



Resolution 27: Amending the Previously Adopted Resolution 20

Abstract: These resolutions the previously adopted Resolution 20.

Sponsored by: Clyde Lederman '26, Nicholas Maggard '26, Agnes Coleman '26

Reviewed by: Internal Operations, 10/5/2023, 3-0-0

Type of Action: Internal Policy

Originally Presented: 10/5/2023

Current Status: Placed on the Consent Agenda

Be it therefore resolved, the following text be substituted as the true and correct copy of Resolution 20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clyde Lederman '26

Interim Undesignated Representative, Student Assembly

Nicholas Maggard '26

Parliamentarian, Student Assembly

Agnes Coleman '26

Deputy Parliamentarian, Student Assembly



Resolution 20: Amendments to Article IV of the Charter

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Abstract: This resolutions amends Article IV of the Charter to revise and modernize language on aspects of the membership of the Assembly.

Sponsored by: Clyde Lederman '26, Nicholas Maggard '26, Agnes Coleman '26

Reviewed by: Internal Operations, 09/08/2023, 3-0-0

Type of Action: Internal Policy

Originally Presented: 09/14/2023

Current Status: Adopted by the Assembly, 09/21/2023, 16-1-0

Whereas, Article IV of the Charter of the Student Assembly defines the compositon, qualifications of voting members, method of election, vacancy-filling procedure, and procedure for recalling voting members of the Assembly;

Whereas, the ambiguity following a vacancy in the Office of the President of the Student Assembly highlighted the need for revisions to imprecise language and poorly defined procedures in Article IV of the Charter;

Whereas, the Assembly seeks to update its governing documents to reflect current practices and ensure clarity of the documents' provisions;

Whereas, Student Veterans provide Cornell University with a unique and valuable combination of perspective and leadership abilities.

Whereas, over 75 student veterans, reservists, and national guardsmen currently attend Cornell University.

Whereas, many student veterans hold identities that currently have low representation on campus, such as non-traditional age students and community college transfer students.

Whereas, there are student veterans in all undergraduate colleges at Cornell, and participate in a wide variety of student organizations, committees, and athletic teams.

Whereas, Cornell has committed infrastructure in the form of the Veterans' Program House to support the growing student veteran population, and is the only Ivy League institution to do so.



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55 **Whereas**, Cornell has integrated guidance and support systems through both admissions and
56 academic experiences by establishing a Student Veteran Advisor & Program Manager;

57 **Whereas**, Cornell has financially committed to the student veteran population through its
58 participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program;

59 **Whereas**, Cornell is the only Ivy League institution to be named a Purple Heart Institution, and
60 commit specific resources to those who have been wounded in combat and their family members;

61 **Whereas**, student veterans are committed to both serving and contributing to the climate and
62 conditions of Cornell University;

63 **Be it therefore resolved**, that Article IV of the Charter of the Student Assembly be struck in its
64 entirety, and the text contained in Appendix A to this resolution be inserted as Article IV of the
65 Charter of the Student Assembly.

66

67 **Respectfully Submitted,**

68 Clyde Lederman '26

69 *Interim Undesignated Representative, Student Assembly*

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71 Nicholas Maggard '26

72 *Parliamentarian, Student Assembly*

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74 Agnes Coleman '26

75 *Deputy Parliamentarian, Student Assembly*

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77 **APPENDIX A TO RESOLUTION 20**

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79 **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

80 **Section 1: Composition**

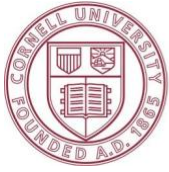
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82 A. The Assembly shall consist of 37 voting members.

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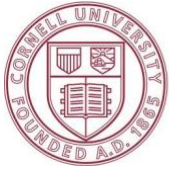
84 B. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the University
85 undergraduate student population as President of the Student Assembly.

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- 87 C. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the University
88 undergraduate student population as Executive Vice President of the Student Assembly.
89
- 90 D. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as a Representative At-Large by virtue of
91 attaining the second greatest number of votes in the most recent election for President of the Student
92 Assembly; this office shall be distinct from that of a directly elected Representative At-Large.
93
- 94 E. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as a Representative At-Large by virtue of
95 attaining the second greatest number of votes in the most recent election for Executive Vice
96 President of the Student Assembly; this office shall be distinct from that of a directly elected
97 Representative At-Large.
98
- 99 F. Six voting members of the Assembly shall each be directly elected as a Representative At-Large
100 by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole.
101
- 102 G. Two voting members of the Assembly shall each be elected as a Minority Students Representative
103 by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent minority
104 students.
105
- 106 H. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the Women's Issues Representative by and
107 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent women's issues.
108
- 109 I. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the First-Generation College Students
110 Representative by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent
111 first-generation college students.
112
- 113 J. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the Students with Disabilities
114 Representative by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent
115 students with disabilities.
116
- 117 K. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the International Students Representative
118 by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent international
119 students.
120
- 121 L. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the LGBTQIA+ Representative by and
122 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent Lesbian, Gay,
123 Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual students.
124
- 125 M. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Veterans Representative by and from the
126 population of undergraduate students who currently or have previously served in the Armed Forces



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127 of the United States, except for undergraduate students who serve as members of the Reserve
128 Officer Training Corps, to represent students who currently or have previously served in the Armed
129 Forces of the United States.

