Cornell University Assembly
Campus Welfare Committee

Agenda of the February 6th, 2018 Meeting
1 PM – 2 PM
163, Day Hall

I. Call to Order/Introductions

II. Business of the Day
   a. Resolution: Reinstating the Budget Planning Committee
   b. Resolution: In Support of E.A. R. 8: Furthering the Institutional Commitment to All
      LGBTQ+ Members of the Cornell Community

III. Adjournment
U.A. Resolution # X

Reinstating the Budget Planning Committee

February 13th, 2018

Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson, Chair of Campus Welfare Committee; University Assembly and Linda Copman, Employee; University Assembly

On Behalf Of: University Assembly Campus Welfare Committee

Whereas, shared governance at Cornell University enables members of the community to have access to information, involvement in matters of concern to them, and the authority to examine these issues and make recommendations to the appropriate administrative officers and the President; and

Whereas, the University Assembly is a stakeholder in major university policy initiatives and works to establish and maintain open, effective, and efficient channels of communication between and amongst the community and university administration; and

Whereas, the University Assembly Committees—which include the Campus Welfare Committee, the Codes and Judicial Committee, and the Campus Infrastructure Committee—report to the University Assembly and are charged with seeking advice and comments from non-members while discussing a specific issue or policy which impacts a substantial segment of the university community; and

Whereas, the University Assembly’s Budget Planning Committee was previously charged with reviewing policy and making recommendations to the university provost concerning development of the university’s long-range plan and budget policies with regards to such financial issues as tuition, student fees, financial aid, graduate student stipends, enrollments, compensation, and endowed Ithaca employee benefits rates; and

Whereas, the university’s budget guides institutional decisions about where to invest resources; and

Whereas, the university’s budget is of common interest to all members of the Cornell community since it impacts a substantial segment of the university community; and

Whereas, the University Assembly wishes to reinstate its Budget Planning Committee and charge
this committee with reviewing policy and making recommendations to the university provost concerning development of the university’s long-range plan and budget policies; therefore

**Be it therefore resolved,** that the University Assembly formally requests that the president and provost, and the University Assembly reinstate the Budget Planning Committee as an associated committee of the University Assembly, to convene its first meeting in September 2018; and

**Be it Further Resolved,** that all assemblies will have the ability to appoint members to the Budget Planning Committee; and

**Be it Further Resolved,** that the bylaws be amended to reflect the changes in the attached appendix; and

**Be it Finally Resolved,** that the university administration should work through the Budget Planning Committee to ensure that members of the Cornell community are invited to share in the budget planning process and participate in shaping the university’s budget policies.
Section 5.4: Budget Planning Committee

The Budget Planning Committee (the “Committee”) supports comprehensive and financial stewardship and clear budgetary planning processes across the university.

Sub-Section 5.4.1: Responsibilities

A. The Committee’s charge is to review and make recommendations to the President regarding budget and financial planning, including:

1) Long-range budget planning;
2) Tuition;
3) Financial Aid;
4) Graduate student stipends;
5) Enrollment management;
6) Endowed Employee compensation and benefit rates

B. Furthermore, the BPC shall review, in consultation with the appropriate committees of the University Assembly, all plans for alterations of or additions to policies regarding Financial Aid, tuition, enrollment management, graduate student stipends and endowed employee compensation and benefits, and all matters related to the business development of the university.

C. The BPC shall conduct meetings in closed session, and all members will hold seats contingent upon their maintaining a high-level of confidentiality and their written consent to non-disclosure agreements. The Chair of the Committee may hold public meetings to solicit public feedback, as needed.

Sub-Section 5.4.2: Composition

A. The BPC shall consist of seventeen members: Seven Presidential appointments, one of whom the President may designate as Chair of the Committee, and ten additional at-large members.

B. The President of the University shall make seven appointments, and those individuals will serve three-year terms on a staggered basis.
C. The ten at-large members shall be appointed by the University Assembly and each constituent assembly. Each of the five assemblies shall make two appointments, and those individuals will serve two-year terms on a staggered basis.
U.A. Resolution # XXX

In Support of E.A. R. 8: Furthering the Institutional Commitment to All LGBTQ+ Members of the Cornell Community

February 13th, 2018

Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson, Chair of Campus Welfare Committee; University Assembly, Elena Michel, Graduate; University Assembly, Manisha Munasinghe, Executive Vice President; Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Whereas, the Cornell Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center (LGBTRC) was founded in 1994 and was originally run by two full-time staff members\(^1\) to be “the central hub of LGBTQ life at Cornell” and to specifically support students, faculty, and staff across the LGBTQ+ spectrum\(^2\); and

Whereas, at the time, the LGBTQIA+ community was additionally served by a third, full-time staff member outside of the LGBTRC, whose responsibilities were eventually merged into the two positions at the LGBGTRC\(^3\); and

