all implemented “smart waste & recycling” initiatives on their
47 campuses with phenomenal success, and

48 **Be it therefore resolved**, Cornell University shall efficiently invest the funds and resources
49 necessary for the full, successful implementation of a campus-wide network of solar-powered
50 waste receptacles, outfitted with monitorization technology allowing for the efficient tracking of
51 waste receptacle capacity in order to strategically plan collection timing, ultimately reducing
52 greenhouse gas emissions necessarily involved in waste collection and processing, and

53 **Be it further resolved**, such waste receptacles must be limited in quantity as a means of
54 reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the financial burden of sustaining this initiative,
55 however, these installed “smart” receptacles ought to be strategically placed with respect to foot-
56 traffic and living spaces, facilitating practical, equitable access to proper waste disposal, in
57 totality ensuring adequate waste and recycling disposal is rationally incentivized, limiting the
58 propensity for littering and dumping, and

59 **Be it finally resolved**, should University administrators fail to seriously consider the
60 commencement of this initiative, they will have irrefutably neglected the historic and thriving
61 environmentalist values of Cornell University, not to mention demonstrate utmost hypocrisy with
62 respect to aforementioned statements of commitment to campus’ sustainable development.

63 Respectfully Submitted,

64 Jacob J. Feit

65 Executive Vice Chair, University Assembly



Cornell University
University Assembly

66

67 Ian Akisoglu

68 Chair of the Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment

69

70 Duncan Cady

71 Undergraduate Representative to the University Assembly