



University Assembly

UA R3: University Assembly Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

Abstract: University Assembly Supports Diversity and Inclusion at Cornell University

Sponsored by: Marcella Benda – Executive Vice Chair, Employee Representative; Ava Lagressa, Chair, University Assembly, Graduate and Professional Student Representative; David Bateman, Ranking Member, Faculty Representative, Sriramulu Modadugula, Vice Chair for Operations, Undergraduate Student Representative

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, March 28, 2025

Whereas, diversity and inclusion are core institutional values of Cornell University, the University Assembly values the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion as fundamental to a thriving and successful community; and

Whereas, we recognize that a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community fosters innovation, creativity, and a sense of belonging for all students, faculty and staff; and

Whereas, we are committed to creating a community where everyone feels valued, respected, and has the opportunity to reach their full potential; and

Whereas, that no civil society organization could accept being told that it cannot be committed to these principles, and that it is essential that within the parameters of non-discrimination that they be allowed to determine how best to pursue these principles themselves.

Be it therefore resolved, that the University Assembly holds diversity, equity, and inclusion to be integral to Cornell's public mission and values;

Be it further resolved, we will actively adopt and uphold the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of our operations;

Be it finally resolved, the University Assembly supports and is committed to Cornell's ongoing policies supportive of diversity, equity, and inclusion; that any changes to University operations continue and deepen rather than move away from these principles; that demands by federal or state officials to make changes in these areas should be closely scrutinized for their legal compliance and alignment with Cornell's values; and that any such demands that did not align with the law or Cornell's values should be subject to litigation.

Adopted by Vote of the Assembly (11-0-2), April 8, 2025,

Respectfully Submitted,



University Assembly

- 42 Marcella Benda – Executive Vice Chair, University Assembly, Employee Assembly Representative
- 43 Ava Lagressa –Chair, University Assembly, Graduate and Professional Student Representative
- 44 David Bateman, Ranking Member, Faculty Representative
- 45 Sriramulu Modadugula, Vice Chair for Operations, Undergraduate Student Representative