



Cornell University
Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, October 28, 2021 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:30 PM

Memorial Room, Willard Straight Hall

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. A. Ononye called the meeting to order at 4:47pm (EST).
- b. Roll Call
 - i. *Members Present:* M. Baker, D. Cady, P. Da Silveira, D. Eisman, A. Gleiberman, P. Gronemeyer, J. Jiang, J. Kim, C. León, Y. Logan, M. Louis, J. Mullen, N. Overton, N. Reddy, K. Santacruz, L. Smith, M. Song, C. Tempelman, V. Valencia, H. Wade, A. Williams, E. Yan, A. Ononye
 - ii. *Members Absent:* J. Bansah, E. Bentolila, D. Ilango, A. Juan, A. Lampert, L. Lu

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

- a. Cornell University is located on the traditional homelands of the Gayogohó:nq̓ (the Cayuga Nation). The Gayogohó:nq̓ are members of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, an alliance of six sovereign Nations with a historic and contemporary presence on this land. The Confederacy precedes the establishment of Cornell University, New York State, and the United States of America. We acknowledge the painful history of Gayogohó:nq̓ dispossession and honor the ongoing connection of the Gayogohó:nq̓ people, past and present, to these lands and waters.

III. Consent Agenda

- a. A. Ononye stated that Resolutions 16, 17, and 20 were acknowledged by the President, Resolution 18 was submitted to the President, and Resolution 19 was accepted by the President. Detailed responses from the President are available on the Office of Assemblies website.
- b. Approval of the Minutes
 - i. October 14, 2021
 1. Motion to approve the Oct. 14th minutes – **approved** by Unanimous Consent

IV. Open Microphone

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

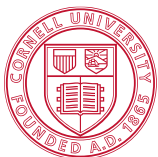
V. Announcements and Reports

- a. Byline Reports
 - i. Willard Straight Hall Student Union Board (WSHSUB)
 1. V. Valencia explained that this byline report was discussed at the previous meeting.
 2. E. Yan stated that under the bylaws, the VP of Finance must be successfully elected. There has not been an election.
 - a. A. Ononye stated that this will be discussed later in the meeting.
 3. Motion to approve – **approved** by a vote of 19-0-2
 - ii. Convocation Committee



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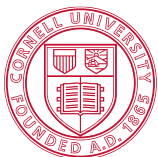
1. V. Valencia explained that the Convocation Committee requested \$18 and the Appropriations Committee recommended \$18. In the past, they have fully and effectively used their funding.
2. P. Gronemeyer asked if the Convocation Committee appealed.
 - a. V. Valencia stated that they did not.
3. Motion to table – **tabled** by Unanimous Consent
- iii. Gender Justice Advocacy Coalition (GJAC)
 1. V. Valencia explained that in the 2020-2022 byline cycle, GJAC asked for \$4.80. In this byline cycle, they requested \$3.45. This is because they used to fund the Big Red Shuttle, which was a bus services that provided free late-night transportation. However, it was shut down due to the COVID-19 and GJAC asked for a lower allocation. The Appropriations Committee recommended \$3.45.
 2. D. Cady asked what they are no longer funding.
 - a. V. Valencia answered that the Big Red Shuttle was like a TCAT for the weekend and it has not been reactivated.
 - b. D. Cady asked if it was simply just the Big Red Shuttle not being funded.
 - i. V. Valencia confirmed that is the only thing changing.
 - ii. D. Cady asked if the shuttle will be coming back in the future.
 1. V. Valencia stated they do not have a direct answer, but they hope so.
 3. P. Gronemeyer asked if they do decide to reactivate in the future, would they be able to get funding even if the funding cycle is 2022-2024.
 - a. V. Valencia stated that the \$3.45 would be set for the byline funding. If the service is reinstated, it would have to be through other funding.
 4. Motion to table – **tabled** by Unanimous Consent
- iv. Cornell University Emergency Medical Service (CUEMS)
 1. V. Valencia stated that CUEMS's 2020-2022 allocation was \$4.30. They requested \$4.70 and the Appropriations Committee recommended \$4.70. This recognizes the extra work that CUEMS put in during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 2. Members of the CUEMA states that they were grateful for the SA for their continued support and expressed hope to continuing working together in the future.
 - a. A. Ononye thanked them for all of their work.
 3. Motion to table – **tabled** by Unanimous Consent
- v. V. Valencia announced there will be byline hearings for ALANA, Orientation Steering Committee, and the Preprofessional Fraternity Council on Monday, Nov. 1, in 145 McGraw Hall at 5:15pm. There will be byline hearings for Athletics and Physical Education, HAVEN, and the Community



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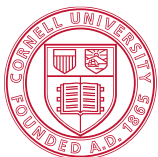
Partnership Funding Board on Wednesday, Nov. 3, in 366 McGraw Hall at 5:45pm.

