

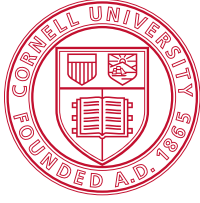


Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, March 22, 2018 Meeting
4:45pm-6:30pm in 251 Malott Hall

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call**
- II. Open Microphone**
- III. Approval of the Minutes:**
 - a. March 15th Minutes
- IV. Announcements & Reports**
 - a. Potential PTF Update
- V. CU Tonight Funding Appeals**
- VI. Business of the Day:**
 - a. Resolution 38: Reinstating Statement Policy
- VII. Additional Announcements and Reports**
 - a. GPSA, FS, EA, UA Liaison Reports
- VIII. Adjournment**



Cornell University Student Assembly

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Minutes of the Thursday, March 15, 2018 Meeting
4:45pm-5:45pm in Willard Straight Hall: Memorial Room

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. J. Kim called the meeting to order at 4:45 pm.
- b. Roll Call:
 - i. *Present*: T. Ball [0.5], D. Barbaria [0], A. Chowdhury [2], O. Corn [1], V. Devatha [1], O. Din [2], D. Engelson [0], O. Egharevba [1], H. Hassan [3], N. Hernandez [0], R. Herz [5], S. Iruvanti [0], G. Kaufman [0], J. Kim [1], S. Lim [0], G. Park [0], E. Shapiro [1], J. Sim [1], M. Valadez [1], A. Viswanathan [0], I. Wallace [1]
 - ii. *Absent*: R. Cornell (*Excused*) [2.5], M. Indimine (*Excused*) [1.5], L. Lipschutz (*Excused*) [4.75], D. Nyakaru (*Unexcused*) [1], S. Park (*Excused*) [2.5], M. Peralta-Ochoa (*Unexcused*) [2], C. Schott (*Excused*) [1.25]

II. Open Microphone

- a. No speakers at the open microphone.

III. Oath of Office

- a. New members A. Viswanathan and D. Engelson were sworn in using the Oath of Office.

IV. Approval of the Minutes:

- a. March 8th Minutes
 - i. N. Hernandez moved to amend the Announcements and Reports of the March 8th minutes, such that I. Wallace's name was represented in M. Valadez's report – **amended**.
 - ii. Motion to approve the March 8th minutes – **approved**.

V. Announcements & Reports I

- a. Pres. Kim – Inviting PTF to speak next week
 - i. J. Kim said that he was supposed to invite the Presidential Task Force (henceforth PTF) to speak this week, but that the liaison has not yet gotten back to him with a specific date.
- b. G. Kaufman – CUTonight
 - i. G. Kaufman said that he has received some requests for appeal for some decisions made by CUTonight for this funding cycle. He added that the only way to appeal a decision is if there are concerns of protected status discrimination, which he said might be possible with some cases after

meeting with the relevant parties. He expressed his concern and said that the Assembly will likely hear some appeals next week.

- ii. V. Devatha asked how long G. Kaufman perceives each appeal to take, and asked how many weeks he expects the appeals process to go on for.
- iii. G. Kaufman said that it is his perception that many appeals were made on roughly simpler grounds, especially in regard to possibly discriminatory emails, and that a distinction must be made between valid and invalid appeals.
- iv. Shivani Parikh said, in regard to J. Kim's earlier announcement regarding the PTF, that she would be willing to speak on behalf of her committee next week if J. Kim were still unable to get a date.
 - 1. S. Parikh is a member of the Campus Response Committee.

c. M. Valadez

- i. M. Valadez said that the Diversity and Inclusion Summit is this coming Sunday, and that the welcome address will be in Klarman Hall before breaking off into smaller workshops. She added that the Summit will begin at 10 AM and end at 5 PM, and acknowledged organizations who have put in a great deal of work in regard to the Summit.
 - 1. These organizations include, but are not limited to, the Lending Library, the Women's Resource Center, the Cornell Union for Disability Awareness, EARS, and others.
- ii. M. Valadez announced that the Student Assembly Summer Experience Grant applications were opened, and that applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until April 18th. She explained that freshmen, sophomores, and juniors from all seven undergraduate colleges may apply, and that the purpose of the Grant is to provide funding of up to \$3000 to students taking on unpaid or minimally paid internships over the summer.
- iii. V. Devatha said that all voting members of the Assembly are required to attend the Diversity and Inclusion Summit, and that all reasonable excuses for absence should be directed to D. Barbaria.
- iv. N. Hernandez moved to amend the agenda such that Resolution 41 occurs before Resolution 37 – amended.