Whereas, the LGBTRC provides a myriad of services to the LGBTQIA+ community including but not limited to the LGBTQ Mentorship Program, the First Year Queer Peer, and Lavender Graduation\(^4\); and

Whereas, the LGBTRC also provides support and guidance for numerous LGBTQIA+ student organizations on campus such as Haven: The LGBTQ Student Union, MOSAIC, and Out in STEM (oSTEM); and

Whereas, the LGBTRC supports the functions and inclusion of the LGBT Colleague Network

\(^1\) [http://cornellsun.com/2013/03/10/university-reflects-on-shift-in-lgbt-presence-on-campus/](http://cornellsun.com/2013/03/10/university-reflects-on-shift-in-lgbt-presence-on-campus/)

\(^2\) [http://dos.cornell.edu/lgbt-resource-center](http://dos.cornell.edu/lgbt-resource-center)

\(^3\) [https://concernedlgbtqcornell.wordpress.com/disempowerment/](https://concernedlgbtqcornell.wordpress.com/disempowerment/)

\(^4\) [https://dos.cornell.edu/lgbt-resource-center/signature-programs-annual-events](https://dos.cornell.edu/lgbt-resource-center/signature-programs-annual-events)
Group for all faculty and staff, which raises awareness about workplace issues faced by LGBT faculty and staff, provides professional networking opportunities for LGBT faculty and staff, and supports recruitment and retentions efforts for LGBT faculty and staff; and

Whereas, the LGBTRC supports the inclusion of LGBT issues in the academic setting by providing resources for the incorporation of LGBT issues into the classroom, made available to all faculty members; and

Whereas, the LGBTRC supports a set of general services to all LGBT faculty and staff, including but not limited to: advocacy, advising, consultation and referrals, and community development; and

Whereas, the LGBTRC is instrumental in advising and advocating for Cornell’s LGTBQIA+ community, which includes students, faculty, and staff; and

Whereas, in 2017 the Dean of Students Vijay Pendakur issued a directive for the LGBT Resource Center (LGBTRC) to no longer serve staff and faculty due to being understaffed; and

Whereas, on November 30th, 2017, the Employee Assembly conveyed Resolution 8: Furthering the Institutional Commitment to LGBTQ+ Inclusion (EA:R8) to Cornell University President Martha Pollack⁵; and

Whereas, EA:R8 states “Be it therefore resolved, The Assembly urges the Division of Student & Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students to rescind the directive for the LGBTRC to no longer serve the ongoing support and educational needs of staff and faculty”; and

Whereas, EA:R8 continues with “Be it further resolved, The Divisions of Human Resources and Student & Campus Life shall identify the resources to fully fund and staff (3) additional full-time, long-term professional staff positions in the LGBTRC”; and

Whereas, on January 2nd, 2018, President Pollack acknowledged EA:R8; and

Whereas, President Pollack rejected the EA’s recommendation that the directive for the LGBTRC to no longer serve the needs of staff and faculty be rescinded stating “to

⁵ https://assembly.cornell.edu/resolutions/ea-r8-furthering-institutional-commitment-lgbtq-inclusion
provide the appropriate levels of service, separating educational and support services for students from faculty and staff allows Cornell to meet the unique needs of our LGBTQ students, as they pursue their degrees”; and

Whereas, President Pollack also rejected the EA’s recommendation that The Divisions of Human Resources and Student & Campus Life should identify the resources to fully fund and staff (3) additional full-time, long-term professional staff position in the LGBTRC writing “At this time, there will not be any additional long-term professional positions added to the center’s staffing”; and

Whereas, we strongly support all LGBTQ+ members of the Cornell Community, including staff and faculty; and

Whereas, we dismiss the notion that, in order to “provide the appropriate levels of service…[for] our LGBTQ students”, the LGBTRC must no longer support faculty and staff;

Whereas, we believe that finding additional resources to increase the number of full-time staff members working at the LGBTRC to support all LGBTQ+ community members, including faculty and staff, would be more effective in supporting the “unique needs of LGBTQ+ students”; and

Whereas, all LGBTQ+ Cornell Community members, including faculty and staff, should be served by the LGBTRC as it is the hub of LGBTQ life at Cornell; and

Whereas, the LGBTRC was founded to serve LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff, and we reject any attempt to alter its initial founding purpose that would fracture the LGBTQ+ community at Cornell; and

Whereas, a refusal to rescind this directive negatively impacts the LGBTQ+ community and is antithetical to Cornell’s “promise to support the LGTBQ+ community”; and

Be it therefore resolved, that the University Assembly reiterates the recommendation from the Employee Assembly for the Division of Student & Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students to rescind the directive for the LGBTRC to no longer serve the ongoing support and educational needs of staff and faculty;

Be it finally resolved, that The Divisions of Human Resources and Student & Campus Life should identify the resources to fully fund and staff (3) additional full-time, long-term
professional staff position in the LGBTRC.