

Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, March 17, 2022 Meeting

4:45 PM – 6:30 PM

IN PERSON | WILLARD STRAIGHT MEMORIAL ROOM

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. A. Ononye called the meeting to order at 4:48 PM (EST).
- b. Roll Call
 - i. *Members Present: A. Juan, N. Reddy, K. Santacruz, L. Smith, V. Valencia, A. Williams, A. Ononye, D. Hernandez, P. Gronemeyer, C. Tempelman, J. Kim, J. Jiang, Y. Logan, B. Luckow, N. Overton, J. Bansab, D. Cady, A. Gleiberman, D. Eisman, P. DaSilveira, A. Lampert, J. Mullen, M. Song, C. Leon, L. Lu*
 - ii. *Members Absent: M. Baker, D. Ilango, M. Louis, E. Yan*

II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogoho:no (Cayuga Nation)

- a. President Ononye delivered the Land Acknowledgement.

III. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. D. Cady motioned to move Resolution 49 up the agenda. Motion **passed** by unanimous consent.
- b. D. Cady motioned to add the nomination of Alhassan Bangura to the Office of Ethics following Resolution 49. Motion **passed** by unanimous vote.

IV. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of March 10th ; 2022 Minutes
 - i. A. Lampert motioned to approve the minutes. Y. Logan seconded the motion. Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

V. Open Microphone

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

VI. Announcements and Reports

- a. Cornell Community Relations Presentation – Kate Supron
 - i. K. Supron presented the Community Report: CR 101 & Local Economic Snapshot 2021.
 - ii. K. Supron briefly introduced the boards, committees, and working groups that are part of Cornell's Community Relations.
 - iii. The key audiences for the report/snapshot include Cornell stakeholders (including the Assemblies), as well as externals (including the Chamber of Commerce, non-profits, and municipalities).
 - iv. L. Smith inquired on the renewal of the MOU agreement with the city.
 1. K. Supron informed the SA that a large sum of the payment to the city goes towards fire protection.



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2. K. Supron foresees an interesting discussion with the city on finances.
3. K. Supron furthermore affirmed that Cornell holds the largest amount of land in the city.
- v. P. Gronemeyer inquired on the visitor spending.
 1. K. Supron echoed that there has been a 99% decrease in spending.
 2. There has been a huge hit to the local economy due to COVID-19, even though Cornell and Ithaca have been fairing relatively well in comparison to other college towns.
- vi. K. Supron informed the SA that they are still working on gathering information on student volunteer hours in the community, athletics, and Greek life to include in the report.
- b. L. Smith announced that the Cornell Dairy Science Club is having an open house at 6 PM EST on Friday, March 18th, 2022 and encouraged everyone to attend.
- c. D. Cady announced that the Disability Awareness Union is having an event in coordination with the Student Disability Services on Saturday, March 19th, 2022.
- d. A. Ononye announced that the Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Friday, March 25th, 2022 and that there may be some open spots for SA representatives wishing to attend and urged any representatives wishing to attend to contact her.
- e. A. Lampert announced Cornell's plan for LGBTQ+ awareness week and informed the SA that she will be sending out a post next week for the representatives to post on social media platforms.

VII. Initiatives

- a. No initiatives were presented.

VIII. Presentations and Forums

- a. No presentations and forums were presented.

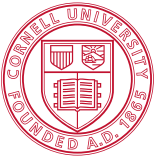
IX. Business of the Day

- a. Resolution 49: Cornell Civic Holiday
 - i. I. Chasen announced that the Cornell Civic Holiday would be a day off from classes for students and employees.
 1. Employees willing to work would get paid 2.5 times the rate.
 - ii. I. Chasen affirmed that many rival schools including Columbia, Stanford, and Yale have all done it in one form or another.
 - iii. L. Smith inquired on how the SA can be directly involved in the Cornell Civic Holiday.
 1. I. Chasen highlighted his openness for further discussions on how to get the SA more involved in the holiday.