VI. New Business/Business of the Day

a. Resolution 41: ASL

- i. Juliet Remi read a statement on behalf of the Co-President of the Cornell University Deaf Awareness Project (henceforth CUDAP), Diana Bartolotta.
 - 1. D. Bartolotta said that upon applying to colleges, she was afraid that a hearing condition she had developed would compromise her learning, and that learning American Sign Language gave her a sense of belonging. She added that she was saddened to learn that she could not continue to learn ASL during the academic year, and said that it is crucial for the administration to add ASL classes to their academic year offerings. She closed by saying that Cornell has always been a pioneer in embracing change and diversity, and that it was paramount that the University take this step.

- ii. The publicity designer of CUDAP said that a former community member sent her an email in support of this initiative, and proceeded to read the email.
 - 1. The community member said that they have worked with deaf and hard-of-hearing students for years, and that ASL is a beautiful language with a rich history, and that a visual language is easier to grasp for some than an auditory language.
- iii. Joyce Muchan said that in 2000, there was a fire in Ithaca, and that firefighters at that time could not communicate with the people inside. She added that the University is unable to certify people for translation services in ASL because Cornell does not have the relevant faculty to do so. She added that she has been working for seven years to certify students at Cornell to help with the ASL community, and that her organization is strongly in favor of adding this community service aspect to benefit students and the community at large.
 - 1. J. Muchan is the Assistant Director for Student Development at the Cornell Public Service Center.
- iv. N. Hernandez said that a referendum regarding this initiative was passed last semester, and moved to make a series of amendments to the resolution – amended 19-0-1.
 - 1. Amend line 23 such that “deaf” is written as “Deaf”.
 - 2. Amend such that the following clauses are inserted after line 25:
 - a. “Whereas, sign languages are not just a set of gestures or a signed version of any particular spoken language and;”
 - b. “Whereas, sign languages have the full range of rule-governed system of articulation, word formation, sentence structure, and meaning comparable to any spoken language and;”
 - c. “Whereas, the Linguistics Society of America (LSA) affirms for signed languages such as American Sign Language all the rights and privileges attendant to any spoken languages, including the right to satisfy a student’s academic foreign language requirement and;”
 - 3. Amend such that the following clauses are inserted after line 36:
 - a. “Be it further resolved, that the professor teaching the American Sign Language class identify as a member of the Deaf community;”
 - b. “Be it further resolved, that if there is not sufficient funding to create the ASL Program, the College of Arts and Sciences, a representative from Student Assembly, and a representative of CUDAP will work with alumni affairs to secure sustainable funding for the program and;”
- v. V. Devatha voiced his support for this resolution, and asked whether or not CUDAP has been able to reach out to the College of Arts and Sciences and discern their position on this initiative.
- vi. Mary Grace Hager said that she has reached out, and that there is currently difficulty in finding a department to house the program due to funding issues.

- vii. N. Hernandez added that these funding issues are why there was an amendment regarding reaching out to alumni affairs.
- viii. V. Devatha moved to amend this clause to the resolution following line 41: “Be it finally resolved, this resolution be forwarded to the Dean of Faculty, Charles Van Loan” – amended 22-0-1.
- ix. H. Hassan voiced his support for the resolution and said that he has interacted with many people in the community who have shown their support.
- x. G. Park asked the sponsors to explain the text on line 32, and asked whether or not this is a foreign language requirement for people whose first language is not ASL.
- xi. M. Hager said that students who already know a language can take a test to place out of the College of Arts and Sciences language requirement, and that students who could theoretically place out with ASL cannot do so because of a lack in faculty, and that the administration would need to find a professor who could let an ASL-competent student pass such an examination.
- xii. G. Park asked whether or not a person who is fluent in ASL as their first language could test out.
- xiii. M. Hager said that this would be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- xiv. G. Park said that the resolution is a great idea, but expressed her concern that they might be unable to find a professor to teach a full ASL course if they cannot find one to allow students to place out of the language requirement.
- xv. M. Hager said that the person in charge of evaluating the exam could presumably also teach the course.
- xvi. N. Hernandez said that there are capable professors at Ithaca College, and that Cornell is the only Ivy League institution, aside from Dartmouth, that does not have an ASL professor.
- xvii. There was a motion to move Resolution 41 to Business of the Day – approved.
- xviii. There was a motion to vote.
 - 1. O. Egharevba dissented.
 - 2. Voting to move into voting procedure on Resolution 41 – approved with a majority.
- xix. Motion to vote on Resolution 41 – approved 21-0-1.

VII. Announcements & Reports II

- a. Slope Day Programming Board
 - i. Adja Toure said that this discussion is in regard to the special projects funding that would be used to fund the Slope Day breakfast and Alternative Slope Day.
 - ii. G. Kaufman said that, on Monday, the Appropriations Committee decided to allocate \$12500 to Slope Day, and that this funding can be broken down into three categories.
 - 1. \$10000 was allocated to be used for the breakfast.
 - 2. \$2500 was allocated to be used for Alternative Slope Day (which is down from \$5000).
 - 3. \$0 was allocated to be used for scanners.
 - iii. O. Din asked if the allocations could be approved without a resolution.

