

Sense of the Senate

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Sense of Senate Resolutions

The Idea:

Provide substantive, voted upon feedback about issues that come before the Senate.

As appropriate, follow-up actions with a timeline that includes reporting back to the Senate should be part of the resolution.

The Mechanism:

Themes from the Senate discussion are identified by DoF and ADoF. In consultation with UFC, a draft resolution that captures the sentiment of the body is produced.

At the next meeting Senate will consider, amend if necessary, and vote to adopt the resulting Sense of the Senate resolution.

From the October Meeting

Class Meeting Times

Adopting and adhering to universal class meeting times will increase classroom utilization and decrease conflicts between courses. Such meeting times must be carefully selected to balance the need for different duration class meeting times for different instructional styles and preferences.

The Senate asks the Education Policy Committee to work together with the Dean of Faculty office, the University Registrar, and the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education to produce a set of recommendations on class meeting times for Senate consideration. The Senate requests these recommendations by the end of the Spring semester.

From the October Meeting

Food Insecurity

Food insecurity is a serious concern that impacts the wellbeing and learning opportunities of many Cornell students.

The Senate asks the Dean of Faculty office to work with the Center for Transformative Action, Cornell Dining, and other units to explore ways in which the faculty might assist with combating food insecurity for Cornell students through support of Anabel's Grocery and other mechanisms. The Senate requests options to consider at the next available Senate meeting time.

From the October Meeting

Student Accommodations

The requirements and best practices for providing accommodations for students who miss class or other academic work due to religious observances, for students with disabilities, for student athletes who miss class or other academic work for competitions, and for students who have been ill can be confusing for faculty.

The Senate asks the Dean of Faculty office to work with the Educational Policy Committee to produce a clear description of accommodations that are required and clear guidelines for those that are not. The Senate requests this be in place by the beginning of the Spring, 2019 semester.