

# University Assembly

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## 1 **Resolution 2: Campus Codes Committee’s Involvement in** 2 **the Student Code of Conduct Review and Revision Process**

3 **Abstract:** This resolution addresses the administration’s failure to recognize the Campus Codes  
4 Committee’s oversight role in the process of reviewing and revising the Student Code of Conduct.

5 **Sponsored by:** Paul Nadasdy

6 **Reviewed by:** Campus Codes Committee (CCC), 12/10/2025, discussed and revised in the University  
7 Assembly on January 27, 2026 and March 17, 2026, and by the CCC on March 11, 2026.

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8 **Whereas,** in 1970, the Board of Trustees acted with strong community support to delegate to the  
9 University Senate (and later the University Assembly (UA), one of its successors) jurisdiction over a  
10 Campus Code of Conduct and the campus judicial system,

11 **Whereas,** the UA Bylaws formerly established a Codes and Judicial Committee to consider changes to  
12 the Code and the process for selection of the University Hearing Board and University Review Board,  
13 and the UA formerly participated in the selection of the Judicial Administrator to assure that office’s  
14 independence from the central administration,

15 **Whereas,** this shared governance strategy operated successfully for nearly 50 years, during a period of  
16 significant growth and shared prosperity of the Cornell community,

17 **Whereas,** a prolonged effort was made to revise the Code beginning with the Presidency of Martha  
18 Pollack in 2017, which progressed into 2020 with significant disagreement between constituent parties  
19 and the administration. UA Resolution 8 from 2020 established two versions of the Revised Code,  
20 which were submitted to the University Council for combination: one from the CJC and one from the  
21 Student Advocate Office. The resolution called for the University Council office to “to review the two  
22 versions and find a fair and equitable approach to use the most appropriate elements from the two drafts  
23 in producing the new Code of Conduct”,

24 **Whereas,** UA Resolution 8 from 2020 further resolved that “the final version of the Code of Conduct  
25 from the University Counsel [be] return[ed] to the University Assembly for review and response during  
26 the Fall 2020 semester prior to the Board of Trustees Meeting in October 2020”,

27 **Whereas,** President Pollack accepted this resolution and further affirmed “I will look forward to  
28 reviewing the feedback from the robust Cornell community comment period established by the  
29 resolution before returning the final version to the UA for review and response in the Fall and ultimately  
30 to the Board of Trustees in October”,



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31 **Whereas**, the returned Revised version of the Campus Code eliminated oversight roles of the University  
32 Assembly, including 1) editing of the Code, 2) participation in approval of the administrator in charge of  
33 implementing the Code, and 3) ability to appoint members of the conduct Hearing Panels. This version  
34 was subject to limited public comment and not approved by the UA. It was then approved by the Board  
35 of Trustees in December 2020,

36 **Whereas**, in 2023 a protracted negotiation between Central Administration and the University  
37 Assembly resulted in the approval of [UA Resolution 4](#) rewriting UA bylaws to formally remove  
38 jurisdiction of the UA over revisions to the Student Code of Conduct, Appointment of Hearing Board  
39 members, and consent over the office responsible for implementing the Code,

40 **Whereas**, the intervening period since the adoption of the Revised Code has resulted in delays in  
41 hearings, potential conflicts of interests in the complainant procedures, and concerns of undue pretrial  
42 burdens on defendants, all of which are detrimental for community stability and suggest a need for  
43 independent review by broad stakeholders,

44 **Whereas**, Student and Campus Life's [student code of conduct review and revision process](#), presented in  
45 August 2025 does not recognize a governance role for the University Assembly or the Campus Codes  
46 Committee,

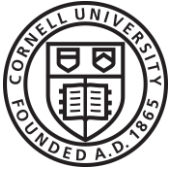
47 **Whereas**, the University Assembly retains a delegated responsibility to receive and inspect regular and  
48 substantive reports and data from the OSCCS regarding the implementation of the Student Code, and  
49 OSCCS is required to deliver such reports regardless of whether it is asked by the UA to do so,

50 **Whereas**, the Campus Codes Committee is charged with the following responsibilities:

51 By delegation from the University Assembly, the Campus Codes Committee will review any  
52 proposed motion related to:

- 53 • The Student Code of Conduct; and
- 54 • Solicitation of applications from interested faculty, students and staff for service on the  
55 University Hearing and Review Boards as specified in section "II C" of the Cornell Student  
56 Code of Conduct Procedures; and
- 57 • Issues involving academic freedom and freedom of speech for all members of the Cornell  
58 University community, including faculty, students, and staff on the Ithaca campus and those  
59 located outside the United States.

60 The Committee may propose, review, and amend resolutions as it deems appropriate. The  
61 Committee must approve resolutions referred for its consideration before they can be advanced to  
62 the Assembly for a vote and for debate,



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63 **Whereas**, the Campus Codes Committee’s mandate includes reviewing proposed motions related to the  
64 Student Code of Conduct,

65 **Be it resolved**, that the Code and Procedures Review Committee (CPRC) shall give full consideration to  
66 proposed revisions from the UA and its constituent assemblies, the Faculty Senate, the Student  
67 Assembly, the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, and Employee Assembly, during the public  
68 comment period and incorporate their revisions into their final report; and the President shall give full  
69 consideration to the proposals from these bodies when adopting a final policy.

70 **Be it further resolved**, that the UA shall be meaningfully consulted in selecting the Director of the  
71 Office of Student Code of Conduct and Community Standards or whatever office succeeds it; the  
72 possible candidate(s) for the office shall meet with the UA prior to a selection by the President or their  
73 designees, and the UA shall convey its approval, disapproval, or simple acknowledgement that this step  
74 has been satisfied for each candidate to the President or their designee to inform the final selection.

75 **Be it further resolved**, that the Director of OSCCS, or whatever office succeeds it, shall provide an up-  
76 to-date report on the activities of the Office and the implementation of the Student Code of Conduct, or  
77 whatever shall succeed it, at least one week in advance of the first candidate meeting.

78 **Be it further resolved**, that the Director of OSCCS or whatever office succeeds it shall meet with the  
79 UA after providing the annual report, to present and answer questions about the report, and that this  
80 shall occur at the beginning of the academic year or beginning of the Spring semester.

81 **Be it finally resolved**, that the UA as well as its constituent assemblies shall have membership on the  
82 CPRC or its successors in future reviews of the Student Campus Code of Conduct, to be appointed by  
83 the assemblies themselves.

84 Respectfully Submitted,

85 Paul Nadasdy

86 Campus Codes Committee