



Minutes
University Assembly
Tuesday, September 9, 2014
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
401 Physical Sciences Bldg.

I. Call to Order

J. Blair called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: R. Adessa, S. Balik, J. Barnett, J. Batista, M. Battaglia, C. Best, J. Blair, R. Booker, M. Hatch, E. Johnston, E. Loew, C. McGrath, G. Mezey, R. Walroth, R. Wayne

Absent: J. Burns, N. LaCelle

Others present: G. Giambattista

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 6, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

III. Report on UA Executive Committee actions taken since the end of the previous session

J. Blair explained the emergency authority of the executive board. This was used over the summer to appoint three students to the UHRB with the assistance of G. Mezey, R. Wayne, and G. Giambattista of the Office of the Assemblies.

Nik Athanasopoulos
Caleb Rosser
Katie Woodford

J. Blair mentioned three resolutions from the previous semester. President Skorton has approved Resolution 9 Revised, the resolution regarding free expression, after making small changes for clarity. This resolution has been implemented.

Resolution 11 Revised covered Toward New Destinations and campus climate. In the text of the resolution, University Diversity Council replaced university diversity officers in addition to some minor edits. President Skorton approved the resolution and it has been implemented.

Resolution 12 Revised sought to clarify the rights of complainants to appeal summary decision agreements. One change was made which was agreeable to all involved parties. The resolution has been accepted and implemented.

J. Blair also noted that a result of the internal election of the Campus Welfare Committee (CWC) Chair from the end of last semester was not properly recorded. This has been resolved. C. Best is the Chair of the CWC.

IV. Report of the Towards New Destinations Initiative Grant Review Panel

C. McGrath explained the grant review process. Every year, initiatives are proposed to the University Diversity Council (UDC). The CWC was asked to conduct a panel to review each proposal, rank them, and makes funding recommendations. This was accomplished over the summer. The results were reported and accepted by the UDC.

V. New Business

UA Overview Presentation

J. Blair gave an overview presentation of the UA and its roles. This presentation included information on the assembly's authority and responsibilities, as well as the committee structure. He also spoke about the requirement for public committee meetings and the resolution writing process. Lastly, he discussed Robert's Rules of Order.

C. Best asked about the most effective ways to advertise a public committee meeting. J. Blair suggested publishing agendas via the CWC Info list serve is normally sufficient, though advertisements in the Cornell Daily Sun or distributions to larger email lists are also possible.

Adoption of UA Meeting Schedule

J. Blair noted that adoption of a meeting schedule for the academic year is to be done at the first meeting. A draft meeting schedule was introduced at this point, including roughly a meeting every four weeks with committee meetings in between.

UA meetings would take place: (2014) Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2, (2015) Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 24, Apr 21. Standing Committees would meet: (2014) Sep 23, Oct 21, Nov 18, (2015) Feb 10, Mar 10, Apr 7. Standing Committee dates would also serve as back-up dates for the main Assembly, if needed.

G. Mezey voiced a concern that this schedule, similar to the schedule used last year, does not allow enough meeting time for the assembly. J. Blair stated that he hoped by formalizing the public standing committee dates and aligning the meeting time with the main Assembly's meeting time (4:30 – 6:00), that the Assembly would have the flexibility to meet emergent needs as they arose.

The meeting schedule was approved 14-0-1.

UA Coordination List Presentation

J. Blair introduced the coordination list. This is a list that contains all the email lists pertinent to the work of the UA and the members thereof.

Review and Referral of Items to Committees

J. Blair outlined the work assignments known to exist currently and suggested the appropriate committee referrals. This work included reconnecting with campus departments and offices to check on progress from old resolutions, ask for reports, or schedule a time to meet with the assembly.

