U.A. Resolution # 5

Bylaws Change Clarifying the Charge of the Codes & Judicial Committee

October 17, 2017

Sponsored by: Matthew Battaglia, Graduate and Professional; Chair, Codes & Judicial Committee

Whereas, the object of the University Assembly (the Assembly), “…is to improve and sustain the involvement of the campus community in the governance of campus affairs affecting the broad campus community by establishing open, effective, and efficient channels of communication between and amongst the community and university administration” [Charter, Article Two]; and

Whereas, pursuant to Article Three, § 3.3 of its Charter “The Assembly has authority in matters concerning its internal operation and maintenance, including provisions for the creation of bylaws and procedures”; and

Whereas, the Codes and Judicial Committee (the Committee) over time has been charged with and has reviewed all resolutions concerning the Campus Codes of Conduct (the Code); and

Whereas, in the Committee’s work it has examined areas that are adjacent to and similar in scope and application to the Code both of its own volition and upon request of the Assembly; and

Whereas, in the past some areas of responsibility of the Assembly and the Committee have been examined sparingly as they have not been formally documented in the standing charge to the Committee; and

Whereas, the Committee in its discussion of the role of non-matriculated minors in the Code expressed a concern that by removing these individuals from the Code the Committee would lose touch with these groups and the policies governing them; and

Whereas, the Assembly traditionally has worked with the Committee and Cornell Environmental Health and Safety to approve Guidelines for Display of Religious Symbols in the Fire Safety Guidelines for Holiday Displays¹; and

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¹ Attached as Appendix A to this resolution.
Whereas, in his letter of April 22, 2012 then-President David Skorton accepted the University Assembly’s request to be a stakeholder under the definition of Policy 4.1 for Policy 6.4 stating “I very much appreciate and welcome the participation of the University Assembly as a stakeholder in the process of amending Policy 6.4 and know that the community will benefit from the “robust participation” of the University Assembly”; and

Whereas, by adding these responsibilities and areas of examination to the Committee’s standing charge it records them in our permanent governing documents, minimizing the risk that responsibilities are inadvertently neglected; and

Whereas, these changes are not modifying the existing authority of the Assembly or Committee but rather documenting and aligning the Committee’s charge with its current and historical areas of examination and responsibility; and

Whereas, the Committee in its examination of the Code and other documents has emphasized taking steps to align practice and written procedure; and

Whereas, the Assembly strives to be a partner with the Administration; and

Whereas, effective partnership requires that the Assembly maintain and exercise its responsibilities judiciously; and

Whereas, these changes assist the Assembly and the Committee in keeping track of and carrying out their respective responsibilities; therefore

Be it Resolved, that Article Four, § 4.1 of the University Assembly Bylaws be amended to add:

By delegation from the Assembly, the Committee will review any proposed motion related to:

• Campus Code of Conduct;
• recruitment and appointment of members to the University Hearing and Review Boards;
• the Assembly’s role as a Policy 4.1 stakeholder in Policy 6.4 (or its successor);
• the Assembly’s approval of the Guidelines for the Display of Religious Symbols contained within the University’s Fire Safety Guidelines for Holiday Displays; and
• written behavioral policies regarding non-matriculated minors who are outside the full Campus Code of Conduct.

No signature block is present until the resolution has been disposed of by the Assembly (Passed, Failed, Withdrawn, etc.) Then a block with the certifying member (customarily Chair/Vice-Chair) verifying the authenticity and vote tally of the resolution.