

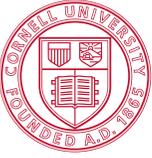
Cornell University
University Assembly

University Assembly Meeting Agenda
April 9, 2024
4:45-6:15pm
401 Physical Sciences Building | [Zoom](#)

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogoho:nq̓ (Cayuga Nation)
 - c. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. [Minutes from the March 19, 2024 Meeting](#)
- III. Open Forum
 - a. Nominations for Expressive Activity Committee
- IV. Business of the Day
 - a. [UA Resolution 3: Enhancing Constituency Representation in Policy-Making](#)
 - b. [UA Resolution 4: Interim Expressive Activity Policy](#)
- 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.



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Minutes of the March 19th, 2024 Meeting

4:45 pm – 6:15 pm

401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

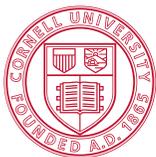
- I. Call to Order
 - a. S. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:48pm
 - i. *Members Present:* M. Benda, A. Broad, E. Crawley, E. DeRosa, D. Dinner, A. Haenlin-Mott, M. Heeney, P. Kuehl, M. McEntee, B. Milles, J. VanHouten, J. Wallen, S. Williams
 - ii. *Members Absent:* I. Hewson, M. Matthews, C. Ting, A. Vinson
 - iii. *Also Present:* K. Jaffry, O. Karim, C. Lederman, N. Maggard, R. Platt, J. Withers

- II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogõhõnõ (Cayuga Nation)
 - a. S. Williams stated the UA's acknowledgment of the Cayuga Nation.

- III. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - a. J. Wallen put forward the talking point for open forum on blue shuttle revitalization.

- IV. Approval of the Minutes from the
 - a. B. Milles motioned to approve the minutes from the March 5th, 2024 meeting.
 - i. E. Crawley seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.

- V. Open Forum
 - a. Inclusions for Resolution Regarding the Interim Expressive Activity and Anti-Doxxing Policies
 - i. E. Crawley stated that the Executive Committee is preparing a resolution on the Interim Expressive Activity and Anti-Doxxing policies and requested feedback on what the Assembly would like to revise for the policy.
 1. Discussion ensued over how best for the assembly to respond to the policies.
 - ii. D. Dinner put forward a motion to amend agenda item VI(c) to include a workshop on the resolution responding to policies in place of committee breakouts.
 1. S. Williams accepted the motion.
 - b. Blue Light Shuttle Revitalization

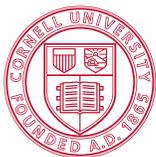


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- i. J. Wallen stated that he is drafting a resolution advocating for the reinstatement of the blue light shuttle service and welcomed any collaborators on the resolution.
 1. S. Williams stated that the resolution could be introduced at the assembly's next meeting or the meeting after.

VI. Business of the Day

- a. Proposal for Action: Addressing the Increase in Parking Fines and Decrease in Parking Availability
 - i. M. Heeney stated that she is considering bringing a resolution to the assembly petitioning the university to establish an advisory board on parking on campus.
 1. Discussion ensued over how to provide parking services on campus, overcrowding, communication with the transportation department on campus, past inequity in the implementation of the ParkMobile system, student violations of parking guidelines, and inadequate transportation on campus.
- b. Introduction of Resolution 1 – Establishing the IT Shared Governance Committee
 - i. N. Maggard introduced the resolution to the assembly establishing a committee to work on the structure of IT Shared Governance and stated that the resolution would be voted on at the assembly's next meeting.
- c. Resolution Workshop
 - i. Discussion ensued over issues they would like to address in the resolution, including the punitive nature of the resolution; the constrictive nature of the resolution; the importance of creating a community of safety; acknowledging that the limitations of the policies warrant the assembly's rejection of it in the opening statement of the resolution; clarifying the ambiguity about whether registering events were required or encouraged; curbing the university's discretion; acknowledging the threat of the Title VI lawsuit and its impact on the assembly's response to the policies; acknowledging the policymaking process as an issue alongside the policies; problems with the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards; the importance of collecting feedback from constituencies; selecting one representative to serve on a committee regarding the policy.
 - ii. M. Heeney put forward a motion to extend the meeting by ten minutes.
 1. J. Wallen seconded the motion.
 2. The meeting was extended by unanimous consent.
 - iii. S. Williams called for volunteers to work on and present the resolution at the assembly's next meeting.



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1. E. Crawley, D. Dinner, S. Williams, and B. Milles volunteered to work on the resolution.

