According to the bylaws of the university, the “…functions of the University Faculty shall be to consider questions of educational policy which concern more than one college, school or separate academic unit, or are general in nature…”

Responsibility of: Committee on Educational Policy. The committee considers matters of general educational policy relating to instruction that concern more than one college, school or separate academic unit, including, but not limited to grades and grading policies, preliminary and final examination policies, the academic calendar, and the class schedule and hours of instruction. It reports to the Faculty Senate.

November 10, 1999, Records, pp. 8849-8854S, Appendix K  
December 8, 1999, Records, pp. 8873-805S, Appendices B&C

At the November 1999 meeting, Professor Richard Galik, Physics, and Chair of the Educational Policy Committee, said that it has been apparent that corporations benefit from asking students to take notes and then post those notes on electronic or printed media for distribution or sale.

Discussion ensued on the resolution, but due to lack of time, no action was taken.

In December 1999, a second version of the resolution, as well as amendments, was introduced. Following discussion and voting on the amendments, the resolution as amended was adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, an effective educational environment requires an atmosphere of trust among the participating students, faculty, and academic staff, and

WHEREAS, control over the accuracy of available course material may be compromised by the dissemination of unauthorized material,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it be Cornell policy that

Lectures and course materials presented, transmitted, or distributed by Cornell faculty and academic staff and/or class participants are intended exclusively for use by students enrolled in the subject class in furtherance of their academic pursuits; and that

Students are not authorized to replicate, reproduce, copy or transmit such materials, or “derivative” materials, including class notes, for sale or general
distribution to others without the written consent of the faculty or academic staff member or class participant who is the original source of such materials; and that Violations of the above constitute academic misconduct as described in the Code of Academic Integrity and may result in withdrawal from the course in question and appropriate disciplinary action, as prescribed in that Code; and that

The Dean of the Faculty see that this policy is clearly brought to the attention of faculty, academic staff and students through publication in the Courses of Study, in the Policy Notebook for the Cornell Community, in student, faculty and staff handbooks, and in registration materials such as the course/Room rosters and further to see that the Code of Academic Integrity be modified to specifically include these actions as an example of academic misconduct.