



Graduate & Professional Student-Elected Trustee Election
Fall 2020 (reactivation) Challenge Form

Table with 2 columns: Name and NetID. Row 1: Candidate Name: Jeff Pea, NetID: Jtp239. Row 2: Challenger Name: Steve Tarcan, NetID: Sat224.

Instructions

Please attach a typewritten document that includes the reason(s) for your challenge. Identify any facts related to the election rules you identified above and explain how you believe the violation has altered the fairness of the election. You may submit digital evidence (such as photographs) to assembly@cornell.edu after submitting this form. We do not accept hand-written attachments. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, this form must be turned in to the Office of the Assemblies via email at assembly@cornell.edu by the challenger by Wednesday, November 4th, 2020 @ 4:00pm.

Certification

I, the filer of this challenge, attest by my signature below that the information I have provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge under penalty of disciplinary referral to the Judicial Administrator. I certify that I have read and understand the election rules, available on the elections webpage, and I acknowledge in particular my confidentiality obligations as a party to this challenge, reprinted here:

"Members of the committee and parties to a challenge may not share the contents of challenges, evidence, or decisions submitted to or received from the committee, except when explicitly permitted by these rules or by the committee. Unauthorized disclosure of confidential information may result in a disciplinary referral."

Signature of Challenger: [Handwritten signature]

Date: 10/15

Good evening,

My name is Steve Tarcn and I am reaching out tonight to make the Office of Assemblies aware of early campaigning from one of the current candidates for the graduate & professional student trustee position, Jeff Pea. Jeff has both a [campaign website](#) and a [campaign Instagram account](#) (that already has followers), and he has already reached out to various student leaders inquiring about their positions in organizations and what they are interested in. The reason I am bringing this up is because I know campaigning does not officially start until tomorrow, Friday, October 16, 2020 and candidates were told to “refrain from any of the following campaign activities, including: (a) disseminating printed or **electronic campaign materials**; (b) advertising candidacy by chalk, poster, **social media, electronic**, or other means; and/or (c) making speeches or statements about their candidacy to any press, **student organizations**, employee organizations, campus organizations, university departments, or class.

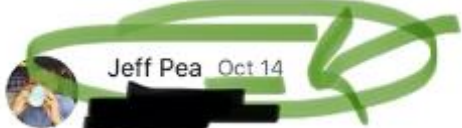
To sustain my claims, I am including pictures of Jeff’s Instagram page, campaign website, and an email he sent to a student leader. (The person who sent me a screenshot of Jeff’s email asked me to not disclose their personal information.) Overall, I find Jeff’s attempt to early campaign extremely inappropriate considering the magnitude of this position. These actions reek of privilege and completely disregard the rules set in place.

Thank you,
Steve Tarcn



Graduate & Professional Student-Elected Trustee

Inbox



Jeff Pea Oct 14



Hi [redacted]

Hope you've been well [redacted]

I am very excited to see all of the work that the new [redacted] will bring forward.

As you might remember back in Spring, I was running for the Student-Elected Trustee election. That election is restarting soon and I would love to hear from you about your experiences on the [redacted] as well as on important campus-wide issues.

Let me know if that works for you and if you have any questions or concerns.

All the best,
Jeff

...

Thank you for your support!

Congratulations !

Thank you!

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Jeff Pea for Student Trustee

Student leader, collaborator & advocate. Hoping to foster an inclusive, accessible campus for all as your Cornell Grad & Prof Student-Elected Trustee.

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hearing
the needs of a
diverse student
community



improving
investment &
accessibility of
student wellbeing



fostering
an inclusive &
tolerant campus



championing
an efficient &
sustainable
campus

about me!



PhD student in Biomedical & Biological Sciences (BBS)

I came to Cornell in 2017 after completing my undergraduate degree at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver, Canada. During that time, I was involved in student governance through my leadership roles in the Alma Mater Society (similar to the Student Assembly) and the Science Undergraduate Society. These experiences allowed me to work collaboratively across campus to push forward policies that benefitted all students on campus. **When I arrived at Cornell, I knew that I wanted to continue this mission of service and advocacy for my peers.**

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i want to hear directly from you!

my experiences.

pushing for the needs of all members of the Cornell community.

university assembly (UA)

september 2018 - present



AY 2019-2020 - Vice Chair of Internal Operations

- Represented students at the University Assembly Executive Board, Graduate & Professional Leadership Council and Judicial Codes Counselor Search Committee
- Collaborated with other campus leaders (Faculty Senate, Employee Assembly, Graduate & Professional Student Assembly, Student Assembly) in advocating for the following:
 - Divestment from fossil fuels ([UA R5](#))
 - Implementation of a campus circulator ([UA R4](#))
 - Major changes to the Campus Code of Conduct ([Revision to Campus Code of Conduct](#))
- Called for a campus-wide survey on tobacco use to get community input towards updating current policies ([Tobacco Survey](#))

AY 2018-2019 - Graduate & Professional Student Appointee

- Built relationships between students, faculty, and staff towards furthering shared governance goals
- Pushed forward policies to address current limitations of on-campus child care facilities through the Campus Welfare Committee ([UA R3](#))

improving investment & accessibility for student well-being

Wellbeing is impacted by every aspect of life and students, both undergraduate and graduate, feel that much of their current lifestyle at Cornell limit their overall wellbeing. This remains a major community concern that I believe requires a holistic approach to help create a campus space that students can thrive in. If elected, I would advocate for the following:

1. **Improved coverage & accessibility of mental health services**
2. **Better facilities and affordable programs for fitness centers**
3. **More personalized, standardized academic advising across all colleges and a centralized career services center for all students**
4. **Policies for a more affordable campus: adjusted food pricing, transportation subsidies, diversified financial aid options, and a "liveable" graduate student stipend**
5. **Increased accessibility of childcare options for students with families**
6. **Investment into women's health (i.e. free menstrual products)**

Mental Health - Although the recent adjustments in mental health services at Cornell Health is the right step forward, it is clear that students' need for care will continue to exceed the current system. I support the need to **increase the wages of current mental health services staff** to more effectively care for students as well as **overall increased staffing**. This process would include **training on effectively supporting diverse students**. One main concern beyond investment is accessibility for mental health services, in which I support **further investment into Cornell Health-based education and support group programs (i.e. Let's Talk)** as well as **alternative, innovative approaches like telehealth** to access students across campus.

Physical Health - It is well-established that physical and mental health are strongly linked and that for many students on campus the ability to exercise helps address school or work-related stresses. However, current fitness and recreation programs are not fully accessible due to various reasons, such as limited hours and parking, overcrowding and costs. I support **improvements to fitness facilities and equipment** as well as **extended fitness hours**, particularly during **evenings, weekends and breaks including summer and winter break**. As well, I advocate for **fitness center membership reimbursement** or alternative methods to cost subsidization.