

Cornell University Student Assembly

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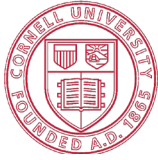
Agenda of the Thursday, February 3, 2022 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:30 PM

VIRTUAL – ZOOM

- I. Call to Order
- II. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohono (Cayuga Nation)
- III. Late Additions to the Agenda
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - a. [January 27th, 2022 Minutes](#)
- V. Open Microphone
- VI. Announcements and Reports
 - a. OSGR New Directors Approval – Maggie Peng
 - b. [Director of Elections Resignation](#) – Patrick Mehler
 - c. Nominations to Office of Ethics – Duncan Cady
- VII. Initiatives
- VIII. Presentations and Forums
- IX. Business of the Day
 - a. Resolution 38: [Establishing the Public Health and Safety Committee](#)
 - b. Resolution 40: [Spring Festival Gala Special Funding Project](#)
- X. New Business
- XI. 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
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Minutes of the Thursday, January 27, 2022 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:30 PM

VIRTUAL - ZOOM

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. A. Ononye called the meeting to order at 4:50 PM (EST).
- b. Roll Call
 - i. *Members Present: M. Baker, J. Bansah, D. Cady, P. DaSilveira, D. Eisman, A. Gleiberman, P. Gronemeyer, D. Ilango, J. Jiang, A. Juan, J. Kim, A. Lampert, C. Leon, Y. Logan, M. Louis, L. Lu, B. Luckow, J. Mullen, N. Overton, N. Reddy, K. Santacruz, L. Smith, M. Song, C. Tempelman, V. Valencia, A. Williams, E. Yan, A. Ononye, D. Hernandez*
 - ii. *Members Absent: No members were absent*

II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohó:nq (Cayuga Nation)

- a. President Ononye delivered the Land Acknowledgement.

III. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. D. Hernandez motioned to add a resolution regarding the establishment of the Public Health and Safety Committee. Motion **passed** by a majority vote of 22 – 0 – 4.
- b. D. Cady motioned to add a resolution recommending the implementation of zoom live transcripts in classes and meetings. Motion **passed** by a majority vote of 22 – 0 – 4.

IV. Consent Agenda

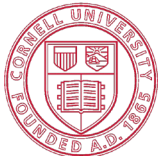
- a. A. Ononye announced that SA R37: Recommendation for the Student Activity Fee 2022-2024 was accepted by President M. Pollack.

V. Open Microphone

- a. There were no speakers present at open microphone.

VI. Announcements and Reports

- a. OSGR New Directors Approval – Maggie Peng
 - i. Maggie Peng was not present to provide information regarding the submitted resolution.
 - ii. Motion by L. Smith to table the resolution until the new directors could be present was approved by a vote of 25 – 0 – 1 — **Tabled**
- b. Special Project Funding Request (Chinese New Year) — JohnJohn Jiang & Valeria Valencia
 - i. J. Jiang began by introducing the event specifics of the Spring Festival Gala
 - ii. J. Jiang explained that funding was being sought from the Student Assembly to augment the limited funding available from other student organizations hosting the Chinese New Year Events.



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- iii. L. Lu highlighted the importance of the festival in supporting the Chinese community on the Cornell campus.
- iv. L. Smith affirmed the importance of allowing SA members the opportunity to review a detailed breakdown of the costs of the festival in order to consider the resolution.
- v. D. Cady motioned to table the resolution till the following Student Assembly meeting so the student organizations involved in the planning could be invited to discuss the details of the funding request. The motion passed by a vote of 24 – 0 – 3 — **Tabled**

VII. Initiatives

- a. No initiatives were presented.

VIII. Presentations and Forums

- a. No presentations and forums were presented.