130

131 N. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Student Workers Representative by and
132 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent undergraduate
133 students who are engaged in paid employment contemporaneously with their academic studies.

134

135 O. Four voting members of the Assembly shall each be elected at-large by and from the undergraduate
136 freshman student population to represent the same.

137

138 P. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the undergraduate
139 transfer student population to represent the same.

140

141 Q. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student
142 populations of each the following colleges and schools to represent the same: the Brooks School of
143 Public Policy; the Dyson School of Business, the College of Architecture, Art and Planning; the
144 School of Hotel Administration; the College of Human Ecology, and the School of Industrial and
145 Labor Relations.

146

147 R. Two voting members of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student
148 populations of each the following colleges and schools to represent the same: the College of
149 Agriculture and Life Sciences, and the College of Engineering.

150

151 S. Three voting members of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student
152 population of the College of Arts and Sciences to represent the same.

153

154 **Section 2: Qualifications of Voting Members**

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156 A. Each voting member of the Assembly shall be registered, full-time undergraduate student at Cornell
157 University for the duration of their term; no voting member of the Assembly shall represent a
158 particular college or school without being a registered, full-time student in the same; nor shall a
159 voting member hold office without meeting the qualifications set forth for election to that office.

160

161 B. No member of the Assembly shall hold the office of more than one voting member, nor be absent
162 from the Ithaca Campus of Cornell University for more than three weeks during the academic year.

163

164 C. Upon failing to satisfy the provisions of this section, no voting member may be deemed disqualified
165 absent an affirmative two-thirds vote of the seated members of the Assembly.

166



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167 **Section 3: Non-Voting Membership**

168

169 A. Each undergraduate student shall be a non-voting member of the Assembly; such members may
170 participate in debate but may not to vote.

171

172 B. The Assembly may designate any faculty member, employee, or graduate or professional student
173 as a non-voting member.

174 **Section 4: Method of Election**

175 A. Each voting member of the Assembly and undergraduate representative to the University Assembly
176 shall be elected by a single transferable voting system using the Hare Method, except as otherwise
177 provided for in this Charter.

178 **Section 5: Term of the Assembly**

179

180 A. The term of each Assembly shall commence on May 1st and expire on April 30th annually; the term
181 of each voting and non-voting member shall be coterminous with the term of the Assembly.

182

183 B. There shall be no limit as to the number of terms a member of the Assembly may serve.

184

185 C. Each member shall take the oath of office and shall be bound to that oath for the duration of their
186 term prior to being seated.

187 **Section 6: Advisor and Advisory Board**

188 A. The University President may appoint one administrator or faculty member to serve as an advisor
189 to the Assembly.

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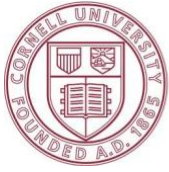
191 B. There shall be board to advise the Assembly known as the “Student Assembly Advisory Board,
192 which shall herein after be referred to as the “Advisory Board.”

193

194 C. It shall be the responsibility of the Advisory Board to provide the Assembly with counsel and
195 guidance.

196

197 D. The Advisory Board shall consist of six alumni of Cornell University each of whom shall have
198 served either as a member of the Student Assembly or as a Student Elected Trustee; two members
199 of the Faculty Senate; the University President or their designee; two members of the Assembly;
200 and four other individuals whose qualifications shall be determined in the Bylaws of the Student
201 Assembly.



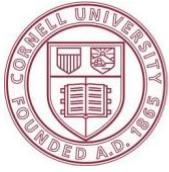
- 202
203 E. Each member of the Advisory Board, except for the University President, shall be appointed and
204 may be removed by the Assembly.

205 **Section 7: Attendance Requirement**

- 206
207 A. Each voting member of the Assembly shall be required to attend all regularly scheduled and special
208 meetings of the Assembly.
209
210 B. The Assembly may adopt rules governing the attendance of voting members and non-voting
211 members and sanctions for violation of such rules including removal from the Assembly; however,
212 the Assembly shall adopt no rule that permits or requires the removal of a voting member for their
213 absence from no fewer than four regularly scheduled meetings.
214
215 C. The Assembly may not adopt attendance rules that interfere with the observance of a religious or
216 cultural holiday.

