

## Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, April 21, 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 4:51 PM (EST).
- b. Roll Call
  - i. *Members Present: A. Juan, J. Bansah, V. Valencia, A. Williams, A. Ononye, D. Hernandez, C. Tempelman, J. Jiang, B. Luckow, D. Cady, A. Gleiberman, P. DaSilveira, L. Morales, D. Ilango, P. Gronemeyer, J. Kim, N. Overton, K. Santacruz*
  - ii. *Members Absent: M. Baker, D. Eisman, A. Lampert, C. Leon, Y. Logan, M. Louis, L. Lu, N. Reddy, L. Smith, M. Song, 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. A. Juan motioned to add Resolution 58 to the agenda. Motion **passed** by a majority vote of 15 – 0 – 2.

### IV. Consent Agenda

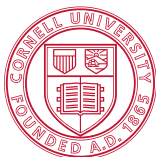
- a. Approval of March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Minutes
  - i. D. Ilango motioned to approve the minutes. K. Santacruz seconded the motion. Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

### V. Open Microphone

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

### VI. Announcements and Reports

- a. Convocation Committee Graduation Announcement – Isabella Ogbolumani
  - i. The committee oversees selecting a speaker for convocation.
  - ii. This year's convocation will take place during Senior Day and will only be open to Cornell students.
  - iii. The Convocation Committee represents the Class of 2022, and hence sent out a survey to the class for qualities they are looking for in the speaker being chosen which included: well-known, funny, inspiring, and an artist.
  - iv. A major roadblock to the committee was the budget they were given for the convocation, and hence many speakers were not attainable.
  - v. The convocation speaker for this year is Constance Wu, Asian-American speaker and activist.
  - vi. D. Cady inquired on communication with the administration and the roadblocks, and if any of them were resolved.



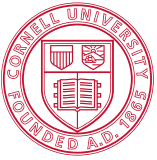
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1. I. Ogbolumani informed the SA that the committee was not told about the date change until the email was sent out.
    2. The committee furthermore had difficulty communicating with the agency that was hired by Cornell.
  - vii. J. Jiang inquired on the timing logistics and when tickets will be dropped.
    1. I. Ogbolumani informed the SA that the information has not been finalized but will be released shortly.
  - b. Big Red Food Drive – Cornell Hunger Relief
    - i. The Big Red Food Drive began 10 years ago to resolve the issue of BRBs being leftovers in students accounts and BRBs were going back to Cornell.
    - ii. Cornell Hunger Relief have been holding the drive for 10 years, then the pandemic hit, and it couldn't be held in 2020.
    - iii. The drive was supported by the SA at the time and Cornell Hunger Relief want to make sure to get all the support possible for this year.
    - iv. Partnership with Friendship Donations Network which give volunteering support.
    - v. D. Cady informed the SA that a resolution is already in the works.
    - vi. A. Ononye inquired on how the SA can offer support.
      1. Publicity and awareness would be extremely helpful to get volunteers.
      2. Information from the administration on how many BRBs are going back into Cornell's account would be helpful.
    - vii. L. Morales thanked the representative for coming out. L. Morales is skeptical about Cornell's tax issues which result in taking the BRBs.
    - viii. P. Gronemeyer inquired on the process as he has never experienced a Food Drive at Cornell.
      1. Bins are placed outside of Bear Necessities and Janson's. The volunteers are there to make sure the quality is good, that the food remains in the bins, and to count the donations.
  - c. D. Cady informed the SA that he is working with Cornell Hunger Relief in drafting a resolution and asked the SA to get involved however they can.
  - d. I. Chasen announced that campaigning will be paused from Tuesday due to the recent passing of a peer. The new voting days will be from Monday to Wednesday.
  - e. D. Hernandez reminded the SA about the SNAP/EBT workshop and asked the SA to share the flyer if they could.

### **VII. Initiatives**

- a. No initiatives were presented.

### **VIII. Presentations and Forums**

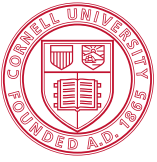


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- a. No presentations and forums were presented.

### **IX. New Business**

- a. Resolution 55: Amending Appendix B Guidelines to Implement Restrictions on Organization Surpluses - David Nachman from the Appropriations Committee.
  - i. The purpose of this amendment is cutting down on lofty and unneeded surpluses, unless in “justifying circumstances”.
  - ii. A. Gleiberman affirmed that the resolution aims to require organizations to either provide a plan to use the surpluses or it should go back to the students.
  - iii. A. Juan inquired on what defines a justifying circumstance.
    - 1. D. Nachman affirmed that it is not a one size fits all, and the Appropriations Committee will assess organizations on a case-to-case basis.
  - iv. A. Ononye voiced her concern since COVID affected budgets greatly.
    - 1. D. Nachman informed the SA that the resolution does not punish organizations for having surpluses, but rather makes sure that the money is not laying around and is put to good use.
  - v. A. Williams echoed what A. Ononye stated. She informed the SA that the resolution is vague and leaves a lot up to the discussion to the Appropriations Committee. A. Williams added that surpluses could help organizations in the long run, rather than for current events.
  - vi. C. Taylor inquired how this procedurally changes the Appropriations Committee.
    - 1. D. Nachman informed the SA that the procedure itself does not change, but the guidelines do.
  - vii. A. Gleiberman encouraged the SA to submit amendments since the resolution must be tabled regardless.
  - viii. C. Templeman is in favor of making amendments to make the resolution more specific.
  - ix. L. Morales agrees with the concept of the resolution but is concerned with the impacts of the pandemic. L. Morales expressed desire for the appropriations committee to find a way to work around the COVID-19 issues.
  - x. A. Ononye inquired on how many organizations are in violation.
    - 1. A. Gleiberman gave examples and informed the SA it is possible to compile this information for next week.
  - xi. D. Ilango does not think this is the most appropriate manner to go about the issue of surpluses and that the resolution needs more work.



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- xii. B. Luckow is concerned on the logistics for the Appropriations Committee in terms of going over organizations on a case-by-case basis.
  - 1. A. Gleiberman informed the SA that surplus is an unspoken rule that is already being assessed by the Appropriations Committee on a case-by-case basis.
- xiii. V. Valencia is concerned that this is threatening language and wasteful spending could come as a result.
- xiv. K. Santacruz motioned to table Resolution 56 by unanimous consent. D. Ilango seconded the motion. Resolution 56: Amending Appendix B Guidelines to Implement Restrictions on Organization Surpluses - David Nachman from the Appropriations Committee was **tabled**.
- b. Resolution 58: Cosponsoring the April 29<sup>th</sup> Teach-In.
  - i. P. DaSilveira motioned to vote on Resolution 58. Resolution 58 **passed** by a majority vote of 15 – 0 – 1.

### **X. Adjournment**

- a. A. Ononye adjourned the meeting at 6:04 PM (EST).

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Jana Alzayer*  
Clerk of the Student Assembly