IX. New Business

- a. SA R38: Establishing the Public Health and Safety Committee” was presented by Cady, D. Hernandez, J. Mullen, and C. Hodges.
 - i. D. Hernandez explained that the new committee would work with the Office of Student Advocate and students across the university.
 - ii. The Committee would be under the Student Assembly, and work in coordination with PSAC.
 - iii. L. Smith asked for clarification on how PSAC would be different from the proposed Public Health and Safety Committee.
 - 1. D. Cady affirmed that the resolution detailed the functions of the Committee and stated that the number of community members' seats on the Committee would be decided by the Student Assembly.
 - iv. D. Cady submitted an amendment to the resolution at line 85 (§a. Alternative Crisis Response Chair. clause a subclause i. The **amendment** was passed by unanimous vote.
 - v. L. Smith questioned the structure of having a review Committee of the Student Assembly, overseen by the executive cabinet, and only addressing issues of concern to the Office of the Student Advocate.
 - vi. D. Cady motioned to table the resolution in order to clarify amendments related to the appointments of members of the Office of the Student Advocate and the Student Assembly. The motion passed. — **Tabled**
- b. SA R39: Zoom Live Transcript Implementation Request was presented by D. Cady and K. Santacruz.
 - i. D. Cady explained that the resolution calls for the automatic implementation of the new Zoom feature enabling live transcription (closed captioning) for all applicable academic zoom meetings to better accommodate students through the current and possible future online/remote learning period.
 - ii. A. Gleiberman motioned to vote by unanimous consent. Motion was seconded. The resolution was then passed unanimously. — **Approved**



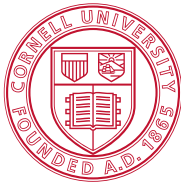
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- c. A. Gleiberman asked for a 2/3 vote of the Student Assembly to overturn a decision by the Executive Committee. Citing the SA Standing Rules (§Section 6, Rule 10, line 232-235), the vote was taken, and the 2/3 approval threshold attained.
- d. A. Gleiberman introduced "SA R41: Overturning the Executive Committee's Decision" as it related to the removal of member H. Wade for excessive absences during the fall semester.
 - i. H. Wade stated his position and asked to be reinstated as a member of the Student Assembly, after he was removed due to the attendance policy.
 - ii. A. Gleiberman, E. Yan, L. Smith, P. Silveira, and D. Cady affirmed their support for reinstating H. Wade.
 - iii. J. Mullen, SA Vice President for Internal Operations, whose role oversees attendance and approves absences of SA members, spoke about his concerns regarding H. Wade's absences during the fall semester which included;
 - 1. Absences on 9/9, 9/30, and 12/2.
 - 2. Early Leave/Late on 10/28, 11/4, and 11/30.
 - iv. J. Mullen referenced he was upholding the rules of the Assembly and referenced the current Absentee and Attendance Policies from the Charter (§IV.5, lines 239-253), Bylaws (§IV.8.B, lines 266-267), and the Standing Rules (§Section 2.B, lines 30-81).
 - v. A. Gleiberman motioned to extend the meeting to 6:40 PM (EST). The motion passed by unanimous consent.
 - vi. A. Gleiberman made a motion to vote on the resolution. Motion passed by unanimous consent.
 - vii. N. Overton motioned to extend the meeting to 6:50 PM (EST). Motion passed by unanimous vote.
 - viii. President Ononye confirmed that the motion to approve SA R41 would need 2/3 vote by the members present. The vote for reinstating H. Wade on the Student Assembly failed to meet the 2/3 votes necessary. Vote tally was 15 – 12 – 2. — **Rejected**

X. Adjournment

- a. A. Ononye adjourned the meeting at 6:42 PM (EST).

Respectfully Submitted,
Jana Alzayer
Clerk of the Student Assembly



Cornell University Student Assembly

February 1, 2022

Dear President Ononye,

It has been a great pleasure to serve as the Student Assembly's Director of Elections for both the Spring 2021 and Fall 2021 elections. In this short year as Director, elections within the SA have progressed tremendously for the better and it has been an honor to oversee increases in voter turnout, competitive races, and the diversification of the Elections Committee.

In 2021, the Student Assembly experienced:

- A 33% increase in voter turnout in Spring 2021,
- Twice as many contested races in Spring 2021,
- Twice as many contested seats in Spring 2021,
- A fully seated assembly following Spring elections for the first time ever, and
- A 31% increase in voter turnout in Fall 2021

As I begin a new chapter of my collegiate and professional career, I submit to you my resignation as the Director of Elections to take effect immediately following a special election for the role on February 10, 2022. With my resignation, I wholeheartedly endorse Isaac D. Chasen to continue the progress made as 2022's Student Assembly Director of Elections.