- iv. V. Devatha replied in the negative.
- v. A. Viswanathan said that it was his understanding that the breakfast was recommended by the Appropriations Committee to go into the Slope Day budget.
- vi. A. Toure said that Slope Day is not yet self-sufficient.
- vii. O. Corn said that as much money as possible should be going to the breakfast, and that the Assembly is struggling because they do not have a great deal of money to subsist on next year.
- viii. C. Schott recommended that the \$10000 for breakfast be incorporated into the Slope Day budget.
- ix. A. Toure said that this has already been done.
- x. D. Engelson said that the Assembly should give Slope Day money directly in the future, and voiced his support for these allocations.
- xi. V. Devatha moved to end discussion.
- xii. J. Kim said that there are still more members on the speaker's list.
- xiii. T. Ball asked whether or not the Slope Day Programming Board (henceforth SDPB) approves of the funding they were given.
- xiv. A. Toure replied in the affirmative, and added that they just need to find funding for the remaining \$2500 needed for Alternative Slope Day. She expressed her hope that another organization will be found in the future to fund Alternative Slope Day.

VIII. Business of the Day:

- a. Resolution 37: Improving Communication and Access to the Student Body
 - i. V. Devatha said that this resolution was tabled indefinitely at the previous meeting.
 - ii. D. Barbaria moved to table the resolution indefinitely – **tabled** indefinitely.
- b. Resolution 38: Reinstating Statement Policy
 - i. Joseph Anderson asked if any member of the Executive Committee reached out to Dr. Joseph Burke.
 - ii. J. Kim replied in the negative.
 - iii. N. Hernandez moved to table the resolution.
 - iv. G. Kaufman asked whether or not the sponsors of the resolution should reach out to Dr. Burke instead.
 - v. J. Kim said that he would reach out.
 - vi. N. Hernandez moved to table the resolution – **tabled**.

IX. New Business

- a. Resolution 40: Co-Op Equity
 - i. There was a motion to move this resolution to Business of the Day.
 - 1. T. Ball and J. Anderson dissented.
 - ii. T. Ball said that this resolution essentially tries to establish a system for registering events in cooperative housing such as can be done for fraternity houses and other Greek life residential areas. He added that co-op events have been faced with more scrutiny by the University than fraternity events, and that he will be able to provide better answers for questions regarding this resolution next week, when the other sponsors are in attendance.

- iii. J. Anderson recommended that line 38 be changed such that it is less vague in regard to how the process would be “revisited”, and asked about the logistical aspect of registering events, particularly whether they would go through the same office as Greek life events.
- iv. T. Ball said that in the past, the reason for co-op events being shut down has changed multiple times, and that it has been hard to specifically identify why it has been happening. He also said that in regard to the overseeing of registration, certain educational events can be registered through the university, and that other events, such as social events, have no system in place at the moment. He added that registration in regard to the latter would preferably be implemented such that it parallels Greek life systems already in place.
- v. V. Devatha asked what judicial processes are already in place for co-ops regarding the presence of alcohol.
- vi. T. Ball said that he does not know who the current president of jurisdiction is, and that this can be answered next week. He said that in terms of the current judicial system, there is currently no system set up to his knowledge, and violations in the past have been violations in regard to the Campus Code of Conduct. He said that this is why it’s important for a system to be put in place.
- vii. V. Devatha said that the creation of a system is vague, and asked whether he would be comfortable with the formation of an ad-hoc committee to address this. He added that he would like to make sure that students are part of discussions when they must occur.
- viii. T. Ball said, in terms of getting students involved, that there are systems similar to those in the Interfraternity Council for the co-ops. He added that he cannot speak for the other sponsors of the resolution, but that he thinks that it would make sense for there to be an ad-hoc committee.
- ix. R. Herz asked whether or not there are plans to put further regulations on co-ops apart from those already in place for Greek life, saying that the administration might not be inclined toward this initiative otherwise.
- x. T. Ball replied in the affirmative, saying that the intention of this resolution is not just for parties, and that there is a lack of transparency when it comes to co-ops, especially in regard to how many people can be in the building at one time. He added that he does not believe that issues currently prevalent in Greek life are as prominent in co-ops, and that this is why this resolution is so important.
- xi. R. Herz asked if whether or not co-ops had already had these parties.
- xii. T. Ball said that co-ops can have social gatherings in the same way that any person can, such as with some friends.
- xiii. S. Iruvanti yielded his time to the chair.
- xiv. Z. Schmetterer voiced his support for this resolution and expressed his desire to help T. Ball in regard to the aforementioned ad-hoc committee. He added that this resolution is good for the Greek life community, since every Greek organization must help pay for private security to improve events, and said that if more organizations are paying, they could afford better security.
- xv. V. Devatha asked whether or not T. Ball would be open to adding a clause at the end of the resolution to form an ad-hoc committee.