To the UA Executive Committee

- Monitor the establishment of a Presidential task force on “use of outdoor space” for appropriate Assembly representation. Coordinate and submit Assembly members for appointment, when asked.
- Coordinate with the Office of the President to receive a presentation on the President’s Annual Sustainability Report.
- Coordinate with CUPD to update the Assembly on annual Clery Act statistics. Also review status of drug related issues and associated violence.
- Coordinate with the Judicial Administrator for an annual update on campus disciplinary trends. Also follow up on Policy 6.4 implementation issues.
- Coordinate with the University Ombudsman for an annual update on dispute resolution trends.
- Work with Standing Committees on presentations to the Assembly from Gannett Health Services, Cornell Child Care Center, University Diversity Council, Cornell Sustainability Office, Cornell Master Plan, among others

To the Campus Infrastructure Committee

- Follow-up on long-term TCAT funding issues (AY 2014 Resolution 14) and report back to the Assembly. Create and submit a Resolution, as needed, to maintain the Administration focus on this issue.
- Review and determine whether to support free bus passes for all students. If yes, submit appropriate Resolution.
- Investigate Cornell’s plan to resource achievement of Carbon Neutrality by 2035. Submit a Resolution if plan is inadequate. Coordinate with UA Exec for an update to the Assembly from the Cornell Sustainability Office.
- Resolve disconnect between Campus Planning Committee Charter and the UA Bylaws. Submit appropriate Resolution, as needed, to align the documents.
- Coordinate with UA Exec for an update to the Assembly on the Campus Master Plan focused on projects underway or starting in the next 2 years.

To the Campus Welfare Committee

- Coordinate with the UA Exec for a presentation to the Assembly on the status of the Open Access Policy investigation approved in AY 2014 UA Resolution 10. If initiative has stalled, report back to the Assembly and submit a Resolution to help get the initiative back on track.
- Follow-up with Univ. Diversity Officers on requirement to send each constituent Assembly a complete list of TNDIs directed toward each relevant group and report back to the Assembly (AY 2014 R.11 Revised).
- Coordinate with the UA Exec to set up and conduct an update to the Assembly of Univ. Diversity Council activities since last year (AY 2014 R.11 Revised).
- Reestablish connections with Gannett Health Services. Coordinate with the UA Exec to set up an update to the Assembly on current issues and trends.
- Renew Cornell Child Care programs. Work with the UA Exec to set up a presentation to the Assembly on current status.

To the Codes and Judicial Committee

- To screen and propose by Resolution an appropriate slate of candidates to serve on the University Hearing and Review Board (UHRB) as soon as possible in order to replace members whose term has expired.
- To investigate and propose by Resolution a revised UHRB ‘emergency’ appointment procedure when regularly appointed UHRB members are not available to support a required hearing over the summer or holidays.
- Confirm items posted on hazing.cornell.edu comply with AY 2014 UA Resolution 4 and report back to the Assembly.
- Confirm hazing.cornell.edu is up-to-date with any incidents after 2013 and report back to the Assembly.
- Take up and respond by Resolution on the Presidents request for “limited advance-notice procedures” in the Campus Code of Conduct.
- Verify approved AY 2014 changes to the Campus Code have been posted (UA R4, R9 REVISED, R12 REVISED, R13).
- Review Policy 6.4 implementation issues and determine if Policy 6.4 requires a revision. Submit a Resolution, if needed.

J. Blair asked to extend the meeting by five minutes. Approved by unanimous consent. A motion to refer all of the presented items to the appropriate standing committees was approved 14-0-1.

J. Blair also noted he was approached by TCAT for a two hour presentation and program on routing, prices, services, and more. This is too long for a UA meeting, but a committee could participate in this if they so choose. TCAT prefers to do the program this month.

Report of Standing Committee Vacancies

A report of committee vacancies was distributed.

Election of VCO and Ranking Member

E. Loew and R. Walroth have served as the acting Vice Chair for Operations and the acting ranking member, respectively, since the internal elections at the end of last semester. M. Hatch was nominated for Vice Chair of Operations. He was uncontested for the position and approved by unanimous consent. R. Walroth was nominated for ranking member. This seat was uncontested as well and he was approved by unanimous consent.

VI. Discuss Late Additions to the Agenda. There were no late additions to the agenda.

VII. Adjournment

J. Blair adjourned the meeting. The next full meeting of the University Assembly will be Tuesday, October 7, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Noah Wegener
Assemblies Clerk