- b. C. Tempelman stated that they met with the Dean of Human Ecology and spoke about the School of Public Policy and what that means for students currently studying policy. Additionally, they discussed the COVID-19 vaccine booster, and all Cornell students are eligible for the booster. They also talked about the Dean of Undergraduate Council and the fashion closet. If anyone has any questions regarding this, please feel free to reach out.
- c. J. Jiang stated that they had recently read the news about the Cornell endowment growing from \$7 billion to \$10 billion and explained that they would like to see that used for reducing financial pressure; especially as it is difficult for international students to get financial aid and scholarships. J. Jiang asked if any members would like to work together and with members of the UA that are also discussing this, to relieve financial pressure.
- d. D. Cady explained that they are working with K. Santacruz to addressing bettering subtitles in recorded lectures and said many members have already expressed interest. If anyone else is interested, reach out and they will find a time that everyone can meet. Additionally, the UA is meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 2, to discuss the veterans' resolution that was passed in the SA last week. D. Cady asked for members to come to the meeting and show support for the resolution; the UA meeting is on Zoom.
- e. J. Mullen reiterated the attendance policy and explained that that an absence is only excused if it something you cannot get out of, such as a job interview, a health emergency, or being out of state. You have to be excused with 24 hours of the meeting, which can be done by sending J. Mullen an email, but they are going to be creating a Google Form for people to submit their absences to make it more organized.
- f. A. Ononye announced that sprint meetings will be 1pm on Sundays. They are not required, but strongly recommended.
 - i. J. Jiang asked if there are sprint meetings on Saturday and Sunday.
 - 1. A. Ononye explained that Saturday is an orientation for new members and those that missed the first orientation. The sprint meetings will be on Sunday at 1pm.
- g. A. Ononye stated that all excused absences are listed in the governing documents and does not include meetings for other activities. It is a very short list that includes things like academic conflict, traveling out of state, or a health emergency.
- h. P. Gronemeyer asked if they email J. Mullen for an excused absence.
 - i. J. Mullen explained that you can email, message on Slack, or text them to be excused. They are going to create a Google form that people can submit excused absences and that link will be very accessible.
- i. N. Overton asked if class is an academic conflict.
 - i. J. Mullen said to talk to them if they have a class at the time of the SA meetings, but since it is halfway through the semester, it doesn't seem to be a problem. For preenrollment for the next semester, try to choose classes that are not at the time of the SA meeting.



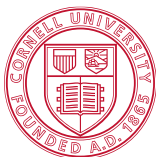
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- ii. N. Overton asked if the class is on Saturday.
 - 1. A. Ononye stated to message them.
- j. L. Smith explained that announcements during meetings are typically submitted ahead of time, so that constituents' time is not being wasted.
- k. A. Williams stated that the OSGR meets at the same time on Sunday.
 - i. A. Ononye communicated that the time on Sunday was the most voted time that members could go.
- l. N. Overton asked if there is going to be office hours with constituents.
 - i. J. Mullen explained that they are trying to organize having a room on Tuesdays or Thursdays where at least two members are present so that constituents can bring up their concerns. This is still being figured out.
- m. A Ononye communicated that the bylaws are unclear of how the next VP of Finance is chosen; in the past, sometimes vacancies were filling through elections and other times through appointing the next highest vote getter in the election. It is recommended in the GPSA bylaws that the VP of Finance be someone who has served on that committee at least one semester prior to election. A. Ononye recommended that the SA elects someone who has served on the committee before, especially since there is only about two weeks left to move forward in the byline process.
 - i. A. Gleiberman stated that it is pretty clear in the bylaws that officers serve until their successor is elected.
 - 1. A. Ononye explained that in the past that has been interpreted and other times, the vacancies were filled through the runner-up in the previous election.
 - ii. D. Eisman asked who is in charge of appointing vacant position, no one is granted that power.
 - 1. A. Ononye explained that the current interim VP of Finance was the runner-up in a previous election. The outgoing VP of Finance agreed with this process.
 - iii. There was a motion to move into executive session.
 - 1. W. Treat explained that business cannot occur in executive session.
 - 2. A. Gleiberman stated that internal elections are allowed in executive sessions, according to the bylaws.
 - 3. D. Cady stated that the SA should not move into executive session, because the parliamentarian cannot be there.
 - 4. J. Mullen objected and stated that V. Valencia is the VP of Finance and there is no need for a new election.
 - 5. Motion to move to executive session – **failed** by a vote of 10-8-3.
 - iv. N. Overton asked why the parliamentarian has to be present for the discussion.
 - 1. A. Ononye stated that there is no official reason for them to be present, but it would be much preferred.
 - v. E. Yan asked if an election can be held outside of executive session.
 - vi. L. Smith asked if it would be possible to make the microphone systems better, there is a lot of issues of people being able to hear on Zoom.



