

Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, March 25, 2021 Meeting
4:45 – 6:30 on ZOOM

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohó:nq (Cayuga Nation)**
- III. **Announcements and Presentations**
 - a. Student Advocate Anuli Ononye '22
 - b. Vice President of Finance Uche Chukwukere '21
 - c. Director of Elections Patrick Mehler '23
 - d. Representative Andrea Miramontes Serrano '24 and Claire Tempelman '24
- IV. **Open Microphone**
- V. **Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. [March 18, 2021 Minutes](#)
- VI. **New Business**
 - a. Resolution #35 – [Calling on Cornell to End All Ties with ICE](#)
 - b. Resolution #36 - [Calling on Cornell to Establish Itself as a Sanctuary Campus](#)
 - c. Resolution #37 - [Creating a More Accessible Process for Student Assembly Religious Accommodations](#)
 - d. Resolution #38 - [Adding the Students with Disabilities Representative At-Large to the Diversity and Inclusion Committee](#)
 - e. Resolution #39 - [Calling Upon Cornell to Uphold its Ethical Guidelines for International Engagements](#)
- VII. **Adjournment**



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Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, March 18, 2021 Meeting

4:45pm via Zoom

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. C. Huang called the meeting to order at 4:47pm (EST).
- b. Roll Call
 - i. *Members Present:* L. Abd Elmagid, M. Baker, J. Bansah, U. Chukwukere, L. Contreras, A. Gleiberman, S. Kapoor, A. Miramontes Serrano, E. Perez, T. Reuning, K. Santacruz, M. Shardow, L. Smith, C. Tempelman, V. Valencia, N. Watson, S. Woldai, V. Xu, Y. Yuan, R. Zohar, L. Zumpano, C. Huang
 - ii. *Members Absent:* K. Butler, C. Castillo, A. Lampert, S. Zverev

II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohó:nq' (Cayuga Nation)

- a. Cornell University is located on the traditional homelands of the Gayogohó:nq' (the Cayuga Nation). The Gayogohó:nq' are members of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, an alliance of six sovereign Nations with a historic and contemporary presence on this land. The Confederacy precedes the establishment of Cornell University, New York State, and the United States of America. We acknowledge the painful history of Gayogohó:nq' dispossession and honor the ongoing connection of the Gayogohó:nq' people, past and present, to these lands and waters.

III. Announcements and Presentations

- a. C. Huang stated that the Asian and Asian American Center is holding community processing hour for any member of the Cornell community and anyone is welcome to talk about current events, COVID-19, and Asian American hate crimes.
- b. A. Ononye stated that President Biden just signed into office executive order on guaranteeing an educational environment free from discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual orientation and gender identity. Cornell has decided to extend the reviewing process on Title IX until August in order to take feedback from students, faculty members, and people in the community who want to talk about the new implementation of Title IX and how Cornell is going to change those codes. A. Ononye encouraged anyone interested in providing feedback to fill out the survey and encouraged members to send the survey to their constituents.
 - i. T. Reuning asked how this affect cases currently in process.
 1. A. Ononye stated that the review system that they are using is the old system and assumed it will continue to be used until the final review from the Trustees in August.
- c. DREAM Team Presentation by Marco S and Stella Linardi.
 - i. The purpose of the DREAM team's campaign is to remove Cornell's ties with ICE. Please refer to undocumented immigrants as undocumented immigrants and not illegal immigrants. ICE has a brutal history of relentless policy enforcement through raids, deportations and separations of families. In the United States, for decades, ICE has consistently posed a threat to individuals civil liberties, including but not limited to, fourth amendment protection against unreasonable searches and seizures, the constitutional guarantee of due process and a constitutional guarantee of equal protection



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and freedom from discrimination based on race, ethnicity, and national origin. A 2020 report conducted by the ACLU, Human Rights Watch, and the National Immigrant Justice Center also exposed a wide range of human rights abuses occurring in ICE detention centers, including but not limited to, unsanitary living conditions, inadequate or nonexistent medical care, indefinite detainment and general cruel treatment. In September 2020, a whistleblower revealed that ICE has been performing forced and coerced sterilization procedures on immigrants in detention centers. Cornell has multiple contacts for educational and training services and technological equipment through PALANTIR and ANDURIL. There are also connections through on campus recruitment events and Cornell Tech has very close ties and is suspected of providing facial recognition software. Cornell Administration does not share the estimated number of undocumented students on campus and claims not to do so for safety reasons. This is also used as a counterargument, claiming that there aren't enough undocumented students at Cornell so the access to resources is not much of a priority. This ties into dehumanization, where people are thinking of undocumented students as a population or a statistic rather than human beings who deserve an equal opportunity to access to education. Cornell is a home to a community of undocumented students, as well as students of mixed families, as well as international students who would be in danger of ICE if they have trouble with their visas or immigration issues. There is an increased ICE presence at Cornell due to Ithaca Airport expansion and a lack of proper student detainment procedure. The presence of CBP less than three miles from campus increases the risk of deportation and detainment for all undocumented, DACA, and international students, faculty, and staff on campus. The DREAM team is asking for Cornell to abolish all professional, academic, and financial ties with ICE and for Cornell students and faculty to refuse to participate in research funded by DHS. Additionally, the DREAM team is asking for Cornell administration and students to boycott and ban recruitment with entities affiliated with ICE. The DREAM team is also aiming to make Cornell a sanctuary campus, which was actually something discussed in 2016/2017 but was dismissed by the president at that time. The term sanctuary campus refers to any college or university that implements policies to protect students, faculty, and staff who are undocumented immigrants. The actions of sanctuary campus do not conflict with their legal obligations and has been implemented at colleges across the United States. President Pollack has voiced support for undocumented students, faculty, and staff but has done little action to support the communities. Spring 2021 is the first semester that Cornell finally allowed undocumented students to benefit from domestic financial aid funding. CUPD has no formal protocol in the event that a student or member of the Cornell community is detained or deported. The current procedure is unstructured and unreliable. There is no formal legal support for undocumented students attending Cornell University and CUPD relies on an informal and undisclosed system of communication regarding crisis situations involving ICE. Cornell administration has referred to members of the undocumented community as



