

Resolution 211: Request an annual University report regarding Academic Freedom

Comments:

Faculty confidence in the Cornell administration's commitment to intellectual freedom is at an all-time low.

I hope the administration will appreciate that these motions emerge from events in which a lack of transparency harmed community trust and contributed to a negative atmosphere, particularly during the encampment period. The requested reporting will force a type of communication that the president and provost routinely engage in, yet that has somehow not touched mid level and mid-level administration officials who often acted without proper oversight and invented policy with impunity during that troubled period.

Asking for a report on something the administration is not doing seems doomed to failure and driving distrust. Hoping that the administration will read the intent, rather than the words, of the resolution seems a similarly bad idea.

I support this resolution but do not believe that the central administration will abide by it.

This resolution is based on assumptions of distrustful relationships between the faculty and the university administration. This is a skewed view; many faculty do trust the university. In addition, the procedures who would produce the report and what information can and cannot be included in it to preserve privacy haven't been well thought out. Such a report will create additional workload with very little benefit to improving said relationships.

Unnecessary.

While I believe wholeheartedly in the spirit of this resolution- I feel it needs more workshopping (workshopping the specific language) before approval. I feel I could approve in the future.

We support these resolutions. However, we must abstain from the vote, because we have no confidence in the bad-faith discussion and actions that resulted in their amendment. We disagree strongly with the libelous and slanderous remarks about the exclusionary nature of Cornell University and the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). We are concerned about how these totally baseless and unfounded allegations mobilized the rhetoric of exclusion in our current political climate, to spread fear, hatred, and misinformation throughout our university community and beyond. We hope that Cornell and the AAUP will continue working together in the future most urgently, to repair and/or recover the reputational damages caused by these false and malicious remarks, and to reassert our core values of academic freedom and shared governance.