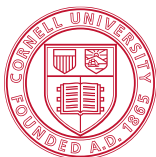
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1. A. Ononye stated that there are new microphones coming soon.
- vii. E. Yan explained that it is poor practice to have an interim VP of Finance, as that has never happened before.
- viii. There was a motion to move into executive session.
 1. N. Overton asked if the parliamentarian can be invited to the executive session.
 - a. A. Gleiberman explained that any community member can be invited to executive session.
 2. Motion to move into executive session – **failed** by a vote of 11-6-4.
- ix. There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 1. A. Gleiberman asked C. Taylor if an election can be held outside of the meeting.
 - a. C. Taylor explained that the SA can appeal the ruling of the chair by a two-thirds vote and anything else is passed by the SA.
 2. A. Gleiberman stated that the meeting should not be adjourned to give time for members to digest what C. Taylor explained.
 3. Motion to adjourn the meeting – **failed** by a vote of 8-10-3.
- x. K. Santacruz asked if the SA has to approve V. Valencia as the VP of Finance.
 1. A. Ononye explained that V. Valencia is currently the interim VP and is currently carrying on the byline process and there is no limit to their interim status.
- xi. There was a motion to vote on the next VP of Finance.
 1. There was to make V. Valencia that next VP of Finance,
 - a. E. Yan dissented and asked if the assembly could move into executive session.
 - b. J. Jiang asked what is the different between voting during the meeting and voting during executive session.
 - i. A. Ononye explained that if the assembly moves in executive session, every community member will leave the room and the election will be off public record.
 - ii. C. Taylor explained that an internal election can occur in both executive session and during the meeting.
 - iii. J. Jiang asked if the election would be secret ballot if it was during the meeting.
 1. A. Ononye explained that it would not be secret ballot.
 - c. There was a vote to vote – **approved** by a vote of 17-2-3.
- xii. V. Valencia was nominated to be the next VP of Finance.
 1. The nomination was seconded.
 2. V. Valencia accepted the nomination.
- xiii. A. Gleiberman was nominated to be the next VP of Finance.
 1. The nomination was seconded.



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2. A. Gleiberman asked if they had to step down from their current position of VP of External Affairs before accepting the nomination.
 - a. A. Ononye stated that they have to step down first.
3. A. Gleiberman resigned from their position as VP of External Affairs.
4. A. Ononye accepted the nomination.
- xiv. N. Overton asked if that means there are going to be two elections and stated that no one has had time to prepare for that.
 1. A. Ononye explained that there would have to be two election.
- xv. E. Yan asked if they could motion to recess to give time for people to think about the election.
 1. C. Taylor explained that they could motion to recess with a specific time.
- xvi. Motion to recess for 5 minutes – **passed** by a vote of 12-9-1.
- xvii. The assembly recessed for 5 minutes.
- xviii. A. Ononye stated that there are currently two nominations on the floor for VP of Finance.
- xix. A. Gleiberman stated that they would like to appeal the decision by the chair of A. Gleiberman's resignation from VP of External Affairs, as they were under the impression that they could not accept the nomination for VP of Finance while being the VP of External Affairs; however, that is inaccurate information.
 1. J. Mullen stated that the resignation was stated on the record and is binding.
 2. Motion to appeal the resignation of A. Gleiberman – **appealed** by a vote of 13-4-4.
- xx. D. Eisman was nominated as the next VP of Finance.
 1. The nomination was seconded.
 2. D. Eisman accepted the nomination.
- xxi. A. Gleiberman withdrew their nomination.
- xxii. A. Ononye explained that there is only two weeks left to decide on the byline process and this should be taken very seriously. The VP of Finance is a difficult job, with an additional two-to-three-hour meetings during the week and they have to meet with multiple organization. The assembly should take this discussion very seriously.
- xxiii. J. Jiang asked if it were possible for the candidates to give speeches or to ask the candidates questions.
 1. A. Ononye stated that could be motion and a speaker's list could be started to allow the candidates to speak.
- xxiv. There was a motion to end debate.
 1. J. Mullen dissented.
 2. C. Taylor stated that the assembly could allow the candidates to speak or the assembly could vote on these candidates immediately.
 3. Motion to end debate – **failed** by a vote of 4-16-1.