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- “charity cases” and students have threatened to call ICE on their undocumented student peers. Students at Cornell have been recording disclosing their status by fellow students with the intent of exposing the documents. The Tompkins County Sheriff’s deputy called ICE on a man seeking medical attention in 2019 and there were multiple ICE arrests in January of 2018. The increased presences of CBP and ICE interactions have contributed to increased levels of fear, anxiety, and worsening mental health amongst undocumented and even international populations at Cornell.
- ii. A. Miramontes Serrano expressed gratitude for this presentation and asked what criteria ICE uses.
 1. S. Linardi stated that the criteria they use for deportation is finding people who are undocumented.
 - iii. L. Smith asked if the DREAM team has had any involvement with the Office of Student Government Relations.
 1. S. Linardi explained they have been working with the Cornell committee to support undocumented students.
 2. L. Smith stated that the OSGR is interested in working with the DREAM team on these issues and encouraged them to get in contact with J. Mullen, who is the Director of Federal Relations.
 - iv. Z. Sherin asked if there have been any state-run colleges that get federal funding that have been able to boycott another federal agency.
 1. S. Linardi stated that Cornell University can be the first.
 2. T. Reuning explained that in the presentation, they mentioned that refusing to allow ICE to commit an essentially unjust search and seizure without a valid judicial warrant is not violating federal law.
 3. Z. Sherin clarified they were asking more about the boycotting aspect and if any other schools have done that.
 - v. L. Contreras thanked the presenters for their work and asked if there were any resolutions to go along with the presentation.
 1. S. Linardi stated that there will be two resolutions presented next week.
- d. Dining Updates from Representative Miramontes Serrano ’24
- i. There were many complaints last summer from freshman constituents on how dining operated last semester. Most freshmen don’t really know how dining works and freshmen representatives received many complaints about what they eat on a day-to-day basis. In an early meeting Rep. Yuan raised the question if it was possible to donate BRBs. In a meeting with Cornell Dining, this was raised but because it is tax less money for the person who purchased the meal plan, it is meant to be used by the person with the meal plan. Additionally, points regarding sustainability have been raised. At the start of last semester, due to COVID-19 guidelines, a majority of the dining halls used plastic containers. Cornell Dining is working on replacing plastic containers with compostable cardboard and ensuring availability at all dining halls, which is currently not true. Current problems with sustainability include disposable plastic cutlery and water cups which generate massive amounts of waste. They suggested replacing these items with compostable replacements that Cornell’s providers do sell for the short term. There have also been



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- many complaints regarding variety and vegan-vegetarian options, taste options and the health components. Cornell Dining is working on improving the options and the health components. A. Miramontes Serrano asked the SA for any feedback and opinions to implement initiatives for Cornell Dining.
- ii. M. Shardow stated that they asked for kosher food at Becker Dining and the food was prepared and microwaved. M. Shardow asked if they could make these options more appealing.
 1. A. Miramontes Serrano stated that special training for staff and equipment for halal and kosher food which is has been difficult.
 2. M. Shardow stated that NorthStar had great kosher options last year so it is possible, the food just needs work on being fresh and more appealing.
 - iii. L. Abd Elmagid asked if making the reusable food containers free would make them more accessible to students.
 1. A. Miramontes Serrano stated that question had been raised during the meetings and Cornell Dining is fearful that making them free will allow people to throw them away easily and not reuse them like intended.
 2. A. Gleiberman stated a good idea could be paying when you receive the container, but when you return the container at the end of the year, you would receive your money back.
 - iv. T. Reuning stated that many of the issues with sustainability have been due the current pandemic, and hoping that the pandemic is over soon, these issues should disappear.
 1. A. Miramontes Serrano stated that even if it is just for one year, that is still one year that people have to live through
 - e. L. Smith asked if there was any update on elections.
 - i. W. Treat stated that the calendars are tentatively about 99% ready to go and at this point, everything will be up and running on Monday, March 22.

IV. Open Microphone

- a. No Speakers present at open microphone.

V. Approval of the Minutes

- a. March 11, 2021
 - i. Motion to approve the March 11^h minutes – **approved** Unanimous Consent

VI. New Business

- a. SA R33: Winter/Summer Term Financial Aid
 - i. Abstract: This resolution recommends that Cornell grant-based aid is expanded to include both summer and winter session enrollment. Currently, grant-based financial aid is only available for fall/spring terms. In the summer/winter terms, student only have aid in the form of work or loans. This resolution would benefit low-income students, especially in light of COVID-19, who may have had to drop courses in light of personal hardships, and students who may be behind on credits necessary to graduate



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- on time. We are requesting this adjustment to the financial aid policy be permanently implemented.
- ii. A. Rabin explained that this resolution is focused on financial aid during the winter and summer sessions. Currently, during these sessions, need-based financial aid is not given, it is only given during the fall and spring terms. There is only grant based aid or loan work, which impacts lower income students who received financial aid during the fall and spring terms. The winter and summer terms are often used to lighten workload during normal semesters, maintain academic progress, and can help me a resume booster.
 - iii. S. Kapoor stated they have been working with the Communications Committee to make a stronger case with administration and have reached out to the financial aid office for their feedback and feasibility analysis.
 - iv. A. Gleiberman stated that they believe this is a great initiative that is super important, especially during COVID-19.
 - v. There was a motion the amend the resolution to include A. Gleiberman, N. Watson, M. Shardow, M. Baker, K. Santacruz, C. Templeman, R. Zohar, A. Miramontes Serrano, and L. Zumpano as co-sponsors.
 1. Motion to amend Resolution #33 – **amended** Unanimous Consent
 - vi. Z. Sherin asked if in the proposals there credit maximums or minimums will be.
 1. S. Kapoor stated that they are still waiting for the financial aid office to get back to them, but they will keep the SA posted.
 - vii. Motion to vote on Resolution #33 – **passed** 20-0-2
- b. SA R34: A Manifesto Calling Upon Cornell to Actionably Support the Asian American Community
- i. Abstract: Calling upon Cornell to actionably support the Asian American community at Cornell by delivering recommendations from the Mental Health Review Final Report, reaffirming funding and academic promise to the Asian American Studies Program (AASP) and ethnic studies at Cornell, reviewing the role of Greek Life and fraternities on campus, reviewing Title IX and the Bias Reporting process, and reconsider the disarmament of the CUPD.
 - ii. C. Huang stated that two days ago there was a shooting in Atlanta, Georgia. A white man specifically targeted massage parlors that were staffed by Asian American woman and shot and killed eight people, included six of whom were Asian American woman. This is just the tipping point of a year of anti-Asian violence and hatred that results in murders, assaults, and general violations of Asian Americans human rights and dignity. This resolution calls upon Cornell to support the Asian American community at Cornell. The first section of the resolution focuses on Mental Health. This is far larger than just Asian American hate crimes that a lot of students are grieving right now, this goes back to the beginning of the pandemic, and it goes back to the deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and countless others that leave students grieving for the lives lost. After the Mental Health Review Final Report was released, one of the very basic recommendations is faculty should be required to attend mental health training every two years. It hasn't been implemented at all, the Executive Accountability Committee, which is