217 **Section 8: Vacancies**

- 218
219 A. A vacancy shall exist in the office of a voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate
220 representative to the University Assembly before the expiration of the term of office upon the death,
221 resignation, removal, recall, disqualification, declination of or failure to elect a duly qualified
222 officeholder.
223
224 B. A vacancy that exists in the office of any voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate
225 representative to the University Assembly between May 1st and the conclusion of the Spring
226 Semester, shall be filled by the candidate attaining the second greatest number of votes in the most
227 recent election for the same office.
228
229 C. A vacancy that exists in the office of any voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate
230 representative to the University Assembly following the conclusion of the Spring Semester shall
231 be filled by the Assembly. At the next regularly scheduled meeting following the creation of the
232 vacancy, the vacancy shall be filled by a roll-call vote; the vacancy shall not be filled without a
233 two-thirds affirmative vote of the seated membership of the Assembly.
234
235 D. In the period between the creation of a vacancy in the office of President or Executive Vice
236 President and the election of a new officeholder, pursuant to Subsections B and C of Section 8 of
237 this Charter, the office shall remain vacant. The Assembly, by majority vote, may choose to
238 exercise the powers of the vacant office of President or Executive Vice President, as needed to
239 continue the proper functioning of the Assembly.



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- 240
241 E. In the period between the creation of a vacancy in the office of President and the election of a new
242 officeholder, pursuant to Subsection B and C of this section, the order of precedence of the
243 Officers, as established by the Bylaws, shall be used to determine who shall preside at meetings of
244 the Assembly as Acting Chair. The Acting Chair shall exercise no authorities otherwise delegated
245 to the President except those as necessary for convening and presiding over the Assembly.
246
- 247 F. Any undergraduate student shall be eligible to fill a vacancy, provided they meet the qualifications
248 to hold office set forth in this article; notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, a vacancy in
249 the office of a Representative At-Large elected by virtue of attaining the second greatest number
250 of in either the most recent election for President or Executive Vice President of the Assembly,
251 may, for the remainder of the term of the Assembly in which the vacancy was created, be filled by
252 as though the office were that of a directly elected Representative At-Large.

253 **Section 9: Recall of Voting Members**

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- 255 A. Each voting member of the Assembly may be recalled by their constituency. To be recalled through
256 a member's respective constituency, the following procedure shall be followed in the given order:
257
- 258 1. A petition for the recall of the specific Assembly voting member will be registered with
259 the Office of the Assemblies before any signatures are obtained.
260
 - 261 2. Petitioning for recall shall last for a period of not more than fourteen days from the
262 registration of the petition. The required number of signatures shall be, for representatives
263 from a school or college, fifty percent plus one or one thousand from that constituency,
264 whichever is less, for at-large representatives, 15% of the student body. The petition will
265 be presented to the Office of the Assemblies.
266
 - 267 3. An informational forum will be scheduled and held within not more than one week of the
268 presentation of the petition, where a discussion of the recall will occur. The Assembly
269 voting member must have a reasonable opportunity to attend the forum.
270
 - 271 4. A special recall election will be scheduled for and held within not more than three days
272 after the informational hearing.
273
 - 274 5. Should the constituency vote to recall its representative, the seat shall be declared vacant.
275
- 276 B. The Assembly may only recall a voting member by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the seated
277 members of the Assembly.
278

279 **Section 9: Responsibilities of Voting Members**



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- 280 A. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies are required to make a
281 reasonable effort to arrange at least two meetings a semester with their respective academic dean
282 or associate dean(s) to discuss college/school specific issues and concerns. These representatives
283 will then report back to the Student Assembly at the next regularly scheduled SA meeting briefing
284 the Assembly on pertinent issues and occurrences that would take place as a result of these
285 meetings.
286
- 287 B. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies shall be charged with
288 gathering information about their particular college and representing their respective
289 constituencies, and voting according to their needs and desires.
290
- 291 C. All voting representatives shall host at least one forum or outreach activity with individuals from
292 their respective constituencies and report all outcomes to the SA at the next regularly-scheduled
293 meeting following such an activity.
294
- 295 D. All representatives may communicate regularly with their constituents through e-mail mailing lists
296 and listservs, which may be maintained by their respective college dean's office, the Department
297 of Campus Life, the Office of the Dean of Students, or the Office of the Assemblies.
298
- 299 E. Any Student Assembly member, including the Vice President for Public Relations, must submit a
300 mass message (e-mail, advertisement, press release, etc.) to the Executive Board for approval. The
301 Executive Board may approve a message by a majority vote and the vote may be conducted by e-
302 mail. The e-mail records must be saved.

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