

1 E. A. Resolution: #3
2 Position Statement in response to Union of White Students
3 Draft
4

5 Sponsored by: Jeramy A. Kruser, Amy Kohut, Nancy Bell
6

7 **Whereas**, Cornell is committed to extending its legacy of recruiting a heterogeneous faculty,
8 student body and staff; fostering a climate that doesn't just accommodate differences, but
9 engages with them; and providing rich opportunities for learning from those differences.
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11 **Whereas**, we of the Employee Assembly seek to support and improve this commitment.
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13 **Whereas**, we recognize the historical negative impact of racism and privilege in the world,
14 country, state, and on campus.
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16 **Whereas**, we acknowledge that the concept of "reverse racism" cannot exist due to the nature
17 of systemic oppression.
18

19 **Whereas**, we acknowledge whiteness as a sociological construct identifying the privileged
20 group, used historically to exclude people from rights guaranteed to those in power and to
21 justify bigoted attitudes, and not a race in need of advancement.
22

23 **Whereas**, we are alarmed at the manifestation of white privilege and ignorance apparent in the
24 Union of White Cornell Students Facebook page and recognize its negative impact on all of
25 Cornell, its students, faculty, staff, prospective students and employees.
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27 **Be it therefore resolved**, by adding our signatures to this statement we do hereby denounce
28 the viewpoints of this group as detrimental to the commitment of the university.
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30 **Be it further resolved**, we in no way choose to be associated with this group.
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32 **Be it further resolved**, we the undersigned will seek to make connection with each of the
33 other Cornell assemblies to provide a united message supporting Cornell's commitment to
34 diversity.
35

36 **Be it finally resolved**, we will use this opportunity to actively support and further promote
37 discussion and training on diversity, privilege, and impacts on people of color. We will contact
38 and partner with diversity and training groups on campus to provide specific training, starting
39 with the E.A. representatives. We will reach out to the Student Assembly, the General Assembly,
40 the University Assembly, and the President's Office and we will invite them to join us in
41 speaking out, and taking direct action to educate our constituency and to continue a Cornell
42 environment we are all proud to be a part of.
43

44 **Respectfully Submitted,**

45 Jeramy A. Kruser, Amy Kohut, Nancy Bell