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in charge of implementing these recommendations have not taken action. Additionally, this recommendation is not enough. Many professors or faculty members assume that issues of mental health can be fixed by a winter or summer break or with the start of the new year, or that the pandemic has been occurring for over a year, so students must be used to it now. Mental Health is increasingly evolving and is important forever. This resolution proposes that faculty should be required to attend mental health training at the beginning of every academic semester. The resolution also proposes the creation of an Asian American Studies major. Cornell's Asian American studies program was one of the first of its kind to be established in 1987, but at Cornell there is no major in this program. In 2016, former SA leaders and Asian American student activists called for the creation of an Asian American Studies major but were ignored by administration. It is incredibly important to teach history and not have it whitewashed. This resolution asked for Cornell to reconsider the Asian American Studies, the Latino/a Studies, and the American Indian Studies majors. This resolution also focuses on how Cornell can protect Asian American woman. Six out of the eight people targeted and killed were Asian American woman who worked in a massage parlor, which also intersects with the industry of sex work and the fetishization of the Asian American female body. This has a very extensive history that goes back centuries of fetishization stereotypes of Asian American woman being submissive or childlike. Asian American woman are 2.3 times more likely to report victimization and accounts of interpersonal violence. In Greek Life, 25% of sexual assault victims are sorority members. Women in sororities are 74% more likely to experience rape than other college women. Fraternity men are three times more likely to commit rape than their non-Greek peers. A study at Cornell found that since entering Cornell, 68.2% of undergraduate women and 51.3% of undergraduate men reported experiencing some form of sexual or gender-based harassment. The most common location for the "most serious nonconsensual contact was an on-campus fraternity house. Again issues of gender justice on campus and sexual assault, and Greek Life spaces all intersect with the mistreatment and racialization of Asian American women. There is also a fraternity that's being allowed back on campus called SAE. It was kicked off campus several years ago, because a student was killed in a hazing incident. This goes back to a long history of hazing and misconduct in Greek Life that resulted in actual student deaths, including Antonio Tsialas who died after attending a dirty rush event at a fraternity last year. SAE specifically is being allowed on back on-campus and this resolution reaffirms that this is inappropriate. It is enabling hazing killings and also sexual assault, where SAE has the nickname "Sexual Assault Expected" as a national nickname. The resolution also asks Cornell to reconsider the disarmament argument, as police continue to fail to protect many of us. Sarah Everard, a woman in the UK, was killed walking home by a police officer, she was killed by a man who was supposed to protect her. Police do not protect woman and police do not protect Asian American people. One incident is the killing of Angelo Quinto, who was a Filipino American man and a Navy veteran,



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who sustained a head injury and needed mental health support. His family called police. When the police arrived, they killed him. One put a knee on his neck for 5 minutes while another officer held his leg until he suffocated to death. Another instance of police killing Asian American folks is when police shot Christian Hall, a 19-year-old Chinese American boy who was suffering from a mental health crisis, nineteen times. After the incident with the Atlanta shootings, the police captain in charge of the case, Police Captain Jay Barker, excused the actions of the shooter, stating that the shooter was just having a really bad day. This same police officer was found to have posted racist images of China and coronavirus on his Facebook page. The people in power and the police are the same ones who share these racist and deadly sentiments. Cornell's refusal to even consider disarming its police is a statement that Cornell will prioritize the supposed comfort of white students over the literal safety of women, Asian American women, and its BIPOC students. The resolution also asks that Cornell University will require the Office of Sorority & Fraternity Life to review all fraternities and any fraternity accused of sexual harassment or assault should be placed on probation or have its recognition revoked. This resolution also asked for Cornell to reconsider the arguments for disarmament.

- iii. C. Tempelman asked if the demand asked for the Cornell to consider abolishing all fraternities included cultural and professional fraternities as well as just social fraternities.
 1. C. Huang stated the resolution focuses on sexual assault and would be happy to clarify it is referring to IFC.
- iv. Z. Sherin asked what President Pollack said about Resolution #30.
 1. C. Huang stated that her explanation is online and would be happy to send the link.
- v. E. Yan stated that as a member of Cornell Greek Life, president of their fraternity, and a Chinese American man that is regrettable that this resolution is exploiting the tragedy to target Greek Life. In their experience, E. Yan stated that Greek Life has been a welcoming and hospitable environment for Asian Americans and made their campus experience better.
 1. N. Watson asked any speakers to not ascribe false motives to the sponsors of this resolution.
 2. C. Huang stated that this resolution seeks to protect Asian American women, and you cannot say this resolution is exploiting the deaths of Asian American women, who come into these spaces and come out for the worse. As an Asian American man, you may benefit from the privileges and the joys of the fraternity life, but that is not the case for women and that was not the case for Antonio Tsialas. If you refuse to accept that Greek Life is in some way responsible, you are going to have to disprove the statistics that 25% of women encounter sexual assault in these spaces.
- vi. A. Gleiberman asked if C. Huang would consider removing Demand 5, which calls for Cornell to abolish fraternities. A Gleiberman agreed that



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Cornell should be reviewing these fraternities but stated that it is not necessarily fair to get rid of all fraternities on campus.

1. C. Huang stated they will consider amending the resolution after they hear from the rest of the folks here.
- vii. Y. Yuan stated they believe it is more important to pass a resolution to support Asian American communities and Asian communities. The last thing they want to see is people disagreeing on whether they want to add or remove language. It may be helpful to make the banning of fraternities on a separate resolution.
- viii. L. Abd Elmagid expressed their support for the resolution and gratitude for the presentation by C. Huang. It is really easy to just say they are politicizing things or exploiting the deaths of people to just further political agenda, but this resolution and other actions revolves around what we can do for the people who died. This resolution is what we as college students can do to protect our own Asian American women on campus and our BIPOC women on campus. It is upsetting that Cornell do not already review fraternities. In order to support our own students, we should be advocating for them, instead of burdening another Asian American woman to do the work for us.
- ix. L. Smith stated they understand A Gleiberman's recommendation but stated they supported going ahead with Demand 5 on the resolution. Knowing how the administration acts, fraternities are not going to be abolished today, tomorrow, or even by the end of the semester. As a member of Greek Life, L. Smith does not see the abolish Greek Life necessarily as a direct threat but certainly a challenge that fraternities need to get better and puts extra emphasis on getting a review process.
 1. C. Huang thanked L. Smith for their comments and stated they seriously value their perspective from Greek Life. This resolution is a challenge for us to do better to support Asian American women who are being hurt.
- x. J. Marion stated they are here from IFC and stated that the events in Atlanta were terrible. But it does not make sense to go ahead with an abolitionist argument towards fraternities. It is much better idea to work on the consent training and having them more often. Cornell does take Title IX accusations very seriously, but J. Marion stated that a review process would be welcome to make sure that fraternities are not slipping the cracks.
 1. C. Huang stated they appreciated J. Marion's support for the review process but asked why the abolition framework isn't the place to do. Fraternities have historically enabled and created spaces for assaulters to get away with it. A review process is important, but it is just going to be looking at the things that are happening and that will continue to happen in these spaces Again, C. Huang stated that abolition is not going to happen tomorrow, or this semester, or by the time they graduate, but it is okay to put that challenge out there.
- xi. U. Chukwukere shared their support for this resolution and their support for the conversation of abolishing Greek Life. For Greek Life on campus, the bad has far outweighed the good. As a member of Greek Life and president of the Multicultural Greek Fraternal Council, it is really disheartening to read



