



1 Resolution EA R#3: In Recognition and Appreciation
2 of
3 Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg
4

5 **Abstract:** On the occasion of the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, the
6 Employee Assembly celebrates her long and distinguished career, her contributions to our country,
7 and her unrelenting support of women and marginalized communities.
8

9 **Sponsored by:** Joseph Cannella, LGBTQ+ Representative at Large; Brandon Fortenberry, Student
10 and Campus Life Representative; Kristie Mahoney, College of Human Ecology Representative; Rigel
11 Lochner, Health and Safety Representative; Brenda Fisher, Women's Representative at Large; Kit
12 Tannenbaum, Non-Exempt Employee Representative At-Large; Nasser Siadat, 5 Years of Service
13 Representative at Large; Brian Goodell, Facilities & Campus Services Representative; Laura Taylor,
14 International Representative At-Large; Kate Supron, Division of University Relations
15 Representative; Michelle Podolec, School of Industrial & Labor Relations Representative; Andrea
16 Haenlin-Mott, Disability Representative At-Large; Marin Cherry, Cornell Tech Campus
17 Representative; Debra Howell, Veteran's Representative At-Large; Jenn Michael, College of
18 Architecture, Art & Planning Representative; Lisa Zacharias, Division of Alumni Affairs and
19 Development Representative
20

21 **Reviewed by:** Executive Committee, 09/29/2020
22

23 **Whereas,** Joan Ruth Bader attended Cornell University as an undergraduate majoring in
24 government in the College of Arts and Sciences from 1950 through 1954, and;
25

26 **Whereas,** during her undergraduate career Bader worked as a researcher for Professor Robert
27 Cushman, during which time she worked on tracking entertainment industry blacklists during the
28 McCarthy era elevating her awareness of the Constitution, and was encouraged by Cushman to apply
29 to law school, and;
30

31 **Whereas,** during her time at Cornell, Bader participated in the Women's Self-Governance
32 Association, a student government system within residence life, and;
33

34 **Whereas,** during her time at Cornell she met Martin Ginsburg, marrying him shortly after their
35 graduation from Cornell in 1954, and;
36

37 **Whereas,** Ginsburg attended Harvard Law School, subsequently transferring to Columbia Law
38 School, where she tied for first in her graduating class, all while becoming the first woman to be on
39 two major law reviews, the *Harvard Law Review* and the *Columbia Law Review*, and;
40

41 **Whereas,** throughout her legal career, entered academia and served as a professor at Rutgers and



Cornell University Employee Assembly

42 Columbia Law Schools, teaching Civil Procedure, and; Ginsburg worked to advance the rights of all
43 people, particularly women and marginalized groups; including volunteer work at the American Civil
44 Liberties Union, where, in 1972, she founded the Women’s Rights Project, and;

45
46 **Whereas,** Ginsburg argued six gender discrimination cases before the United States Supreme Court
47 during the 1970s, winning five, and;

48
49 **Whereas,** Ginsburg was nominated by former President Carter to a seat on the United States Court
50 of Appeals for the District of Columbia where she served from the time of her confirmation on
51 June 18, 1980 to her appointment to the United States Supreme Court, and;

52
53 **Whereas,** Ginsburg was nominated by former President Clinton and appointed as an Associate
54 Justice of the Supreme Court on August 10, 1993, and;

55
56 **Whereas,** since 1999 Justice Ginsburg battled five bouts of various types of cancer, all while
57 upholding her promise to, “remain a member of the court as long as I can do the job full steam” (M.
58 Sherman & J. Gresko, Associated Press, July 17, 2020), and;

59
60 **Whereas,** Justice Ginsburg ultimately died in her home to complications from metastatic pancreatic
61 cancer on September 18, 2020 at the age of 87.

62
63 **Be it therefore resolved,** the Assembly hereby publicly recognizes Justice Ginsburg for her 66 years
64 as a dedicated alumna Cornell embodying Cornell’s mission, and;

65
66 **Be it therefore resolved,** the Assembly publicly celebrates her 61 years of service as an advocate for
67 equal justice for all, her 40 years of service in the US legal system, and her 27 years of service as
68 Justice of the Supreme Court, and;

69
70 **Be it further resolved,** the Assembly requests that it be publicized and known across campus that
71 Cornell flags fly at half-staff for the 27 days following the President Pollack’s
72 acknowledgement/acceptance of this resolution, commemorating Justice Ginsburg’s time on the
73 United States Supreme Court--one day for each year of her service on the Court, and;

74
75 **Be it further resolved,** the Assembly requests that President Pollack send a request to Governor
76 Andrew Cuomo to issue an executive order permitting Cornell University to fly the United States
77 Flag at half-staff for 27 days following receipt of the permission of Governor Cuomo, should it be
78 granted, again commemorating Justice Ginsburg’s time on the United States Supreme Court—one
79 day for each year of her service on the Court, and;

80
81 **Be it finally resolved,** a copy of this resolution be presented to Martha Pollack, President; Mary
82 Opperman, Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer; Joel Malina, Vice President for
83 University Relations; Thomas Fleischman, News Editor, Cornell Chronicle.

84
85 **Adopted by Vote of the Assembly (21-0-0); October 7, 2020.**



Cornell University
Employee Assembly

- 86
87 **Respectfully Submitted,**
88 Joseph Cannella, LGBTQ+ Representative At-Large
89 Brandon Fortenberry, Student and Campus Life Representative
90 Kristie Mahoney, College of Human Ecology Representative
91 Rigel Lochner, Health and Safety Representative
92 Brenda Fisher, Women's Representative at Large
93 Kit Tannenbaum, Non-Exempt Employee Representative At-Large
94 Nasser Siadat, 5 Years of Service Representative at Large
95 Brian Goodell, Facilities & Campus Services Representative
96 Laura Taylor, International Representative At-Large
97 Kate Supron, Division of University Relations Representative
98 Michelle Podolec, School of Industrial & Labor Relations Representative
99 Andrea Haenlin-Mott, Disability Representative At-Large
100 Marin Cherry, Cornell Tech Campus Representative
101 Debra Howell, Veteran's Representative At-Large
102 Jenn Michael, College of Architecture, Art & Planning Representative
103 Lisa Zacharias, Division of Alumni Affairs and Development Representative