- xvi. T. Ball asked that such an amendment wait until next week when the other sponsors are present.
- xvii. O. Din yielded his time to the chair.
- xviii. G. Kaufman said that he thinks that this resolution is well-intentioned and that he supports the spirit of it. He expressed his concern regarding the policies that make co-ops different from Greek organizations.
 - 1. All co-ops are university *registered* organizations, whereas all Greek organizations are university *recognized* organizations.
- xix. T. Ball asked G. Kaufman to elaborate as to why having the registration is mutually exclusive from having the Campus Code of Conduct be in effect.
- xx. G. Kaufman reiterated the distinction between university recognition and university registration, and explained that the recognition system was introduced to allow the University to place stricter rules on Greek organizations following incidents in the 1980s. He further explained that these rules have changed over time, and that it is his understanding that co-ops are under the same rules that all other organizations at Cornell are (i.e., not the same rules that Greek organizations must follow).
- xxi. T. Ball said that co-ops can still be university registered and under the Code of Conduct and have a judicial system in place.
- xxii. G. Kaufman said that in order for such a thing to happen, the Code of Conduct would need to be amended to have a specific carve-out for co-ops. He added that such a thing could happen, even though he thinks that it shouldn't, and that changes in this regard would have to go through the Codes and Judicial Committee.
- xxiii. T. Ball said that G. Kaufman's previous statement was an option, and that the alternative option would be to have co-ops be administrated as they are at this time, which is the intention of this resolution. He added that this resolution tries to acknowledge that there is a lack of transparency in regard to how co-ops are treated.
- xxiv. V. Devatha asked if it would make more sense for this resolution to pass through the University Assembly.
- xxv. T. Ball said that he does not have the answer for that.
- xxvi. G. Kaufman said that he has some understanding in this regard, and that this would probably be good to bring up with the Codes and Judicial Committee. He also said that in order for the desired change to be actualized, it would require a code amendment. He recommended that T. Ball get in contact with the University Assembly representatives on the Student Assembly to help him navigate this, and that he doesn't think the Student Assembly itself can help him.
- xxvii. V. Devatha moved to table the resolution – **tabled**.

X. Additional Announcements and Reports

- a. Graduate and Professional Students Assembly
 - i. D. Barbaria yielded his time to Elena Michel.
 - ii. E. Michel yielded her time to J. Anderson.
 - iii. J. Anderson said that representatives of the Consensual Relationships Policy Committee (henceforth CRPC) met with the GPSA at their last meeting.
- b. Faculty Senate

- i. C. Schott said that he did not have a schedule for FS meetings until the previous night, and that he was able to report on the meeting despite not being in attendance. He reported that the CRPC spoke at the FS meeting, and that faculty members are concerned because of limits to the right to romance.
- c. Employee Assembly
 - i. C. Schott said that the previous EA meeting had two major items discussed, the first being in regard to allowing University employees to have more holidays and extended weekends, and the other being how “teledoctors” fit into health plans.
- d. University Assembly
 - i. C. Schott said that the CRPC spoke at the UA meeting, as well as the Hate Speech Working Group in regard to recent events.

XI. Adjournment

- a. J. Kim adjourned the meeting at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Hannan
Clerk of the Assembly



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(03/08/2018)
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #38 Reinstituting the Interim Suspension Statement Policy

ABSTRACT: This resolution intends to reinstitute the policy of providing public statements when a campus organization is placed on interim suspension.

Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson '20 and Natalia Hernandez '21

Whereas, in the 2016-2017 academic year, individuals of the Cornell community were notified when a campus organization went on interim suspension via a public statement;

Whereas, in the 2017-2018 academic year, no public statements have been made about interim suspensions of campus organizations although there have been campus organizations that have been placed on interim suspension;

Whereas, by not providing a public statement when a campus organization is placed on interim suspension it causes there to be higher risk for individuals who interact with that campus organization;

Whereas, there is the general importance of transparency in a large decentralized university, such as, Cornell University;

Be it therefore resolved, that the policy of providing a public statement when a campus organization is placed on interim suspension be reinstituted;

Be it further resolved, that these statements should be sent from the Executive Director of Campus and Community Engagement, Joseph Burke, as there were in the 2016-2017 academic year;

Be it finally resolved, that campus organizations that were placed on interim suspension in the 2017-2018 academic year and did not have a public statement written now have a public statement written that notifies the Cornell community when they were placed on interim suspension and of their current status.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Anderson '20
Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly

Natalia Hernandez '21
Minority Students Liasion at-Large, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-0, 03/06/2018)