VII. Assembly Reports

a. Student Assembly

- i. P. Kuehl stated that the Student Assembly has begun a speaker series, with its first speaker visiting on March 21st to present on legacy admissions at Ivy League universities. He also stated that the assembly passed a resolution calling for the suspension of the Interim Expressive Activity Policy and that the sign-up period for their elections closes next Friday. He also stated that the ESG committee is reviewing the university's policy on investments and that he will be presenting for the Board of Trustees.
- ii. C. Lederman stated that the Assembly's next speaker will visit on April 9th and will be a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

- i. M. Heeney stated that Graduate and Professional Student Assembly will be holding elections soon, are introducing transit as a topic of conversation to the University Assembly, and have been discussing their role in addressing the Interim Expressive Activity Policy.

c. Employee Assembly

- i. Nothing to report

d. Faculty Senate

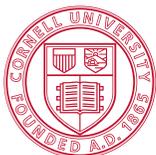
- i. E. DeRosa stated that the Faculty Senate had the Provost and General Counsel speak about the Interim Expressive Activity Policy at their last meeting. She also stated that a committee will be established to craft a new policy and there will be a Faculty Senate representative on this committee.

VIII. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee

- i. S. Williams stated that she will be presenting for the Board of Trustees this week.
- ii. E. Crawley stated that the committee met with the Vice President and General Counsel Donica Thomas Varner to discuss the creation and release of Interim Expressive Activity Policy and the Title VI investigation occurring at the university.
- iii. P. Kuehl put forward a motion to extend the meeting by five minutes.
 1. M. Heeney seconded the motion.
 2. The meeting was extended by unanimous consent.

b. Campus Codes Committee



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- i. Nothing to report
- c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. Nothing to report
- d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment
 - i. Nothing to report

IX. Adjournment

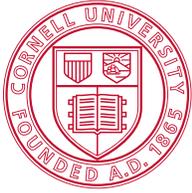
- a. D. Dinner motioned to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. M. Heeney seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion **passed** with unanimous consent.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

P.J. Brown

Clerk of the Assembly



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**U.A. Resolution # 3 Enhancing Constituency
Representation in Policy Making**

**University Policy 4.1 – Formulation and Issuance of
Policies**

[April 9, 2024]

1 **Sponsored by:** [S. Williams, SA, UA Chair; A. Broad, GPSA, UA Vice Chair of
2 **Operations; E. Crawley, EA, Executive Vice Chair; B. Milles, Faculty Senate, UA Ranking**
3 **Member]**

4
5 **Whereas,** the University Assembly (UA) represents a critical component of Cornell University's
6 governance structure, embodying the diverse perspectives of its constituencies;

7
8 **Whereas,** the Formulation and Issuance of University Policies (Policy 4.1) outlines a comprehensive
9 procedure for developing, reviewing, and approving university policies, yet does not explicitly
10 include UA or constituency representation in the policy-making process;

11
12 **Whereas,** the absence of UA representation in policy-making committees has led to policies that may
13 not fully consider the insights, needs, and concerns of all university constituencies, thus
14 impacting community trust and policy efficacy;

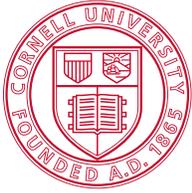
15
16 **Whereas,** the engagement of UA leadership and constituency presidents or chairs in the policy
17 development process can significantly contribute to creating policies that are inclusive, well-
18 informed, and reflective of the university community's values and needs.

19
20 **Be it therefore resolved,**

21
22 The University Policy Office (UPO), responsible executives, and policy development committees shall
23 engage in deep consultation with UA leadership at the onset of the policy development process. This
24 engagement shall include discussions on policy scope, impact, and considerations specific to various
25 constituencies;

26
27 In addition to deep consultations with UA leadership, brief consultations shall be conducted with all
28 constituency presidents and chairs to gather a broad spectrum of insights and recommendations on pending
29 policies. This step ensures that diverse perspectives are considered, enhancing the policy's relevance and
30 acceptance across the university;

31
32 To institutionalize the representation of different university constituencies in the policy-making process,
33 each policy development committee shall include at least one constituency-elected trustee. Trustees have



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34 been elected by their respective constituencies for the specific purpose of representing their interests and
35 should be included in policy development committees;

36
37 The University Assembly Chair should be briefed at least one time per semester on significant policy and
38 procedural changes that will impact the University community;

39
40 The overarching goal of this resolution is to foster a healthier, more inclusive community by ensuring that
41 UA involvement is integral to the policy development process. Recognizing the significant role that UA
42 and its constituencies play in the university ecosystem, their active involvement is essential to crafting
43 policies that are equitable, effective, and reflective of our collective values and goals.

