

University Assembly Mid-Year Report
December 2008

The University Assembly (UA) began the in fall 2008 by welcoming new members. We had an update from the Childcare Services Committee and are looking forward to reviewing a report that they are creating on how things are going with the new Childcare Center. We also are in the process of reviewing our charter to reflect needs and practices that have evolved over time. It is our goal to have this completed by the end of the academic year for your review and approval. A topic that was brought forward to us in the fall was the PeopleSoft Student Records system issues that occurred with add/drop cycle in fall 2008 from both the student & faculty perspectives. We forwarded a resolution (R1: Findings of the ad-hoc Committee to Consider PeopleSoft) to you on this matter for your information.

We also had a briefing from Asst. Chief Zoner of Cornell Police and Todd Bitner from Cornell Plantations on gorge safety with the current Campus Code of Conduct and how this might be updated with this area of concern. We are awaiting a revision from our Codes & Judicial Committee on this topic. We also have met with Dean Koyanagi, Environmental Compliance and Sustainability & Dan Roth, Environmental Compliance and Sustainability to talk about how the UA could assist them and their offices in getting the campus support for sustainability and climate neutrality. This conversation is still ongoing and we hope to send you a resolution on creation of a committee that will be devoted to these topics, during the second portion of the year. Also on the docket of our future meetings in the spring are University Health Services (Gannett) and Cornell Store to name a few.

Last year I discussed with you the possibility of arranging a meeting with the UA Executive Committee once per semester, and you expressed support for the idea. I hope that we will have opportunity to arrange such a meeting for the spring 2009 semester. In addition to this meeting, I invite you and Provost Fuchs to attend a meeting of the UA in the spring semester. Please find enclosed a list of our meeting dates, times and locations to assist your staff in scheduling.

The Executive Committee discussed the idea of joint meeting with all the associated assemblies (SA, GPSA, EA and Faculty Senate) to meet and update each other and see how things are going for them and us.

We look forward to you and the Provost joining the UA at a meeting in the spring term.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rodney Orme,
Chair, University Assembly