Cornell University Assembly

Agenda of the February 13, 2018 Meeting
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM
401 Physical Sciences

I. Call to Order (Chair)
   a. Call to Order (1 minute)
   b. Welcome and Introduction (2 minutes)
   c. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda (2 minutes)

II. Approval of the Minutes (Chair)
   a. January 30, 2018 (2 minutes)

III. Dean Eduardo Peñalver on the Regulation of Speech and Harassment (30 minutes)

IV. Business of the Day
   a. Request from the Office of the President (25 minutes)
   b. Resolution 9: Reinstating the Budget Planning Committee (J. Anderson) (5 minutes)
   c. Resolution 10: In Support of E.A. R. 8: Furthering the Institutional Commitment to All LGBTQ+ Member of the Cornell Community (J. Anderson) (5 minutes)

V. Assembly Reports
   a. Student Assembly (J. Kim) (1 minute)
   b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (E. Winarto) (1 minute)
   c. Employee Assembly (C. Wiggers) (1 minute)
   d. Faculty Senate (C. Van Loan) (1 minute)

VI. Committee Reports
   a. Executive Committee (A. Waymack) (1 minute)
   b. Codes and Judicial Committee (M. Battaglia) (1 minute)
   c. Campus Welfare Committee (J. Anderson) (1 minute)
   d. Campus Infrastructure Committee (C. Schott) (1 minute)

VII. Liaison Reports
   a. Policy Advisory Group (E. Winarto) (1 minute)
   b. Transportation Task Force (K. Fitch) (1 minute)
   c. Council on Sexual Violence Prevention (K. Quinn) (1 minute)
   d. Student Health Benefits Advisory Council (J. Anderson) (1 minute)
   e. Campus Planning Committee (M. Hatch) (1 minute)

VIII. Late Additions to the Agenda (4 minutes)

IX. Adjournment (1 minute)

If you are in need of special accommodations, contact Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 prior to the meeting.
U.A. Resolution # 9

Reinstating the Budget Planning Committee

February 13th, 2018

Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson, Chair of Campus Welfare Committee; University Assembly and Linda Copman, Employee; University Assembly

On Behalf Of: University Assembly Campus Welfare Committee

Whereas, the Budget Planning Committee was a former working committee that convened form 2006-2009; and

Whereas, the Faculty Senate still continue to be involved in the budget planning process regarding specific needs and concerns of faculty via the Financial Policies Committee; and

Whereas, shared governance at Cornell University enables members of the community to have access to information, involvement in matters of concern to them, and the authority to examine these issues and make recommendations to the appropriate administrative officers and the President; and

Whereas, the University Assembly is a stakeholder in major university policy initiatives and works to establish and maintain open, effective, and efficient channels of communication between and amongst the community and university administration; and

Whereas, the University Assembly Committees report to the University Assembly and are charged with seeking advice and comments from non-members while discussing a specific issue or policy which impacts a substantial segment of the university community; and

Whereas, the University Assembly’s Budget Planning Committee was previously charged with reviewing policy and making recommendations to the university provost concerning development of the university’s long-range plan and budget policies with regards to such financial issues as tuition, student fees, financial aid, graduate student stipends, enrollments, compensation, and endowed Ithaca employee benefits rates; and

Whereas, the university’s budget guides institutional decisions about where to invest resources; and

Whereas, the university’s budget is of common interest to all members of the Cornell community since it impacts a substantial segment of the university community; and
Whereas, the University Assembly wishes to reinstate its Budget Planning Committee and charge this committee with reviewing policy and making recommendations to the university provost concerning development of the university’s long-range plan and budget policies; therefore

Be it therefore resolved, that the University Assembly formally requests that the president and provost, and the University Assembly reinstate the Budget Planning Committee as an associated committee of the University Assembly, to convene its first meeting in September 2018; and

Be it Further Resolved, that all assemblies will have the ability to appoint members to the Budget Planning Committee; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the bylaws be amended to reflect the changes in the attached appendix; and

Be it Finally Resolved, that the university administration should consult with the Budget Planning Committee to ensure that members of the Cornell community are invited to share in the budget planning process and participate in shaping the university’s budget policies.

Appendix
Section 5.4: Budget Planning Committee

The Budget Planning Committee (the “Committee”) supports comprehensive and financial stewardship and clear budgetary planning processes across the university.

Sub-Section 5.4.1: Responsibilities

A. The Committee’s charge is to review and make recommendations to the President regarding budget and financial planning, including, but not limited to:

1) Long-range budget planning;
2) Tuition;
3) Financial Aid;
4) Graduate student stipends;
5) Enrollment management;
6) Endowed Employee compensation and benefit rates

B. Furthermore, the BPC shall review, in consultation with the appropriate committees of the University Assembly, all plans for alterations of or additions to policies regarding Financial Aid, tuition, enrollment management, graduate student stipends and endowed employee compensation and benefits, and all matters related to the business development of the university

C. The BPC shall conduct meetings in closed session, and all members will hold seats contingent upon their maintaining a high-level of confidentiality and their written consent to non-disclosure agreements. The Chair of the Committee may hold public meetings to solicit public feedback, as needed.

Sub-Section 5.4.2: Composition

A. The BPC shall consist of seventeen members: Seven Presidential appointments, one of whom the President may designate as Chair of the Committee, and ten additional at-large members.

B. The President of the University shall make seven appointments, and those individuals will serve three-year terms on a staggered basis.