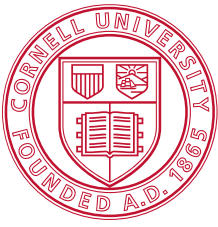
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- about fraternizes hurting people and inflicting harm on people, especially people from marginalized communities.
- xii. T. Reuning stated their support for this resolution and asked members of Greek Life to reflect on the benefits and negative impacts of Greek Life on campus. Clearly, the consent trainings have not been working when the majority of assaults on campus are happening in Greek Life spaces.
 - xiii. There was a motion to amend line 34 to include “Asian American students are mourning for their communities, to amend line 115 and 116 to include “Whereas issues of gender justice on campus and in Greek Like spaces all intersect with the mistreatment and racialization of Asian American women;”, and lines 168 to 175.
 - 1. Motion to amend – **amended** Unanimous Consent
 - xiv. There was a motion to amend the resolution to include Demand 6, which states “Cornell University will require the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Life to perform a yearly review of all fraternities and any fraternity accused of sexual harassment or assault will be placed on probation or have its recognition revoked.”
 - 1. Motion to amend – **amended** Unanimous Consent
 - xv. There was a motion to amend the resolution to remove Demand 5.
 - 1. There was dissent.
 - 2. Vote to vote – failed
 - xvi. There was a motion to amend Demand 5 to state “Request Cornell University review policies and action items over fraternity system, including reform, disband, or abolish to make sure Cornell campus would protect Cornell community, especially Asian and other vulnerable communities.”
 - 1. Motion to amend – **amended** Unanimous Consent
 - xvii. There was a motion to vote on Resolution 34 with a roll-call vote, but the motion was withdrawn
 - xviii. There was a motion to vote on Resolution 34 with a unanimous consent vote.
 - xix. Motion to approve Resolution #34 – **passed** Unanimous Consent.

VII. **Adjournment**

- a. C. Huang adjourned the meeting at 6:22pm (EST).

Respectfully Submitted,
Ciara Shanahan
Clerk of the Student Assembly



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S.A. Resolution #35 Calling on Cornell to End All Ties with ICE

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4 ABSTRACT: This resolution is calling on Cornell to absolve all ties with U.S. Immigration
5 and Customs Enforcement (ICE), including but not limited to recruitment, education,
6 training, research, and technological equipment and software.
7

8 **Sponsored by: Allison Arteaga '21, Ailen Salazar '21, Melissa Yanez '21, Marco**
9 **Salgado '22, Stella Linardi '22, Tomás Reuning '21, Valeria Valencia '23, Lucy**
10 **Contreras '21**

11
12 **Whereas**, Cornell has historically invited ICE to participate in on-campus recruitment.
13

14 **Whereas**, Cornell has invited ICE-affiliated companies such as Palantir and Anduril to on-
15 campus recruitment events.
16

17 **Whereas**, Palantir and Anduril, as well as other ICE-affiliated companies assist ICE in
18 tracking, detaining, and deporting migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.
19

20 **Whereas**, Cornell has multiple contracts with ICE-affiliated companies for education and
21 training services and technological equipment.
22

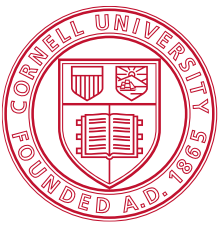
23 **Whereas**, Cornell Tech has been suspected of providing facial recognition software to ICE
24 and ICE-affiliated companies, including a recent collaboration with Palantir and Anduril to
25 build fully-automated “detect-and-shoot” towers at the border.
26

27 **Whereas**, ICE has a long and well-documented history of brutality, including raids,
28 deportations, and family separations at the border, as well as the destruction of families who
29 have lived in our country and communities for decades.
30

31 **Whereas**, ICE has consistently posed a threat to individuals’ civil liberties, including but
32 not limited to: “the Fourth Amendment’s protection against unreasonable searches and
33 seizures, the constitutional guarantee of due process, and the constitutional guarantee of
34 equal protection and freedom from discrimination based on race, ethnicity, and national
35 origin.”
36

37 **Whereas**, in 2020, a report conducted by the ACLU, Human Rights Watch, and National
38 Immigrant Justice Center exposed a wide range of human rights abuses occurring in ICE
39 detention centers, including but not limited to: unsanitary living conditions, inadequate or
40 nonexistent medical care, indefinite detainment, and general cruel treatment.
41

42 **Whereas**, in September 2020, a whistleblower revealed that ICE had been performing
43 forced and coerced sterilization procedures on immigrants in detention centers.
44



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45 **Whereas**, Cornell is home to a community of undocumented students as well students
46 from mixed-status families.

47
48 **Whereas**, the President of Johns Hopkins University stated, “But if our school is to live up
49 to its stated values of free intellectual inquiry, human rights, human flourishing, and
50 'knowledge for the world,' it cannot do so while assisting ICE agents.”

51
52 **Whereas**, Cornell similarly cannot live up to these principles or its motto, “Any Person,
53 Any Study,” while aiding and abetting the U.S. government agencies that oppress, persecute,
54 and deport undocumented community members.

55
56 **Whereas**, the Cornell University Chapter of the American Association of University
57 Professors has expressed support for efforts to cut ties with ICE.

58
59 **Be it therefore resolved**, we call on Cornell administration and students to boycott and
60 ban recruitment attempts on the part of companies that do business with ICE and ICE-
61 affiliated companies.

62
63 **Be it therefore resolved**, we call on Cornell students and faculty to refuse to participate
64 in research funded by ICE or DHS and other elements of the military-prison-industrial-
65 financial-security complex.

66
67 **Be it finally resolved**, we call on Cornell to abolish all professional, academic, and
68 financial ties with ICE and its affiliates.

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70 **Respectfully Submitted,**

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72 **Allison Arteaga ‘21**
73 *DREAM Team*

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75 **Ailen Salazar ‘21,**
76 *DREAM Team*

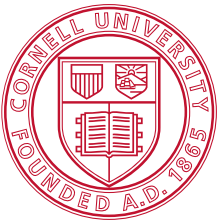
77
78 **Melissa Yanez ‘21**
79 *DREAM Team*

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81 **Marco Salgado ‘22,**
82 *DREAM Team*

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84 **Stella Linardi ‘22**
85 *DREAM Team*

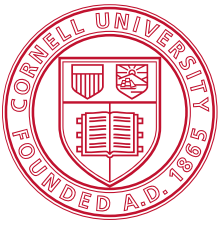
86
87 **Tomás Daniel Chávez Reuning ‘21**
88 *LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*

89



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90	Valeria Valencia '23
91	<i>Minority Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly</i>
92	
93	Lucy Contreras '21
94	<i>First-Generation Student Representative At-Large</i>
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96	Cornell DREAM Team
97	
98	Cornell Anti-Detention Alliance
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100	Cornell Abolitionist and Revolutionary Society
101	
102	La Asociación Latina
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104	International Student Union
105	
106	Native American and Indigenous Students at Cornell
107	
108	Cornell American Civil Liberties Union
109	
110	Arab Student Association at Cornell
111	
112	Contigo Peru
113	
114	Cornell Roosevelt Institute
115	
116	First Generation Student Union
117	
118	CUSLAR: Committee on U.S.-Latin American Relations
119	
120	South Asian Council
121	
122	Do Better Cornell
123	
124	<i>(Reviewed by: Diversity & Inclusion Committee, 3/24/2021)</i>



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S.A. Resolution #36

Calling on Cornell to Establish Itself as a Sanctuary Campus

ABSTRACT: This resolution is calling on Cornell to establish itself as a sanctuary campus for undocumented students, faculty, and staff.