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- iv. I. Chasen hopes to pass this resolution as soon as possible as changes to academic calendar take time to come into fruition.
- v. A. Williams and A. Juan expressed their support for the resolution.
- vi. A. Juan motioned to approve Resolution 49. N. Overton second the motion.
Resolution 49: Cornell Civic Holiday **passed** by unanimous consent.
- b. Office of Ethics Nomination of Alhassan Bangura by Michelle Song '25
 - i. M. Song summarized A. Bangura's credentials.
 - 1. A. Bangura wrote a 22-page constitution in his junior year of high school establishing executive, legislative, and judicial branches for his student government.
 - 2. A. Bangura is involved in multiple student organizations on campus including the Mental Health Subcommittee in the Student Health Advisory Committee.
 - ii. C. Templeman motioned to approve the nomination of A. Bangura. A. Williams seconded the motion. The nomination of Alhassan Bangura **passed** by a 2/3 vote of 22 – 0 – 2.
- c. Resolution 47: Continuing the Diversity and Inclusion Scholarship – Claudia Leon and Valeria Valencia
 - i. C. Leon announced the allocation of \$1500 to 5 organizations as part of the Diversity and Inclusion Scholarship which was passed by the previous SA.
 - ii. C. Leon announced the Diversity Committee's desire to continue the scholarship provided by last year's Diversity Committee.
 - iii. Five organizations will get \$300 each through applications.
 - iv. A. Williams supported this resolution.
 - v. M. Song inquired on why the term scholarship is being used rather than grant.
 - 1. C. Leon affirmed that the word scholarship was used in the past and this is used now to maintain consistency with last year's resolution.
 - vi. K. Santacruz inquired on what the application will look like to determine which organizations receive the scholarship.
 - 1. C. Leon affirmed that the application will inquire about what the organization is, what purpose it serves, and how the organization will use the money.
 - vii. L. Smith inquired on if all the scholarships were allocated in the previous Diversity Committee's budget and if all the Diversity Committee budget is going towards scholarships.
 - 1. C. Leon affirmed that the budget for the previous year was different, but it was all granted for scholarships.



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2. C. Leon affirmed that technically future committees can choose themselves if they want to use their budget towards this scholarship or not.
- viii. D. Cady motioned to end debate. Motion passed by a vote of 22 – 0 – 2.
- ix. D. Cady motioned to vote on the resolution. Resolution passed by a vote of 22 – 0 – 2.
- d. Resolution 48: Establishment of the Committee of International Student Affairs – JohnJohn Jiang
 - i. J. Jiang affirmed that, as the International Student Liaison, it is difficult for him to communicate with 60 + different international organizations.
 - ii. J. Jiang highlighted that the Diversity Committee and the ISU are still neutral about the resolution.
 - iii. J. Jiang called to attention that this resolution calls for only a temporary Ad-hoc committee.
 - iv. ISU has given initial feedback on this resolution, but J. Jiang is awaiting the final round of feedback.
 - v. A. Ononye expressed her concerns on the short timeline for the establishment of the committee (March 17 through May 6).
 1. J. Jiang replied that individuals have already expressed interest in serving on this committee.
 - vi. A. Williams expressed her disappointment that J. Jiang did not bring forth the negative feedback provided by the ISU.
 1. J. Jiang affirmed that for the final drafted bylaw committee he will work very close with the ISU and other organizations.
 - vii. C. Templeman inquired on the appointment process and applications as well as the specific issues that this committee will target.
 1. J. Jiang affirmed that treating this committee as a test run is one of the reasons for the limited time.
 2. J. Jiang highlighted that the official bylaw committee will have a different process for appointing representatives.
 - viii. A. Ononye inquired on if the Committee will always be staffed by the International Student Liaison at Large rather than through internal elections and pointed to the fact that committee chairs can sometimes be from outside of the SA.
 1. J. Jiang affirmed that internal elections will be held for the official bylaw committee.



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- ix. L. Smith inquired on what the rush is especially putting into consideration the ongoing discussion with the ISU and furthermore inquired on the role of international students in the Office of the Student Advocate.
 - 1. D. Hernandez, OSA representative, is open to collaborations on this resolution.
- x. N. Overton echoed A. Ononye and L. Smith's points in that the resolution is rushed and seconded A. William's concern regarding the ISU feedback.
- xi. A. Gleiberman does not see any harm in the resolution and affirms that ad-hoc committees are frequently passed with a short timeframe.
 - 1. P. DaSilveira seconded A. Gleiberman's point and affirmed that international students do need a larger voice as they make up 10% of the student population.
- xii. D. Cady suggested forming a real committee instead of an ad-hoc committee due to the extensive concerns and demands for international students, and to form an independent student group to aid in that process.
 - 1. J. Jiang affirmed that an independent student group is not as formal or transparent as an official ad-hoc committee.
- xiii. C. Leon seconded D. Cady and affirmed her desire to hear from the ISU.
- xiv. C. Templeman expressed that her only concern is the ISU's feedback on this committee and suggested tabling the resolution for another week.
 - 1. J. Jiang affirmed that the ISU is neutral and not against the resolution, and they want to collect the feedback of all 50+ members, which would take time.
- xv. A. Lampert motioned to end debate. Motion passed by a vote of 19 – 4 – 1.
- xvi. J. Jiang motioned to vote on Resolution 48. Resolution **failed** by a majority vote of 8 – 11 – 5.
- e. K. Santacruz motioned to move into executive session. Motion **passed** by unanimous consent.
- f. L. Smith motioned to end executive session. Motion **passed** by unanimous consent.

X. Adjournment

- a. A. Ononye adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM (EST).

Respectfully Submitted,
Jana Alzayer
Clerk of the Student Assembly