

University Assembly Meeting Agenda March 5, 2024 4:45-6:15pm 401 Physical Sciences Building I Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogoho:no (Cayuga Nation)
 - c. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Minutes from the February 6, 2024 Meeting
 - b. Minutes from the February 20, 2024 Meeting
- III. Open Forum
 - a. Discussion Topics for the Board of Trustees Meeting/Presentation
- IV. Business of the Day
 - a. University Hearing and Review Panel Applications
 - b. Committee Breakouts
- 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. Campus Codes Committee
 - c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment
- VII. Adjournment

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



Cornell University's University Assembly

Minutes of the February 6th Meeting 4:45 pm – 6:15 pm 700 Clark Hall | Zoom

I. Call to Order

- a. S. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.
 - i. *Members Present*: M. Benda, E. Crawley, E. DeRosa, D. Dinner, A. Haenlin-Mott, I. Hewson, J. Kruser, M. McEntee, B. Milles, J. VanHouten, A. Vinson, J. Wallen, S. Williams.
 - ii. Members Absent: P. Kuehl, M. Matthews, C. Ting.
 - iii. Members Excused: A. Broad, M. Heeney.
 - iv. Also Present: E. Kalweit, O. Karim, D. Thomas Varner, J. Withers
- II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogoho:no (Cayuga Nation)
 - a. S. Williams stated the UA's acknowledgment of the Cayuga Nation.
- III. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - a. None received.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes from the January 23rd, 2024
 - a. J. Kruser motioned to approve the minutes from the January 23rd, 2024 meeting.
 - i. A. Hanelin-Mott seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
- V. Business of the Day
 - a. Presentation on Cornell's Interim Expressive Activity Policy and Interim Anti-Doxxing Policy from Donica Thomas Varner, Vice-President and General Counsel
 - i. D. Varner provided a brief presentation providing an overview of both policies to the Assembly.
 - ii. Questions posed to D. Varner addressed what constitutes political activity under the policies; concerns over the breadth of the restrictions on expression that do not have time/place/manner justifications and warrant disciplinary actions; how requests for large events are interpreted under the policy and its implementation; the chilling effect of the messaging accompanying the policy; the boundaries for indoor activity under the policy; the policy's guidelines for amplified sound; the policy's requirement of registering protests of 50 or more individuals; where students can go for



- providing feedback on the policy; and how the university plans to ensure the policy is applied consistently across groups.
- iii. Questions posed to D. Varner addressed the role of the University Assembly in drafting the policy and providing input; whether Cornell's campus has experienced events that warrant the initiation of this policy; what guidance public safety officials have received for how to handle disruptive moments and whether officers are required to be present at registered events; the standardization of enforcement under the policy; the pipeline and timeline for feedback on improving the policy; the relationship between the policy and the Campus Code of Conduct; the precision and intention of the words used in the policy as well as the truth of their motivation and their implications for the Cornell community; the role of Cornell Police keeping the community safe and whether the community can trust them; whether applicants have to specify an event type when they register an event; whether an event can move in the instance of a march; and whether an event can be shut down simply because the university cannot provide support for it.
- iv. E. Crawley put forward a motion to extend the meeting to end at 6:35pm.
 - 1. J. Wallen seconded the motion.
 - 2. The meeting was extended to end at 6:35pm by unanimous consent.
- v. Questions to D. Varner addressed the nature of the support that the university intends to provide to events over fifty people; the policy's time limit guidelines for poster removal; the policy's emphasis on protests not disrupting ordinary business; the anti-doxxing policy's lack of protection for students of color; the proactivity of the university in addressing underlying concerns; how the policy interferes with the teachings of democratic values at the university; the policy's impact on international students; whether expectations under the policy are applicable as Code of Conduct issues; and how the policy impacts norms of freedom of speech and expression.
- vi. J. Wallen put forward a motion to extend the meeting to end at 6:40pm.
 - 1. B. Milles seconded the motion.
 - 2. The meeting was extended to end at 6:40pm by unanimous consent and all additional agenda items were moved to the assembly's next meeting.
- vii. Questions posed to D. Varner addressed the role of Cornell as a contracted college with the state in implementing the policy; how the community prevents digital harassment under the policy; and how the policy addresses subjects of discrimination.