Sponsored by: Allison Arteaga '21, Ailen Salazar '21, Melissa Yanez '21, Marco Salgado '22, Stella Linardi '22, Tomás Reuning '21, Valeria Valencia '23, Lucy Contreras '21

Whereas, the term “sanctuary campus,” inspired by the sanctuary city movement, refers to any college or university that implements policies to protect students, faculty, and staff who are undocumented immigrants.

Whereas, the following are some of the policies that have been proposed or implemented by self-described sanctuary campuses or other immigrant-friendly campuses:

- Barring ICE officers from campus unless they possess a valid judicial warrant.
- Instructing campus police not to cooperate with ICE or CBP against members of the campus community when an official judicial warrant is unavailable;
- Refusing to share information about faculty or students’ immigration status with ICE absent a court order, given FERPA rights; and
- Implementing a “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy on student or faculty immigration status
- Facilitating “undocu-ally” workshops to educate students, faculty, and staff
- Providing confidential legal support to students with immigration law questions and issues

Whereas, The American Association of University Professors has endorsed the sanctuary campus movement.

Whereas, the actions of sanctuary campuses do not conflict with their legal obligations. For example, it is not a federal offense to refuse admission to ICE officers without a warrant.

Whereas, other universities and colleges have established themselves as sanctuary campuses, including but not limited to: University of Pennsylvania, Portland State University, Reed College, Wesleyan University, Pitzer College, Santa Fe Community College, Swarthmore College, Drake University, Connecticut College

Whereas, There have been multiple protests at various campuses:

- Connecticut College
- Dartmouth College
- Drexel University
- Florida State University
- Hobart and William Smith Colleges

- 46 • Middlebury College
- 47 • Mills College
- 48 • New Mexico State University
- 49 • The New School
- 50 • Northeastern University
- 51 • Ohio University
- 52 • Portland Community College
- 53 • Rutgers University
- 54 • St. Mary's College
- 55 • Stanford University
- 56 • Stockton University
- 57 • Texas State University
- 58 • Texas Woman's University
- 59 • Trinity College
- 60 • Tufts University
- 61 • University of Denver
- 62 • University of Illinois campuses
- 63 • University of Michigan
- 64 • University of Mississippi
- 65 • University of New Mexico
- 66 • University of North Texas
- 67 • University of Pennsylvania
- 68 • University of San Diego
- 69 • Vanderbilt University
- 70 • Wesleyan University
- 71 • Western New Mexico University
- 72 • Yale University

73

74 **Whereas**, this issue was brought up in 2016 with a faculty coalition group of approximately
75 100 faculty members petitioning for Cornell to establish itself as a sanctuary campus. The
76 petition gathered over 2,000 signatures but was not ratified by then sitting university
77 president Hunter Rawlings.

78

79 **Whereas**, there have been "ICE Scares" in the past following reported sightings of ICE
80 officers causing unnecessary stress and fear in the community

81

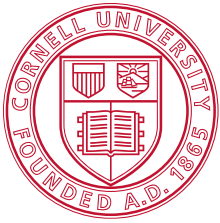
82 **Whereas**, CUPD has disclosed that they have no formal protocol in the event that a student
83 or member of the Cornell community is detained or deported by ICE.

84

85 **Whereas**, CUPD relies on an *informal* and *undisclosed* system of communication
86 regarding crisis situations involving ICE or CBP.

87

88 **Whereas**, Cornell University Administration has referred to members of the
89 undocumented community on campus as "charity cases," and former Dean of Students Vijay



Cornell University Student Assembly

90 Pendakur asked undocumented student organizers, “What more do you want?” fostering a
91 toxic school environment.

92
93 **Whereas**, students have threatened to call ICE on their undocumented peers.

94
95 **Whereas**, undocumented students at Cornell have been recorded disclosing their status by
96 fellow students with the intent of exposing the undocumented students to the media and the
97 public, which increases the risk of being exposed, detained, and/or deported by ICE.

98
99 **Whereas**, only in 2016, did Cornell finally allow DACA students to be considered for
100 financial aid as domestic students, as opposed to international students; and only recently,
101 in 2020, did Cornell finally allow undocumented students to benefit from the domestic
102 financial aid funding pool instead of the international pool.

103
104 **Whereas**, due to the expansion of the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport into the Ithaca
105 Tompkins International Airport, Customs and Border Patrol, which has the ability to detain
106 and deport immigrants, is now stationed less than 3 mile from campus.

107
108 **Whereas**, the presence of CBP less than three miles from campus increases the risk of
109 deportation, detainment, and interactions for all undocumented/DACA and international
110 students, faculty, and staff on campus.

111
112 **Whereas**, Cornell University is 251 Miles from the Canadian Border, which puts
113 undocumented and international people at a higher risk of interaction with ICE than other
114 Ivy League Universities.

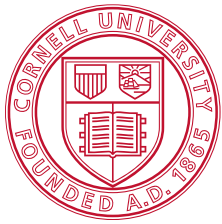
115
116 **Whereas**, ICE documents show that, for years, law enforcement in hundreds of
117 jurisdictions nationwide, including major sanctuary cities like Seattle, Washington, D.C. and
118 Los Angeles, are still feeding information into regional databases that can be viewed by ICE.

119
120 **Whereas**, although Ithaca has declared itself as a Sanctuary City, the ongoing threat of
121 deportation and detainment persists in Ithaca, NY, as demonstrated when 1) an on-duty TC
122 Sheriff's Deputy illegally called ICE to report a Mexican man seeking medical attention in
123 2019, 2) multiple ICE arrests in 1 month produced huge fear in the immigrant community in
124 2018.

125
126 **Whereas**, New York ranks fourth in the nation with 12,271 deportations as of 2020.

127
128 **Whereas**, the increased presence of CBP and sustained risk of ICE interactions has
129 contributed to increased levels of fear, anxiety, and worsening mental health amongst
130 undocumented and international populations at Cornell University.

131
132 **Whereas**, President Martha Pollack has expressed support for DACA and undocumented
133 students:



Cornell University

Student Assembly

134 “Cornell, since its founding, has been committed to diversity and inclusion, and DACA
135 students are an integral part of our community. They were brought to this country before
136 they had a choice in the matter, have grown up here, and are succeeding here despite
137 significant challenges and obstacles. I believe they deserve a chance to fulfill their dreams
138 (2017).”⁵

139
140 **Whereas**, the Cornell University Chapter of the American Association of University
141 Professors has expressed support for efforts to establish a sanctuary campus.