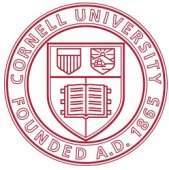
Isaac has served on the Elections Committee for the past three semesters, providing an essential nonpartisan and fair judgement to the Committee. Isaac currently serves as the President of the Cornell chapter of the ACLU as well as the Vice President of Finance for Cornell Votes. The Director of Elections must always remain a role that is impartial and his commitment to nonpartisanship is unrivaled. He will continue to work directly with Cornell Votes to increase voter turnout across the university and his strong leadership will allow a seamless transition as he assumes the role.

I am incredibly grateful for the time I have spent cultivating a culture of voter participation at Cornell within the Student Assembly and I look forward to continuing those efforts across Cornell and the City of Ithaca.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Mehler

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Patrick J. Mehler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



Resolution 38: Establishing the Public Health and Safety Committee

Abstract: This resolution calls for the creation of the Student Public Health and Safety Committee by working and students across the university.

Sponsored by: Duncan Cady '23, Delilah Hernandez '22, Joseph Mullen '22, Conor Hodges '21

Reviewed by: Student Assembly

Type of Action: Legislation

Originally Presented: 01/27/2022

Current Status: New Business

Whereas, The Student Assembly occupies the uniquely influential and significant role of representing the undergraduate student population at Cornell University and taking on the responsibilities associated with wellness and quality-of-life issues, making sure that students are heard, and our issues are addressed,

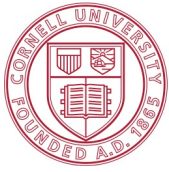
Whereas, The Student Assembly Charter directs the Student Assembly to “effect more extensive involvement in campus governance in the undergraduate student body,” Including examining “any matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the student community”¹

Whereas, in performing these responsibilities, the Student Assembly must be committed to public safety and community health as these core principles of wellness and quality-of-life cannot be forgotten in constantly evolving duties and processes of the SA; and as always, elevating undergraduate student’s voices and perspectives to improve communication and visibility must stay vitally central on our mission of wellness,

Whereas, The Office of Student Advocate is an unbiased, non-partisan, community-driven organization of student caseworkers that serves and assists Cornell undergraduates in navigating any problem or concern on and off-campus²; OSA is available as a point of contact to help students in navigating Cornell's bureaucracy in collaboration with University Administration,

¹ Student Assembly Charter https://assembly.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/sa-charter_2021-11-04.pdf

² <https://www.cornellstudentadvocate.com/about>



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student leaders, and Cornell departments to make the community aware of a particular problem and initiate steps to discover and develop tangible solutions,³

Whereas, The Office of Student Advocate is tasked with helping students in crisis, including student issues concerning public safety, health, and overall well-being,

Whereas, OSA like many other student cohorts, communities, and organizations has no direct representation within PSAC⁴; the Office of Student Advocate's participation and institutionalized relationship within public safety would enable more students and communities to participate in co-producing improvements to campus health and safety institutions and operations,

Whereas, The Student Assembly, currently appoints two (2) students to Public Safety Advisory Committee⁵, but only (2) two full-time students cannot adequately represent all communities nor bear the responsibilities of speaking for so many voices;

Whereas, Two (2) undergraduate students cannot take on the same amount of responsibility as administrators on PSAC who have university employed staff and teams collaborating with them thereby creating an imbalance in capability between students and staff in ideating and implementing health and safety reforms,

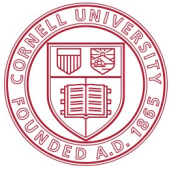
Whereas, an underrepresentation of undergraduate students to PSAC produces circumstances such that many student identities, organizations, communities, analytic lenses, and lived experiences are underrepresented in public health and safety discussions,

Whereas, The Student Assembly must recognize the heavy bandwidth expectations of PSAC while maintaining the heavier responsibilities of academic, professional, and individual pursuits PSAC currently expects of students, and The Student Assembly must reaffirm our institutional

³ Student Assembly Bylaws https://assembly.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/sa_bylaws_11.04.2021_0.pdf

⁴ <https://www.cupolice.cornell.edu/campus-safety-security/public-safety-advisory-committee-psac/>

⁵ <https://www.cupolice.cornell.edu/campus-safety-security/public-safety-advisory-committee-psac/>



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commitments to all students in expanding opportunities of involvement and outlets of communication on issues of public health and public safety.

