University Assembly

Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the November 3rd, 2026 Meeting

4:47 PM – 6:21 PM

401 Physical Sciences Building | Zoom

I. Call to Order
   a. Chair N. Maggard called the meeting to order at 4:47 PM.
   b. **Members Present:** E. Akcan, A. Barnes, M. Benda, N. Brennan, S. Bruyere, J. Butcher, C. Cornell, D. Freeman, A. Garcia-Ortiz, A. Haenlin-Mott, K. Kopko, N. Maggard, C. Schaffer, E. Snell II, C. Tarala
   c. Members Absent: E. Chaudhuri, A. Keshri, E. Porter, S. Resue, A. Vink
   d. Also Present: K. King, E. Bittel, R. Platt

II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogo̱ho꞉no (Cayuga Nation).
   a. N. Maggard stated the UA's acknowledgment of the Cayuga Nation.

III. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
   a. None.

IV. Approval of the October 20th meeting minutes
   a. C. Cornell motioned to adopt the October 20th meeting minutes. The meeting minutes had been adopted with unanimous consent.

V. Business of the Day
   a. Presentation on Cornell Title IX: *Katie King, Associate Vice President of Cornell Office of Civil Rights*
      i. K. King provided an overview of the Cornell Office of Civil Rights, the Title IX procedures and regulations, the "Enough is Enough" NYS Education Law 129-B, the Cornell Policy 6.4 procedures, the process of addressing complaints, and shared some resources with the Assembly.

ii. K. King took questions from the Assembly regarding procedures, measures taken to reduce biases, transparency of investigations, further information on the Jane Doe Case, and involvement with the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards to handle misconduct incidences.

b. Resolution 1: Supporting the Establishment of a Joint Commission on Sexual Violence
   i. Sponsored by: Nicholas Maggard, Andi Garcia-Ortiz, Chris Schaffer, Carl Cornell
   ii. C. Schaffer provided a summary on Resolution 1 and spoke on three main focuses and structures to help reduce sexual violence: research and create an institute that is locally focused to research the Ithaca Cornell student community's sexual development, community engagement and joint commissions, and a new standing faculty committee on institutional administration in the Senate.
   iii. C. Schaffer addressed questions from the UA regarding the lack of sufficient and immediate charges present within the resolution and Sally Yate's commission.

VI. Assembly Reports
   a. Student Assembly
      i. The Student Assembly's resolution on the removal of flock cameras went through but are still waiting to hear back on Resolutions 15, 16, and 17.
   b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
      i. The GPSA had another meeting on October 26th and recently sent a delegation to Harvard for the annual Ivy+ Summit. The next Ivy+ Summit will occur at Cornell. The GPSA made several resolutions on the table during their last meeting, with one relating to specific targeted changes to Cornell's Title 9 Policy 6.4 and ways to better support victims.

c. Employee Assembly
    i. The Employee Assembly had a meeting on October 21st with a presentation on changes to endowed benefits, entered an Executive Session to maintain staff confidentiality around the topic of confidence and leadership.
    ii. The Employee Assembly met with Kate Supron and Brandon Fortenberry regarding the Cornell United Way campaign. The Employee Assembly introduced two resolutions: R2-Employee Assembly Support for Sustained Cornell Commitment to Preventing Sexual Violence and R3-Employee Assembly Supporting Staff Financial Well-Being through Equitable Compensation and Sustainable Benefits.
d. Faculty Senate
    i. The Faculty Senate met previously on October 28th. There is ongoing debate on the no confidence resolution, for which voting is underway. The Faculty Senate presented the UFC resolution on sexual violence. The Senate is meeting twice in November, on the 11th and 18th, to discuss upcoming resolutions, presentations, and the new policy of AI in grading.
    ii. C. Cornell motioned to extend the meeting by 5 minutes. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

VII. Committee Reports
a. Executive Committee
    i. The Executive Committee met last Tuesday in preparation for the November 3rd UA meeting.
b. Campus Codes Committee
    i. No updates.
c. Campus Welfare Committee
    i. The Campus Welfare Committee is still looking to fulfill vacancies. The Campus Welfare Committee went through the charge of the committee, such as considering issues on neurodiversity, campus climate, food

insecurity, and establishing nap and quiet places on campus. There are more meetings to come in November.

d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment
    i. No update.

VIII. Liaison Reports

a. Campus Planning Committee
    i. No updates.
b. Coalition for Sexual Violence Prevention
    i. No updates.
c. Sustainable Cornell Council's Carbon Neutral Campus Steering Committee
    i. No updates.
d. Sustainable Cornell Council's Education & Engagement Steering Committee
    i. No updates.
e. Sustainable Cornell Council's Campus Operations Steering Committee
    i. No updates.

IX. Open Forum

a. R. Platt provided comments regarding shared governance and the issue of setting policies without properly consulting shared governance bodies first.

X. Adjournment

a. A. Haenlin-Mott motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting had been adjourned with unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Yao
Clerk of the Assembly