142
143 **Be it therefore resolved**, available data and supporting evidence show that college
144 campuses must do more to support undocumented and international students’ health,
145 safety, and wellbeing on campus.

146
147 **Be it therefore resolved**, in order to live up to its motto of “Any Person, Any Study,”
148 Cornell must ensure that undocumented students, faculty, and staff feel safe from
149 detention and deportation.

150
151 **Be it finally resolved**, Cornell University must commit to fostering a safe and nourishing
152 environment for undocumented students by establishing a Sanctuary Campus, including but
153 not limited to:

- 154 • Barring ICE officers from campus unless they possess a valid judicial warrant.
- 155 • Instructing campus police not to cooperate with ICE or CBP against members of the
156 campus community when an official judicial warrant is unavailable;
- 157 • Refusing to share information about faculty or students’ immigration status with ICE
158 absent a court order, given FERPA rights; and
- 159 • Implementing a “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy on student or faculty immigration status
- 160 • Facilitating “undocu-ally” workshops to educate students, faculty, and staff
- 161 • Providing confidential legal support to students with immigration law, questions,
162 and issues
- 163 • Establishing an Undocumented Resource Center at Cornell University, overseen by
164 the Associate Director for Student Empowerment and Undocumented/DACA
165 Student Support.

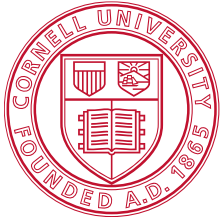
166
167 **Respectfully Submitted,**

168
169 **Allison Arteaga ‘21**
170 *DREAM Team*

171
172 **Melissa Yanez ‘21**
173 *DREAM Team*

174
175 **Marco Salgado ‘22,**
176 *DREAM Team*

177
178



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 179 **Ailen Salazar '21,**
180 *DREAM Team*
181
182 **Stella Linardi '22**
183 *DREAM Team*
184
185 **Tomás Reuning '21**
186 *LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
187
188 **Valeria Valencia '23**
189 *Minority Student Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
190
191 **Lucy Contreras '21**
192 *First-Generation Student Representative At-Large*
193
194 **Cornell DREAM Team**
195
196 **Cornell Anti-Detention Alliance**
197
198 **Cornell Abolitionist and Revolutionary Society**
199
200 **La Asociación Latina**
201
202 **International Student Union**
203
204 **Native American and Indigenous Students at Cornell**
205
206 **Cornell American Civil Liberties Union**
207
208 **Arab Student Association at Cornell**
209
210 **Contigo Peru**
211
212 **Cornell Roosevelt Institute**
213
214 **First Generation Student Union**
215
216 **CUSLAR: Committee on U.S.-Latin American Relations**
217
218 **South Asian Council**
219
220 **Do Better Cornell**
221
222 *(Reviewed by: Diversity & Inclusion Committee, 3/24/2021)*



Originally Presented on:	(03/25/2021)
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #37

Creating a More Accessible Process for Student Assembly Religious Accommodations

ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to create a more accessible process to request an excused absence for religious reasons, or request accommodations for meetings in the event of a religious conflict.

Sponsored by: Cat Huang '21, Samuel Zverev '21, Laila Abd Elmagid '21, Carlo Castillo '22, Mardiya Shardow '23, Morgan Baker '23

Whereas, SA meetings have been held during major religious holidays, forcing SA members to choose between missing meetings or attending their religious services;

Whereas, the SA maintains its integrity when all voting members are able to attend;

Whereas, SA meeting schedules should take into account coinciding with religious holidays;

Whereas, SA and community members should never have to choose between attending SA meetings and religious services;

Whereas, The current language in the Student Assembly Charter and Bylaws to request excused absences or accommodations in case of a religious conflict is as follows:

Bylaws, lines 234-244

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Section 1: Regular Meetings

Regular meeting times and places will be publicly announced at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date.

Section 2: Special Meetings

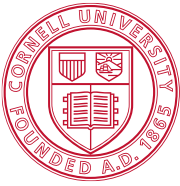
A. The President may convene special meetings of the SA to consider issues of immediate and pressing concern. The President will also call a special meeting after being instructed to do so by six of the voting members of the SA.

B. Conflicts - If there is a major conflict that affects a significant portion of the undergraduate student body, such as a religious conflict, any member may direct the SA president to call a special meeting in lieu of the regularly scheduled meeting. The request must be made 2 weeks in advance of the regularly scheduled meeting at issue.

Charter, lines 238-250

Section 5: Absentees

Any voting members who are absent for three regularly scheduled meetings cumulatively during their term will have their position vacated. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, a member will not be counted as if they were absent for an interview for a job, graduate school, or scholarship; if they were attending a required academic event for which accommodations could not be made; if they were representing the Student Assembly in an



Cornell University Student Assembly

45 official capacity; if they were tending to a family emergency; if they are observing a religious
46 holiday; or if they were under the care of a physician. The Executive Committee will review
47 each circumstance individually and will determine a decision within 7 days of the request.
48 Executive Committee may avert such a vacancy by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of seated voting
49 members of the Executive Committee. The vote would be conducted by secret ballot. The
50 Executive Committee should consider the reasoning for past absences, the likelihood of
51 future absences, and the representative's supplemental actions to represent their respective
52 constituency in making their decision. The same action must be taken if the Executive
53 Committee wishes to avert a vacancy whenever the three cumulative absences mark is
54 exceeded. The Director of Elections will serve as Chair for these meetings.
55

56 **Be it therefore resolved**, the language in the Student Assembly Charter and Bylaws to request
57 excused absences or accommodations in case of a religious conflict be changed to:
58

59 Bylaws, lines 234-244

60 ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

61 Section 1: Regular Meetings

62 Regular meeting times and places will be publicly announced at least 72 hours prior to the
63 scheduled meeting date.

64 Section 2: Special Meetings

65 A. The President may convene special meetings of the SA to consider issues of immediate
66 and pressing concern. The President will also call a special meeting after being instructed to
67 do so by six of the voting members of the SA.

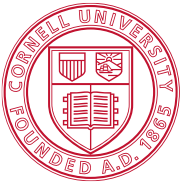
68 ~~B. Conflicts—If there is a major conflict that affects a significant portion of the
69 undergraduate student body, such as a religious conflict, any member may direct the SA
70 president to call a special meeting in lieu of the regularly scheduled meeting. The request
71 must be made 2 weeks in advance of the regularly scheduled meeting at issue.~~

72 SA meeting schedules will be constructed in such a way that SA meetings do not fall on
73 religious holidays. These schedules will be made by Executive Committee at the beginning of
74 each semester. In place of regularly scheduled meetings, special meetings will be held.”