C. The ten at-large members shall be appointed by the University Assembly and each constituent assembly. Each of the five assemblies shall make two appointments, and those individuals will serve two-year terms on a staggered basis.
U.A. Resolution # 10

In Support of E.A. R. 8:
Furthering the Institutional Commitment to
All LGBTQ+ Members of the Cornell Community

February 13th, 2018

Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson, Chair of Campus Welfare Committee; University Assembly, Elena Michel, Graduate; University Assembly, Manisha Munasinghe, Executive Vice President; Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

Whereas, the Cornell Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center (LGBTRC) was founded in 1994 and was originally run by two full-time staff members\(^2\) to be “the central hub of LGBTQ life at Cornell” and to specifically support students, faculty, and staff across the LGBTQ+ spectrum\(^3\); and

Whereas, the LGBTRC provides a myriad of services to the LGBTQ+ community including but not limited to the LGBTQ Mentorship Program, the First Year Queer Peer, and Lavender Graduation\(^4\); and

Whereas, the LGBTRC also provides support and guidance for numerous LGBTQ+ student organizations on campus such as Haven: The LGBTQ Student Union, MOSAIC, and Out in STEM (oSTEM); and

Whereas, the LGBTRC supports the functions and inclusion of the LGBT Colleague Network Group for all faculty and staff, which raises awareness about workplace issues faced by LGBTQ+ faculty and staff, provides professional networking opportunities for LGBTQ+ faculty and staff, and supports recruitment and retentions efforts for LGBTQ+ faculty and staff; and

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1. For the ease of reading, the resolution will use the acronym LGBTQ+ to refer to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer/Questioning, and others, unless referring to a specific entity or directly quoted by an individual or previous document
2. http://cornellsun.com/2013/03/10/university-reflects-on-shift-in-lgbt-presence-on-campus/
Whereas, the LGBTRC supports the inclusion of LGBTQ+ issues in the academic setting by providing resources for the incorporation of LGBTQ+ issues into the classroom, made available to all faculty members; and

Whereas, the LGBTRC supports a set of general services to all LGBTQ+ faculty and staff, including but not limited to: advocacy, advising, consultation and referrals, and community development; and

Whereas, the LGBTRC is instrumental in advising and advocating for Cornell’s LGBTQ+ community, which includes students, faculty, and staff; and

Whereas, in 2017 the Dean of Students Vijay Pendakur issued a directive for the LGBT Resource Center (LGBTRC) to no longer serve staff and faculty due to being understaffed; and

Whereas, on November 30th, 2017, the Employee Assembly conveyed Resolution 8: Furthering the Institutional Commitment to LGBTQ+ Inclusion (EA:R8) to Cornell University President Martha Pollack⁵; and

Whereas, EA:R8 states “Be it therefore resolved, The Assembly urges the Division of Student & Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students to rescind the directive for the LGBTRC to no longer serve the ongoing support and educational needs of staff and faculty”; and

Whereas, EA:R8 continues with “Be it further resolved, The Divisions of Human Resources and Student & Campus Life shall identify the resources to fully fund and staff (3) additional full-time, long-term professional staff positions in the LGBTRC”; and

Whereas, on January 2nd, 2018, President Pollack acknowledged EA:R8⁶; and

Whereas, President Pollack rejected the EA’s recommendation that the directive for the LGBTRC to no longer serve the needs of staff and faculty be rescinded stating “to provide the appropriate levels of service, separating educational and support services for students from faculty and staff allows Cornell to meet the unique needs of our LGBTQ students, as they pursue their degrees”; and

⁵ https://assembly.cornell.edu/resolutions/ea-r8-furthering-institutional-commitment-lgbtq-inclusion
Whereas, President Pollack also rejected the EA’s recommendation that The Divisions of Human Resources and Student & Campus Life should identify the resources to fully fund and staff (3) additional full-time, long-term professional staff position in the LGBTRC writing “At this time, there will not be any additional long-term professional positions added to the center’s staffing”; and

Whereas, we strongly support all LGBTQ+ members of the Cornell Community, including staff and faculty; and

Whereas, we dismiss the notion that, in order to “provide the appropriate levels of service…[for] our LGBTQ students”, the LGBTRC must no longer support faculty and staff;

Whereas, President Pollack states: “Further, the LGBTRC will continue to serve as a resource to the Division of Human Resources as it provides education and support for our LGBT staff and faculty colleagues;” and

Whereas, this statement acknowledges the fact that the Division of Human Resources is not fully equipped to provide support for LGBTQ+ staff and faculty; and

Whereas, this statement contradicts the purpose behind the directive issued to the LGBTRC to stop providing support and education for LGBTQ+ staff and faculty as it indicates they will still be doing so, just with the added burden of passing this support through the Division of Human Resources before it gets to the staff and faculty; and

Whereas, via discussions with LGBTQ+ students, we believe that finding additional resources to increase the number of full-time staff members working at the LGBTRC to support all LGBTQ+ community members, including faculty and staff, would be more effective in supporting the “unique needs of LGBTQ+ students”; and

Whereas, all LGBTQ+ Cornell Community members, including faculty and staff, should be served by the LGBTRC as it is the hub of LGBTQ+ life at Cornell; and

Whereas, the LGBTRC was founded to serve LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff, and we reject any attempt to alter its initial founding purpose that would fracture the LGBTQ+ community at Cornell; and

Whereas, this directive negatively impacts the LGBTQ+ community and is antithetical to Cornell’s “promise to support the LGTBQ+ community”; and
Be it therefore resolved, that the University Assembly reiterates the recommendation from the Employee Assembly for the Division of Student & Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students to rescind the directive for the LGBTRC to no longer serve the ongoing support and educational needs of staff and faculty; and

Be it finally resolved, that The Divisions of Human Resources and Student & Campus Life should identify the resources to fully fund and staff (3) additional full-time, long-term professional staff position in the LGBTRC; and