



# Student Assembly

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## 1 **Resolution 57: Ensuring Equitable Evaluation of** 2 **Special Projects Funding Request**

3 **Abstract:** This resolution affirms the Student Governance Assembly’s commitment to equitable  
4 restrictions on Special Projects funding. It affirms that the Assembly’s rules regarding special  
5 project funds should not be construed to restrict the approval of funding for organizations that  
6 use their recruitment process primarily to aid their mission of supporting historically  
7 marginalized or minority communities

8 **Authored by:** Christian Flournoy ‘27, Kennedy Young ‘28, Max Ehrlich ‘26, Daniel Addoquaye  
9 ‘28

10 **Endorsed by:** Myshay Causey ‘29, Jocelyn Swavy ‘28

11 **Type of Action:** Internal Policy

12 **Originally Presented:** 02/26/2026

13 **Current Status:** Third Reading Calendar

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14 **Whereas,** recent justification for restricting Special Project funding has centered on concerns  
15 that the Student Governance Assembly disproportionately funds exclusive or pre-professional  
16 organizations,

17 **Whereas,** Special Projects Funds have historically been used to benefit “any Cornell registered  
18 student organization”,

19 **Whereas,** there has been a large amount of concern, contention, and apprehension for the  
20 distribution of funds to these organizations within the Student Governance Assembly,  
21 particularly over the past two years,

22 **Whereas,** a [review of the 54 Special Project funding decisions presented to the Student](#)  
23 [Governance Assembly from 2014-2026](#) shows that 65% of funded organizations have open  
24 membership available to all students,

25 **Whereas,** of the 35% of organizations with closed membership, approximately 63% of those  
26 organization exists to serve historically marginalized or minority communities,

27 **Whereas,** as a result, only 13% of total Special Project funding decisions presented to the  
28 Student Governance Assembly during this period went to organizations that both maintain closed  
29 membership and do not serve marginalized groups or minority populations,



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30 **Whereas**, these data points demonstrate that the overwhelming majority of Special Project  
31 funding support open-access programming and/or initiatives that benefit historically  
32 marginalized students, rather than exclusive pre-professional organizations,

33 **Whereas**, restrictions on Special Projects funding based on concerns about exclusivity without  
34 proper guardrails risk disproportionately limiting support for organizations whose mission is to  
35 serve historically marginalized communities,

36 **Whereas**, previous contentions and actions, including that of Resolution 43, have threatened the  
37 capability of these groups to have a wider impact on campus culture while ensuring spaces for  
38 minority and marginalized communities,

39 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Student Governance Assembly will remain committed to funding  
40 organizations that support historically marginalized and minority groups,

41 **Be it further resolved**, no rules passed by this assembly, including but not limited to Resolution  
42 43's contents, shall be construed to prohibit or discourage the approval or disbursement of  
43 special project funding to organizations that have a recruitment process strictly for the purposes  
44 of serving the mission of supporting marginalized or minority groups,

45 **Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Governance Assembly will implement anti-bias  
46 safeguards and require respectful, non-discriminatory deliberation in all Special Project Fund  
47 decisions impacting marginalized and minority-based organizations,

48 **Respectfully Submitted,**

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50 *Executive Vice President, Student Governance Assembly*

51 Kennedy Young '28  
52 *Vice President of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, Student Governance Assembly*

53 Max Ehrlich '26  
54 *College of Industrial and Labor Relations Representative, Student Governance Assembly*

55 Daniel Addoquaye '28  
56 *Vice President of Policy, Student Governance Assembly*

57 Myshay Causey '29  
58 *Freshman Representative, Student Governance Assembly*

59 Jocelyn Swavy '28  
60 *College of Arts & Sciences Representative, Student Governance Assembly*