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- xxv. A. Ononye explained that the best course of action now is to discuss the candidates.
- xxvi. J. Mullen explained that members should only be abstaining from voting in the case where they have a conflict of interest and members should try to avoid abstaining from voting.
- xxvii. N. Overton asked if the SA is discussing candidates and stated that there the whole assembly is not at this meeting. N. Overton also reiterated that the VP of Finance should ideally have been on the committee a semester prior.
 - 1. A. Ononye explained that notion comes from the GPSA bylaws.
- xxviii. D. Cady stated, that given an interest in time and a general lack of information, this should be discussed next week, given the importance of the position. D. Cady looked to motion to table this election.
- xxix. Motion to table the election – **tabled** by a vote of 10-9-3.
- n. There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. A. Gleiberman dissented and made a point of order that there should an election to find the next VP of Finance, as dictated in the bylaws.
- o. There was a motion to appeal the chair's decision to appoint V. Valencia as the interim VP of Finance.
 - i. P. Da Silveira asked if this means that there would not be a VP of Finance.
 - ii. C. León dissented and stated that if the chair's decision is appeal, there would not be a VP of Finance. The VP of Finance is deciding a huge budget with a short timeline.
 - iii. N. Overton reiterated C. León sentiments and stated that the election has already been tabled and this would just leave the assembly without a VP of Finance. This shows a lack of respect for constituents.
 - iv. A. Ononye echoed N. Overton and communicated that the SA cannot go a week without a VP of Finance.
 - v. C. Taylor explained that the basic rule is that the meeting cannot adjourn if there is a pressing matter; if V. Valencia was adjourned, that would be a pressing matter.
 - vi. E. Yan asked if the tabling of the election was out of order.
 - 1. A. Ononye explained that the assembly has already voted on the tabling.
 - 2. E. Yan stated it would be a disservice to go a week without a VP of Finance.
 - 3. C. Taylor explained that in Robert's Rule, nothing is out of order unless you say it is order. You cannot motion to raise a point of order if the matter has already been decided.
 - vii. K. Santacruz asked if they can suspend the rules to vote for the VP of Finance.
 - 1. C. Taylor explained that they would have to reintroduce a motion to vote, which is allowed.
 - 2. A. Ononye asked the assembly not to do this.
 - viii. H. Wade stated that there has been a lot of interesting talk about the Appropriations Committee, especially when there was a forced resignation of



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the current chair. If this isn't settled now, they will just have to talk about it next week.

1. A. Ononye explained that there was no forced removal of the previous VP of Finance.
- ix. J. Jiang asked if it was possible to suspend having a VP of Finance until next week.
 1. A. Ononye explained that that cannot happen, as there is not enough time. There are six organizations coming within the next week for their byline hearings.
- x. D. Eisman stated that the work the Appropriations Committee is extremely important, and this issue should be resolved at this meeting. The committee is already behind and it is important to have someone in this position consistently.
- xi. A. Ononye clarified that the assembly is currently debating their appointment of V. Valencia, much of this discussion is not related.
- xii. J. Mullen stated that the SA should not appeal this decision and explained that there are 9 members absent from this meeting.
- xiii. N. Overton moved the previous question.
 1. A. Williams asked for clarification on what is being voted on.
 - a. A. Ononye explained that they are voting on whether to rescind the appointment of V. Valeria.
 - b. C. Taylor explained that voting yes is voting to invalidate the chair's decision.
 - c. E. Yan asked if moving the previous question requires a two-third vote.
 - i. C. Taylor explained that it does need a two-third vote.
 - d. A. Ononye clarified that the assembly is currently voting to end debate.
 2. Motion to end debate – **approved** with a vote of 16-5-1.
- xiv. Motion to appeal A. Ononye appointment of V. Valencia – **failed** by a vote of 9-10-2
- p. Motion to adjourn the meeting – **approved** by a vote of 16-4-2

VI. Adjournment

- a. A. Ononye adjourned the meeting at 6:29pm (EST).

Respectfully Submitted,
Ciara Shanahan
Clerk of the Student Assembly