

Cornell University University Assembly

U.A. Resolution # 3

Response to the President's Request for "Limited, Voluntary Advance Notice"

February 24, 2015

1 2	Sponsored by: Randy Wayne, Faculty; Chair, Codes & Judicial Committee
2 3	<u>On behalf of</u> :
4	The UA Codes & Judicial Committee: S. Balik, A. Coetsee, C. Ferguson, J. Fridman,
5	C. Hodges, J. Mackowski, G. Mezey, W. Sonnenstuhl, R. Wayne, K. Zoner
6	C. Houges, S. Muchowski, G. Mezey, W. Somenstuni, K. Wuyne, K. Zoner
7	Whereas in his response to University Assembly (the "Assembly") Resolution 9 on June 26,
8	2014, the University President requested the Assembly's Codes and Judicial Committee (CJC)
9	address "a limited, advance-notice procedure to allow staff to adequately prepare and safeguard
10	participants" in the Campus Code of Conduct (CCC), and
11	
12	Whereas the CJC took up the University President's request at the start of the current legislative
13	session, and
14	
15	Whereas it is a Fundamental Principle of the CCC that: "Freedoms to assemble and to protest
16	peacefully and lawfully are essential to academic freedom and the continuing function of the
17	University as an educational institution", and
18	
19	Whereas Article III.B.1.3 of the CCC states that "All protection and regulation of expressive
20	conduct should be content-neutral. A group's persuasion or point of view should have no bearing
21 22	on the grant of permission or the conditions regulating that group's expressive conduct", and
23	Whereas Article III.B.3.3 of the CCC states that " University rooms set aside for the purpose
24	of gatherings involving speech and expression should not be licensed in a manner to deny access
25	to groups sponsoring an unpopular point of view", and
26	
27	Whereas at the Assembly's regular meeting of January 27, 2015, the CJC presented their
28	conclusions and recommended against the University President's request citing that permits for
29	and advance notifications of outdoor protests on campus are potentially restrictive
30	to spontaneous expression and are contrary to the spirit and purposes of the Cornell University
31	Campus Code of Conduct, therefore be it
32	



Cornell University University Assembly

- 33 **Resolved** the University Assembly endorses the CJC's recommendation and declines to present a
- 34 Resolution modifying the CCC to address limited, advance notice, and
- 35

36 Be it Further Resolved, that the Assembly, on behalf of the CJC, expresses its appreciation for

- 37 the invaluable support they received from the Office of the Assembles in the form of tireless
- 38 logistical help, in-depth research on institutional history and practices here at Cornell University
- 39 and elsewhere, astute procedural guidance, and, their dedication to the morale and mission of the
- 40 committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

James N. Blair Chair, University Assembly