VI. Adjournment

- a. E. Crawley motioned to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. J. Kruser seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:38pm.

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



Cornell's University Assembly

Minutes of the February 20th, 2024 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 4:50pm.
- b. *Members Present*: M. Benda, A. Broad, E. DeRosa, D. Dinner, A. Haenlin-Mott, M. Heeney, P. Kuehl, M. Matthews, M. McEntee, B. Milles, C. Ting, J. VanHouten, A. Vinson, S. Williams
- c. Members Absent: E. Crawley, I. Hewson, J. Kruser, J. Wallen
- d. Also Present: R. Bensel, C. McLinn, R. Platt, J. Withers

II. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda

a. S. Williams called for late additions to the agenda. No late additions were proposed.

III. Business of the Day

- a. Recap of Cornell's Interim Expressive Activity Policy and Interim Anti-Doxxing Policy Presentation with Donica Thomas Varner, Vice President and General Counsel
 - i. The University Assembly discussed the presentation and subsequent discussion that took place at their last meeting.
 - ii. Discussion ensued over the lack of trust in the university's administration resulting from the policies; incorporation of elected representatives in the feedback and revision procedure for policies; the availability and accessibility of resources regarding the policies to members of the Cornell community; the sentiments of certain student groups feeling targeted by the policy; and the possibility of drafting a memo to the university's administration summarizing policy feedback. The assembly also discussed policy feedback received from faculty members; whether the policies include protections for individual groups including counter-protestors; the impact of the policies on the university's Code of Conduct; and the role of the University Assembly in discussions over these policies and ensuring the development of a strong response.
 - During the discussion, D. Dinner stated that her colleagues drafted two sets of detailed comments and feedback on the policy, which can be found <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.



- iii. S. Williams called for the assembly members to share any action items they planned to take between now and next meeting.
 - 1. M. Matthews stated that the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly sent out their communique including resources for graduate students to share feedback on the policy.
 - 2. P. Kuehl stated that the Student Assembly is discussing the feasibility of drafting a rapid referendum.

IV. Assembly Reports

- a. Student Assembly P. Kuehl
 - i. P. Kuehl put forward a point of personal privilege requesting to complete his assembly report before committee meetings.
 - 1. The request was approved by S. Williams.
 - ii. P. Kuehl stated that the Student Assembly is working on gearing up for its elections and issuing a referendum on median grades.

V. Business of the Day (continued)

- a. Committee Meetings
 - i. The assembly members met with their respective committees for six minutes.

VI. Assembly Reports (continued)

- a. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly M. Matthews
 - i. M. Matthews stated that the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly had one presentation on Robert's Rules of Order and one presentation from the director of the Center for Teaching Innovation. She also stated that the assembly passed a resolution exempting groups with affinity status from their tiered funding system.
- b. Employee Assembly J. VanHouten
 - i. J. VanHouten stated that the Employee Assembly passed a resolution in support of President Pollack in response to John Linsock's letter and are working on another resolution supporting DEI initiatives. She also stated that they will be holding a town hall on February 22nd at 10am in partnership with human resources. She also stated that the assembly will have a presentation from the Einhorn Center at their next meeting and are kicking off elections in the next month.
- c. Faculty Senate E. DeRosa



i. E. DeRosa stated that the Faculty Senate received two updates to resolutions passed last year, one of which for the 8-year tenure clock for faculty in the College of Business and another for the nontraditional part-time bachelor's degree program from the School of Continuing Education. She also state that they have discussed the Interim Expressive Activity Policy and have a pending resolution on the issue. She also stated that the assembly hosted a town hall with Provost Kotlikoff and General Counsel Varner and is hosting a faculty forum on February 28th to continue their discussion on the issue.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee S. Williams
 - i. S. Williams stated that the Executive Committee will be meeting with General Counsel Varner and welcomes feedback or resolutions.
- b. Campus Codes Committee
 - i. Nothing to report
- c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. Nothing to report
- d. Campus Committee on Information, Technology, and the Environment
 - i. Nothing to report

VIII. Adjournment

- a. M. Matthews motioned to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. A. Haenlin-Mott seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm.

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