76 Charter, lines 238-250

77 Section 5: Absentees

78 Any voting members who are absent for three regularly scheduled meetings cumulatively
79 during their term will have their position vacated. At the discretion of the Executive
80 Committee, a member will not be counted as if they were absent for an interview for a job,
81 graduate school, or scholarship; if they were attending a required academic event for which
82 accommodations could not be made; if they were representing the Student Assembly in an
83 official capacity; if they were tending to a family emergency; if they are observing a religious
84 holiday; or if they were under the care of a physician. The Executive Committee will review
85 each circumstance individually and will determine a decision within 7 days of the request.
86 Executive Committee may avert such a vacancy by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of seated voting
87 members of the Executive Committee. The vote would be conducted by secret ballot. The
88 Executive Committee should consider the reasoning for past absences, the likelihood of



Cornell University Student Assembly

89 future absences, and the representative's supplemental actions to represent their respective
90 constituency in making their decision. The same action must be taken if the Executive
91 Committee wishes to avert a vacancy whenever the three cumulative absences mark is
92 exceeded. The Director of Elections will serve as Chair for these meetings.

93
94 In the event that a Student Assembly member is observing a religious holiday on the day of a
95 Student Assembly meeting, and that religious holiday has not already been accommodated
96 for in the yearly Student Assembly schedule, Student Assembly members may contact the
97 Vice President of Internal Operations for an excused absence before the start of the weekly
98 meeting.

99

100

101 **Respectfully Submitted,**

102

103 Cat Huang '21

104 *President, Student Assembly*

105

106 Samuel Zverev '21

107 *College Human Ecology Representative, Student Assembly*

108

109 Laila Abd Elmagid '21

110 *College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*

111

112 Carlo Castillo '22

113 *College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*

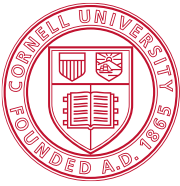
114

115 Mardiya Shardow '23

116 *Dyson School Representative, Student Assembly*

117

118 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 6-0-0, 03/22/2021)*



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(03/25/2021)
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

1 S.A. Resolution #38
2 Adding the Students with Disabilities Representative At-Large to the Diversity and
3 Inclusion Committee
4

5 ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to add the Students with Disabilities Representative At-Large to
6 the list of the Assembly members required to sit on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.
7

8 **Sponsored by: Evan Moy '20, Morgan Baker '23, Raquel Zohar '23**
9

10 **Whereas**, disabled people are being hurt the most during the current pandemic;
11

12 **Whereas**, the marginalization of differently abled people, especially on Cornell's campus,
13 continues to be a regular problem plaguing the student body, and the Students with Disabilities
14 At-Large Representative is the only marginalized-focused representative not expressly given a
15 seat on the committee;
16

17 **Whereas**, having a strong desire for intersectionality and promoting marginalized voices are
18 required for a truly diverse representation;
19

20 **Whereas**, in the interest of protecting minority voices, a high standard for holding office must be
21 upheld;
22

23 **Be it therefore resolved**, the position of Students with Disabilities Representative At-Large will
24 be added to the list of Assembly members required to sit on the Diversity and Inclusion
25 Committee of the Cornell Student Assembly;
26

27 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly Bylaws, Article VI, Section 4, Subsection A,
28 subsection d, rule iii (lines 482-485) shall be amended to read:
29

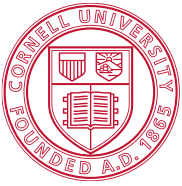
30 iii. Student Assembly representation: SA LGBT Liaison At-large, Women's
31 representative, International representative, both Minority Liaisons, First Generation
32 Students Representative, **Students with Disabilities Representative**, and the Vice
33 President of External Affairs are required to be members of the committee.
34

35 **Be it finally resolved**, that these amendments to the bylaws will take effect after the new
36 Diversity and Inclusion Committee chair is internally elected in Fall 2021.
37

38 **Respectfully Submitted,**
39

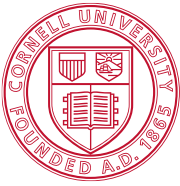
40 Evan Moy '20
41 *Former Arts & Sciences Representative At-Large, Student Assembly*
42

43 Morgan Baker '23



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 44 *Vice President of External Affairs, Student Assembly*
45
46 Raquel Zohar '23
47 *Students with Disabilities Representative At-Large, Student Assembly*
48
49 *(Reviewed by: DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE, 8-0-1, 03/03/2021)*



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(03/24/2021)
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

1 S.A. Resolution #39
2 Calling Upon Cornell to Uphold its Ethical Guidelines for International Engagements

3
4 ABSTRACT: This resolution calls upon Cornell University to uphold its ethical values when
5 collaborating with international institutions.

6
7 **Sponsored by: Laila Abd Elmagid '21, Jenniviv Bansah '23**

8
9 **Whereas,** Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration (SHA) is currently proposing a [dual](#)
10 [degree program](#) with the Guanghai School of Management at Peking University (PKU);

11
12 **Whereas,** PKU has been regularly cited for [academic freedom violations](#);

13
14 **Whereas,** PKU has been regularly cited for suppressing, detaining, beating, and taking student labor
15 activists;

16
17 **Whereas,** in [December 2018](#), PKU officials detained student labor activists overnight, questioned
18 them and abused them for protesting for better worker's rights in China;

19
20 **Whereas,** in [November 2018](#) prominent student activist, Zhang Shengye, was beaten and taken
21 from the PKU campus for protesting against inequality and corporate greed;

22
23 **Whereas,** many young student activists [go missing](#) from [PKU](#) campus and other prominent
24 universities;

25
26 **Whereas,** PKU has silenced accounts of sexual harassment during the [#MeToo movement](#) among
27 students;

28
29 **Whereas,** PKU student [Yue Xin](#) has been threatened, harassed, and silenced for signing petition
30 documents demanding transparency over rape allegations involving PKU faculty;

31
32 **Whereas,** Xin's adviser [stormed into her dorm](#) room in the middle of the night with Xin's mother in
33 tow forcing her to delete all information and documents;

34
35 **Whereas,** in an [open letter](#) to teachers and classmates at PKU, Yue Xin said that the university had
36 frightened her mother so much that she had threatened to kill herself;

37
38 **Whereas,** PKU has [amended its university charter](#) to strip mentions of academic freedom and
39 thought and emphasize loyalty to the Chinese government;

40
41 **Whereas,** [academic censorship](#) is very common in universities like PKU;

42
43 **Whereas,** in 2013, [PKU dismissed Professor Xia Yeliang](#) for his liberal ideology and advocacy for
44 freedom and democracy;