Be it therefore resolved, The Student Assembly establishes a Public Health and Safety Committee, to relieve workload expectations on student PSAC members, to redress the limited representation of valued undergraduate student voices and perspectives, to facilitate inclusion of more diverse identities, abilities statuses, experiences, socioeconomic perspectives, and other forms of difference and diversity.

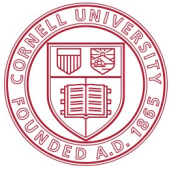
Be it therefore resolved, that “Section 2” of “Article VI” after line 361 of 651 of the Student Assembly Bylaws be amended as follows⁶:

P. Student Public Health and Safety Committee – The committee will serve as a confidential advocacy link for students to the Cornell University Police Department, Community Response Team, Cornell University EMS, and the Public Safety Advisory Committee on issues of campus public health and safety. The committee will facilitate student participation in university reviews of critical public safety incidents, receive student complaints regarding public health and safety institutions (CRT, CUEMS, CUPD, etc) and advocate for resolutions, advocate for student participation in the recruitment and selection processes of university public health and safety workers, enable student participation in the design and implementation of an alternative public safety models at Cornell, collaborate with the Student Assembly appointed undergraduate members of the Public Safety Advisory Committee to ensure student health and safety interests are comprehensively represented, liaise regularly with the Student Health Advisory Committee in recognition of the fact that public health and public safety are closely interrelated, and regularly communicate with relevant administrators and staff on incentives and student concerns relating to matters of public health and safety. The committee will consist of but is not limited to the following positions that are to practice and operate in association with the Office of Student Advocate:

a. Alternative Crisis Response Chair

- i. Appointed by the Office of the Student Advocate and approved by the Student Assembly to lead student participation in Cornell’s Alternative Public Safety efforts and coordinate committee efforts with existing Cornell public health and safety institutions.
- ii. The chair will perform and delegate all commonly necessary and procedural committee functions and will maintain and oversee all orders of procedural and tasked business.

⁶ https://assembly.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/sa_bylaws_11.04.2021_0.pdf



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- iii. The chair will report directly to the Student Assembly and the Office of the Student Advocate at least once (1) per semester, this will include but is not limited to speaking directly to the Student Assembly General Body and sharing committee progress.
- iv. The Chair of the committee will be reviewed semesterly by the current SA President in consultation with the Student Advocate and can be removed at their discretion.

- b. Alternative Crisis Response Research Coordinator

- i. Appointed by the Office of the Student Advocate and approved by the Student Assembly to identify promising alternative crisis response programs across the country that could inform improvements at Cornell and to advocate for their adoption.

- c. Alternative Crisis Response Outreach Coordinator

- i. Appointed by the Office of the Student Advocate and approved by the Student Assembly to generate and direct efforts to include students in the work of the Public Health and Safety committee.

- a. All Student Assembly Representatives to the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) will sit on this committee.

- b. One additional committee chair position, which can be held by any member of the Cornell undergraduate student population.

- c. At least five additional undergraduate students, representing both Student Assembly members and community members.

Be it finally resolved, that the Student Public Health and Safety Committee is committed to strengthening connections between the undergraduate student population, campus health and safety institutions, and the Public Safety Advisory Committee in recognition of the crucial role students must play in co-producing wellness and safety at Cornell.

