



Ithaca College Student Governance Council Meeting Agenda
Monday, 3/31/2025| 7:00 P.M. in Campus Center Taughannock Falls Room

Call to Order: 7:02 PM

Roll Call: Rishabh Sen, Eva Horst, Kathi Hodel, Caleb Cackowski, Ty Anderson, Nicole Sutura, Tisa Manandhar, Juno Brooks, Amelia Grimshaw, Lori Armstrong, Marshall Long, Giulia Gennari, Evan Wasserman, Login Abudalla, Noeline Luyindula, Abe Marron, Claude Hayes, Mureen Doherty, Dan Rogers

Absent:

Ithacan Reporter: Aela Shaw

Approval of the Minutes:

Login motions to approve the minutes from last meeting (02/17/2025), Noeline seconds the motion, motion passes (10-0-1).

Juno motions to approve the minutes from last meeting (03/03/2025), Noeline seconds the motion, motion passes (10-0-1).

Login motions to approve the minutes from last meeting (03/17/2025), Amelia seconds the motion, motion passes (11-0-0).

Noeline motions to approve the minutes from last meeting (03/24/2025), Evan seconds the motion, motion passes (11-0-0).

Appropriations Financial Report

- No meeting this week, there might be a meeting this week (both spring and fall)

New Business

Community Session

Ben Epstein talks about an incident of vandalism against the organization for Ithacans for Israel. There was a poster that was vandalized.

President Cornish asks if the incident was reported, and it was.

Guest Speaker

President La Jerne Terry Cornish

President Cornish tells us that tonight she is here to listen.

Marshall talks about the upholding of transgender ban by the NCBA from sports.

President Cornish says that IC will be complying with the law, but not preventing trans athletes from practicing.

Noeline asks how the attack on DEI has affected her job.

President Cornish talks about how leading as a queer black woman running a predominantly white institution comes with a lot of compartmentalization. She also says that the school is going to continue to be inclusive, which will automatically stand by DEI, complying with the law will come when the law is set.

Nikki asks about the layoffs for staff and faculty with budget cuts, and who and where the most impact will be seen.

President Cornish says she will be making a formal announcement this Friday. The enrollment has been declining for the past couple weeks which resulted in these cuts but also generating more revenue. Something positive is that the deposits for Fall 2025 are 50% as high compared to past years. The board of trustees has given 3 years.

Noeline asks how President Cornish feels about activism at IC.

President Cornish says all students on IC have her support as long as it is not disruptive or destructive. She will defend students' right to speak freely and protest freely.

Juno asks about the cuts to federal higher education funding, and if there are any plans for BIPOC students who rely heavily on these funds.

President Cornish says that at this moment, the Title IV funding is not jeopardized.

Haley talks about a lot of conduct hearings for people of color, especially black students, even resulting in suspension. This has happened more than once. Haley asks how black men can feel less targeted and what she would suggest to make POC people feel more comfortable.

President Cornish says that this is the first time she is hearing of these incidents. She encourages everyone to be mindful of their environment when speaking.

Ty asks about the situation with international students on F1 and J1 visas, and how their freedom of speech may be compromised. He asks what can be done to help this situation.

President Cornish re-emphasizes the need to be mindful of who your audience is. She is also planning to have a conversation with Diana about the option for international students to stay in Ithaca over the summer.

Noeline asks about the increase in the price of summer housing and the thought process in making this decision.

President Cornish says that over Giving Day she has the initiative to generate relief funds for international students.

Juno asks about a bias incident and how emails/notifications are sent out, and how this decision of notifying the student body is made.

President Cornish says this is more of a question for Dr. B as it is more related to Student Affairs and Campus Life.

Noeline asks about summer housing.

President Cornish says that this is more of a question for facilities.

Nikki talks about the event with Angela Davis. Nikki asks how this event influenced President Cornish.

President Cornish says that Angela Davis represented diversity of thought, and she has been thinking about how we can create more opportunities to have more of this on campus.

Marshall asks if it is possible to have an AA/NA on campus, and how to approach the establishment of this group.

Dan says something like this exists already, and he should reach out to the Center for Health Promotion.

Giulia asks if more face presence at different events is possible.

President Cornish says that the past 2 years she has been more internally faced, but the nature of the job is for her to be more externally focused. She also mentions that she trusts her team during her time away.

Evan asks if the school will not comply with federal laws if they go against the school's values.