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 45
46 **Whereas**, Cornell faculty senators have raised concerns about partnering with PKU due to issues of
47 safety for our students and faculty members;
48
- 49 **Whereas**, Cornell has promised to keep our students and faculty safe both here and abroad;
50
- 51 **Whereas**, the same safety cannot be granted or guaranteed to Chinese students and faculty teaching
52 next door;
53
- 54 **Whereas**, it would be unethical for Cornell to champion the safeties and liberties of its own students
55 while their academic counterparts are systematically oppressed in adjacent classrooms;
56
- 57 **Whereas**, it is not clear if the safety of our students and faculty is 100% guaranteed;
58
- 59 **Whereas**, nine students at NYU’s Shanghai campus, including six Americans, were [detained and](#)
60 [beat by Chinese police](#) without established reason;
61
- 62 **Whereas**, Cornell faculty senators have raised concerns about engaging with a state accused of
63 pursuing genocide;
64
- 65 **Whereas**, the [Uighurs](#) are a Muslim ethnic minority native to historic East Turkestan;
66
- 67 **Whereas**, the Chinese government is committing human rights violations by forcefully detaining at
68 least [1 million Muslim Uighurs](#) in [concentration](#) camps since 2015 in the Northwest region,
69 Xinjiang;
70
- 71 **Whereas**, China has labeled concentration camps as [“re-education” camps](#) aimed at increasing job
72 opportunities and combating poverty;
73
- 74 **Whereas**, China has [arbitrarily and obviously singled out Uighurs and other Muslim minorities](#),
75 forcing them to pledge loyalty to the Chinese government, renounce Islam, and learn
76 Mandarin;
77
- 78 **Whereas**, there have been reports of:
79
- 80 1) [Torture, psychological torment](#), and [abuse](#) within the camps,
 - 81 2) [Forced sterilization](#) of Uighur women in an attempt to suppress the population,
 - 82 3) [Systematic rape](#), sexual abuse, and torture of Uighur women,
 - 83 4) [Demolition](#) of thousands of Mosques in Xinjiang in an effort of forced “cultural
84 assimilation,”
 - 85 5) Exploitation of Uighur peoples for [cheap labor](#),
 - 86 6) Uighur peoples and other minorities forced to [pick cotton](#)
- 87
88 **Whereas**, Cornell University has over 250 international collaborations across 70 countries;



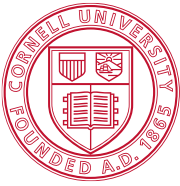
Cornell University Student Assembly

- 89
90 **Whereas**, the proposed dual degree program was termed as “a very profitable venture,” estimated to
91 bring in around \$400,00 during its first year and \$1M every year after;
92
- 93 **Whereas**, Cornell’s Standards of Ethical Conduct call for the university to “conduct, process, and
94 report all financial transactions with integrity”;
95
- 96 **Whereas**, all students have a right and a responsibility to critically review and examine the ethics of
97 the university’s financial gains and academic partnerships;
98
- 99 **Whereas**, the Cornell Provost and Vice Provost for International Affairs have established these
100 [Guidelines on Ethical International Engagement](#) in November 2019;
101
- 102 **Whereas**, the lack of enforcement of these guidelines leaves Cornell vulnerable to ethical
103 breaches;
104
- 105 **Whereas**, the guidelines call for Cornell to ensure that all international engagements are committed
106 to “free and open inquiry and expression” and “justice and human rights”;
107
- 108 **Whereas**, the guidelines specifically call for “protection of academic freedom” and should there be
109 violations that the program be amended or terminated;
110
- 111 **Whereas**, PKU has committed blatant academic freedom violations and censorship;
112
- 113 **Whereas**, according to Cornell’s own ethical guidelines, partnering with PKU and continuing all
114 other programs with PKU would be highly unethical and hypocritical;
115
- 116 **Whereas**, we would be cosigning for the behavior of another institution and whatever they do will
117 be a reflection on our institution;
118
- 119 **Whereas**, the guidelines specifically mention vetting relationships to ensure there are no serious
120 legal or human rights violations;
121
- 122 **Whereas**, [no country has the right](#) to commit human rights violations, war crimes, or violations of
123 international law;
124
- 125 **Whereas**, China is currently committing genocide against the Uighur Muslim peoples;
126
- 127 **Whereas**, [Canada’s](#) parliament has declared China’s treatment of Uighurs a genocide;
128
- 129 **Whereas**, the [Dutch](#) parliament has declared China’s treatment of Uighurs a genocide;
130
- 131 **Whereas**, both the [outgoing](#) and [current](#) U.S. Secretary of State have declared China’s treatment of
132 Uighurs a genocide;



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 133
134 **Whereas**, on March 22, 2021, the [United States](#) and its allies in Canada, Britain, and the European
135 Union announced sanctions on China over Uighur genocide;
136
- 137 **Whereas**, partnering with PKU and continuing our relationships with similar universities would
138 normalize and accept the Uighur Muslim genocide;
139
- 140 **Whereas**, Provost Kotlikoff, co-author of Cornell’s ethical guidelines, has said that “we have
141 programs in other countries in which human rights are in question”;
142
- 143 **Whereas**, that should not be a justification for continuing to be complicit in serious human rights
144 violations;
145
- 146 **Whereas**, it is unclear whether the School of Hotel Administration has considered any of the above
147 when proposing the dual degree program;
148
- 149 **Whereas**, there are real ethical and reputational hazards to putting the Cornell name on a dual
150 degree program in PKU and in China;
151
- 152 **Whereas**, Cornell University has previously cut ties with [Renmin University](#) in Beijing for similar
153 ethical concerns;
154
- 155 **Whereas**, the failure of SHA and upper Cornell administration to explore how these well-
156 documented concerns might impact the ethical availability of this program suggests that they
157 do not have a strong enough foundation to run it;
158
- 159 **Whereas**, Cornell University would be lending its name to a globally recognized institution of
160 unethical practices;
161
- 162 **Whereas**, Cornell University’s relationship with China is normalizing the ongoing Uighur genocide;
163
- 164 **Whereas**, Cornell University wields an enormous amount of power and influence with its
165 international strategic decisions and partnerships;
166
- 167 **Whereas**, it would not only be remiss of Cornell to use its power and influence to support a
168 university and institution that has committed the various abuses of human rights, but it
169 would be directly antithetical to the university’s mission of global citizenship and highly
170 hypocritical;
171
- 172 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Student Assembly formally calls upon Cornell University to
173 implement the following:
174
- 175 1. Cornell University will halt all plans for the proposed SHA-PKU dual degree program,
 - 176 2. Cornell University will re-evaluate all current international collaborations and vet them
carefully using the ethical guidelines on international engagement,



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 177 3. Where concerns arise within a given collaboration, Cornell University will amend its terms
178 with the institution in question, suspend the program, or terminate the relationship
179 altogether,
180 4. Cornell University will create a committee that oversees our academic partnerships in China;
181 5. Cornell University will suspend or terminate all programs where academic freedom is in
182 question in places like China, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia,
183 6. Cornell University will allow input from all branches of shared governance when ethical
184 concerns arise regarding an international collaboration and take such concerns seriously
185

186 **Respectfully Submitted,**

187
188 Laila Abd Elmagid '21

189 *College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*

190
191 Jenniviv Bansah '23

192 *School of Hotel Administration Representative, Student Assembly*

193
194 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-2, 03/24/2021)*