Respectfully Submitted,

Duncan Cady '23

Students With Disabilities Representative At-Large, Student Assembly

Delilah Hernandez '22

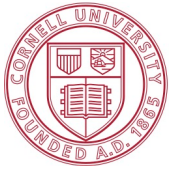
Student Advocate, Student Assembly

Joseph Mullen '24

Vice President of Internal Operations

Conor Hodges '21

Racial Justice in Public Safety Fellow



Resolution #40: Spring Festival Gala Special Funding Project

Abstract: This resolution approves \$5,000 of Special Projects Funding to the Cornell Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA) for their Spring Festival Gala to promote the value of diversity and cultural inclusion.

Sponsored by: JohnJohn Jiang '22, Luna Lu '25, Joseph Mullen '24, Everest Yan '22

Reviewed by: Executive Board, 5-0-1

Type of Action: Recommendation

Originally Presented: 01/25/2022

Current Status: New Business

Whereas, CSSA will be hosting the Spring Festival Gala, which is the biggest event celebrating Chinese New Year, the most important festival of Chinese Culture, even Asian cultures.

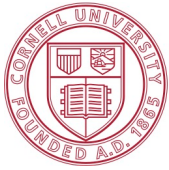
Whereas, this event will not only be a celebration but also give Asian students a chance to connect with their cultures/communities and provide a chance for all students at Cornell to learn more about Asian cultures.

Whereas, the Spring Festival Gala will take place on 2/12/2022 at Statler Auditorium.

Whereas, gift packs with Chinese traditional snacks and spring festival-related objects worth around \$4000 will be given to all attendees and those cultural clubs that bring up Chinese traditional shows on stage.

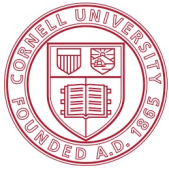
Whereas, during the event, CSSA will hold interactive games for all the participants, and prizes worth \$1900 will be given to six winners.

Whereas, due to the COVID situation and health concerns related to the pandemic, CSSA will record the shows on the gala if not send the live stream to Youtube for those students and faculties who are interested in Chinese culture but have health concerns to come to an in-person event.



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- 27 **Whereas**, CSSA bought a camera and lens for the aforementioned special needs costing
28 \$3998.99; this camera is used to record the entire event and film a documentary that promotes
29 stories about Chinese New Year.
- 30 **Whereas**, CSSA has printed fliers and quartercards to hand out on campus, advertised on
31 multiple social media platforms with their designed posters to attract the entire Cornell
32 community to come together to celebrate the Spring Festival.
- 33 **Whereas**, the Spring Festival Gala is open to everyone at Cornell.
- 34 **Whereas**, it is not only a significant event that honors Asian culture but also a great opportunity
35 to increase connection and build bridges between different cultural groups.
- 36 **Whereas**, during the carnivorous pandemic in the past two years, the Asian community had
37 suffered significantly due to racism and anti-science misjudgments.
- 38 **Whereas**, therefore it is critically important that the Chinese New Year can be successfully
39 hosted to create an accessible and inclusive environment for Asians and all ethnic groups.
- 40 **Whereas**, the office of the International Student Liaison at large and the Chinese Students and
41 Scholars Association is dedicated to promoting internationalism, cultural diversity, and inclusion
42 at Cornell.
- 43 **Whereas**, hence the Spring Festival Gala symbolizes cultural diversity and racial inclusion.
- 44 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the resolution approves \$5,000 of Special Projects Funding to the
45 Cornell Chinese Students and Scholars Association for their Spring Festival Gala to promote the
46 value of diversity and cultural inclusion.
- 47 **Be it further resolved**, that the International Student Liaison at Large JohnJohn Jiang '22 would
48 represent the student assembly to oversee and communicate with CSSA regarding all the issues
49 in the Spring festival gala.
- 50 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly necessitates that this funding is used to cover
51 part of the cost of the event and other sufficient line items.
- 52 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly encourages all undergraduate students who
53 can attend and participate in CSSA's Spring Festival Gala that will be funded in part by Special
54 Projects Funding.



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55 Respectfully Submitted,
56 JohnJohn Jiang '22,
57 *International Students Liaison At-Large*
58 Luna Lu '25,
59 *Freshman Representative*
60 Joseph Mullen '24,
61 *Vice President of Internal Operations*
62 Everest Yan '22
63 *Arts and Sciences Representative*