President Cornish says this was something that was discussed in a meeting earlier today. She also says that IC will comply with the law until it isn't or has been replaced by a new law. Students' ability to attend IC will not be jeopardized.

Login asks about transfer students and the agreement for maintaining tuition costs.

President Cornish redirects the question to SFS.

Mo asks what the general description of President Cornish's role is.

President Cornish says that she is the CEO of IC, and manages the duties and responsibilities that she is charged with by the Board of Trustees.

Noeline asks what is something that 1st generation college students should know.

President Cornish says to let them know that she and the rest of the school are proud of them, as college is a life changing experience. How you start doesn't determine how you finish, and all 1st gen students should hold on to that, and to persist.

Login asks what is being done to protect staff and faculty who are international.

President Cornish says to make informed decisions, and put safety at the top of the list.

Nikki asks about the plan to prepare new students for college and maintain retention rates.

President Cornish recommended IC advance courses over the summer, as well as jumpstart programs to increase sense of belonging.

Evan asks where she sees IC in 5 years.

President Cornish says that IC is a hidden gem, and that we are in the process of polishing it. She believes that IC will not be having enrollment problems in 5 years and that it will be a 1st destination.

Noeline asks what 3rd year President Cornish would say to 1st year President Cornish.

President Cornish says that year 1 was getting the train going, year 2 was more about cultivating relationships, and year 3 is about cultivating relationships with current and former students as well as the Board of Trustees. She believes year 4, she will only keep getting better at what she is doing. She feels more confident today than at the start but is still learning and growing.

Rishabh asks if there is something SGC can do to help achieve overall goals.

President Cornish says to stay connected, bring questions and concerns, advocate, and also to be ambassadors. She encourages open dialogue and opportunities for listening.

Nikki asks how her experience as an educator influenced her position now as an administrator.

President Cornish says that her educator made it possible for her to get her PhD because he believed in her. She says that being a teacher gives people the opportunity to change someone's life. She also says she wouldn't be the President she is today if she wasn't the student she was.

Confirmations

Miscellaneous

Continuing Business

Miscellaneous

Senator Reports

Noeline Luyindula, First Gen Senator

- Working with the 1st Gen club, recognized org now
- 1st Gen instagram is back
 - New events: BIPOC unity center, photoshoot, 1st Gen lunch for seniors
- Communications committee
 - Meetings biweekly

Lori Armstrong, School of Humanities and Sciences Senator

- Nothing much for CAC
- Planning on leaving SGC, part of elections committee

Marshall Long, Club Athlete Senator

- Continuing to reach out to the fitness center
- In touch with other professors too
- April 15: community legislative sessions, speaking directly to lawmakers for trans athletes and encouraging them to stand up

Officer Reports

President of the Student Body

- IC Kicksback Sign Up coming soon! (May 2nd, 3pm – 5pm, CC Quad)
- SGC Open House – spread the word and volunteer!
- Great questions today!

Vice President of Campus Affairs

- Accessibility bill going well
- Meeting with Dr. B cancelled since he is away from office

Vice President of Academic Affairs

Vice President of Business & Finance

- Ithacan Board of Publications
- Commencement Speaker Committee
- Appropriations might happen on Wednesday

Vice President of Communications

- Seeking Open House promotional help. I will share a sign-up sheet in Open Agenda and expect every member of SGC to share promotional materials with at least one class personally using the email and two professors to add to their slides.
- Share promotional materials!
 - Will be put on ClubHub
 - It will also be on the Intercom and Engage

Vice President of Residential Affairs

- QR code ready for crowdsourcing, will be done in a weeks time
- Will be reaching out to President Cornish about the summer housing initiative

Senate Chair

- Open House Tabling Groups

- APC changes, constitutional changes might have to be made, academic senators needs to keep an eye out for that

Chief of Staff

- Nothing to report

Open Agenda

- Nikki and Rishabh share the documents with everyone to address the booths that exist already, and what should be added/removed
 - Login asks about the logistics and location
 - Evan suggests a “Brag” table
 - Noeline recommends a strategy for dividing senators and e-board members: academics, identity based etc
- Rishabh reminds everyone of their rights as SGC senators to enter executive sessions as well, depending on the kinds of conversation happening
- Kathi talks about elections committee and to reach out to Kathi or Tisa if you are not running for any SGC position next semester
- Caleb shares SGC Open House poster sign up sheet

Adjournment: 8:57 PM