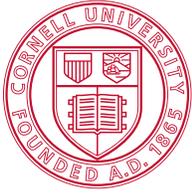
44
45 **Resolved,**

46
47 The University Policy Office (UPO), in collaboration with the UA, shall develop and implement
48 mechanisms to ensure the effective integration of this resolution's provisions into the policy development
49 process;

50
51 An annual review shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of UA and constituency involvement in
52 policymaking and to make adjustments as necessary to improve collaboration and policy outcomes.

53
54 **Be it finally resolved,** this resolution shall be communicated to all relevant parties within the
55 university, including policy development committees, the University Policy Office, and the
56 university community at large, to ensure widespread awareness and compliance.

No signature block is present until the resolution has been disposed of by the Assembly (Passed, Failed, Withdrawn, etc.) Then a block with the certifying member (customarily Chair/Vice-Chair) verifying the authenticity and vote tally of the resolution.



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U.A. Resolution # 4 Interim Expressive Activity Policy

[April 9, 2024]

1 **Sponsored by:** [S. Williams, SA, UA Chair; A. Broad, GPSA, UA Vice Chair of
2 **Operations; E. Crawley, EA, Executive Vice Chair; B. Milles, Faculty Senate, UA Ranking**
3 **Member]**
4

5 **Whereas**, the Cornell University community values free and open inquiry and expression as
6 foundational principles, as stated in the Interim Expressive Activity Policy and the Cornell Policy
7 Statement on Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech and Expression;
8

9 **Whereas**, the process by which the Interim Expressive Activity Policy (Policy Number 4.23) was
10 developed and revised on March 11, 2024, has raised significant concerns among the Cornell
11 University Assembly (UA) and its constituents regarding the inclusiveness, transparency, and
12 consideration of the diverse voices within our community;
13

14 **Whereas**, there exists a palpable sense of vulnerability and anxiety among students, faculty, and staff
15 concerning the potential punitive nature of the policy towards various constituencies, including
16 undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty members, and employees, thus necessitating
17 clear communication and understanding of the policy's implications;
18

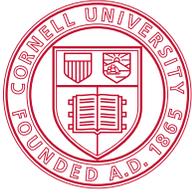
19 **Whereas**, concerns have been expressed about the policy's restrictions on the use of amplified sound,
20 which may hinder the ability of community members to effectively engage in expressive
21 activities;
22

23 **Whereas**, the UA recognizes the need for the university to establish reasonable time, place, and manner
24 guidelines for protests to ensure the safety and well-being of all community members while
25 upholding the rights to free expression;
26

27 **Whereas**, the UA appreciates the clarifying remarks issued by the administration on March 11, 2024,
28 aiming to address some of the concerns raised by the community members;
29

30 **Whereas**, despite these efforts, the current form of the Interim Expressive Activity Policy leaves many
31 Cornellians feeling vulnerable to disproportionate disciplinary actions and fearful of administrative
32 retaliation for voicing their opinions, thereby chilling the very essence of free expression the policy
33 seeks to protect.
34

35 **Be it therefore resolved** that the University Assembly urges the Cornell University administration to:
36



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37 Acknowledge that the process by which the Interim Expressive Activity Policy was created and amended
38 was flawed, lacking in comprehensive community engagement and transparency, thereby necessitating a
39 restart of the policy-making process from square one;

40
41 Ensure the new policy development process is inclusive, transparent, and genuinely considers the
42 opinions and concerns of each constituency through rigorous recourse with a shared governance model;

43
44 Address the uncertainty surrounding the punitive nature of the policy to dispel fears and clarify the scope
45 of disciplinary actions for all constituencies involved;

46
47 Reexamine the restrictions on the use of amplified sound to facilitate a more vibrant and dynamic forum
48 for expressive activities, consistent with the university's commitment to free expression;

49
50 Continue to communicate with the university community, providing clarifying remarks and updates to
51 ensure the evolving policy reflects the community's needs and values;

52
53 Recognize that these critiques represent a non-exhaustive list of the concerns shared by UA-elected
54 leaders and our constituencies over the course of the Spring 2024 semester;

55
56 We encourage administrators to consider the following feedback that we have compiled this semester as
57 they continue in this policy development process.

58
59 **Be it finally resolved** that this resolution be communicated to the Cornell University administration, all
60 constituencies, and the wider university community to foster an environment of collaboration,
61 understanding, and mutual respect in the collective pursuit of refining the Interim Expressive
62 Activity Policy.

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