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| Originally Presented on: | (02/28/2018) |
| Type of Action: | Recommendation |
| Status/Result: | New Business |

1 S.A. Resolution #35
2 Creating an Asian American Living Learning Unit (LLU)

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5 ABSTRACT: Cornell University and Residential Student Congress recommends the creation of an
6 Asian American LLU to be included in the creation of new housing at Cornell.

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8 **Sponsored by: Shivani Parikh '19 & Savanna Lim '21**

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10 **Whereas**, Cornell University has a long tradition of cultural housing for students of minority and
11 marginalized backgrounds, seen in program houses such as Ujamaa, the Latino Living Center (LLC),
12 Akwe:kon, Holland International Living Center (HILC), and the Multicultural Living Learning Unit
13 (McLLU), and;

14 **Whereas**, a Living Learning Unit engages students fully in experiential education and co-curricular
15 learning, and;

16
17 **Whereas**, Asian Americans are Americans of Asian descent and the term refers to a panethnic
18 group that includes diverse populations which have ancestral origins in East Asia, Southeast Asia, or
19 South Asia, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau¹, and;

20 **Whereas**, Asian and Asian-American students are the only racial minority group on campus that do
21 not have a cultural residential area and solely have the Asian & Asian-American Center (A3C) and
22 Asian American Studies Program (AASP) office as designated identity spaces, and;

23 **Whereas**, Cornell University and the Student Assembly are committed to creating and maintaining
24 an atmosphere of diversity and inclusion on this campus, and;

25 **Whereas**, Cornell University and the Student Assembly acknowledges, through their commitment
26 to diversity and inclusion, the needs of all students, and;

27 **Whereas**, it is essential for Asian & Asian-American individuals to connect with their peers, their
28 heritage, and their cultural community so that they may too find themselves with students who
29 identify with comparable histories, migrational journeys and backgrounds, and;

30 **Whereas**, visibility of Asian & Asian-American individuals through such a living learning unit is
31 essential to their efforts to dispel the Model Minority Myth; to demonstrate their cultural diversity
32 and work against stereotypes perpetuated by the ideas of the “Yellow Peril,” the “Hindoo Invasion,”
33 Islamophobia, and more broadly xenophobia; and to celebrate their hyphenated identities and
34 relationships with the lands in Asia that their ancestors call home, and;

¹ A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.



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35 **Whereas**, an Asian & Asian-American space would be able to support all Asian & Asian-American
36 individuals and be able to supplement the Cornell Asian & Asian-American Center (A3C) in
37 providing more dedicated spaces to Asian & Asian-American individuals, and;

38 **Whereas**, this model of an Asian & Asian-American Living Learning Unit, consisting of one floor
39 of a residence hall, has been successful at peer institutions including but not limited to, Dartmouth
40 College², University of California at Berkeley³, Amherst College⁴, and;

41 **Whereas**, currently Vice President Student and Campus Life Ryan Lombardi and many individuals
42 of the Cornell community are involved in the implementation of the Housing Master Plan, and;

43 **Whereas**, the implementation of the Housing Master Plan allows for the strategic implementation
44 of an Asian & Asian-American Living Learning Unit, and;

45 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the Student Assembly endorses and wishes to to create an Asian &
46 Asian-American Living Learning Unit, and;

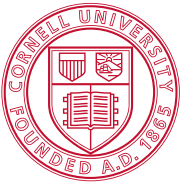
47 **Be it finally resolved**, the creation of the program living learning unit be implemented with a task
48 force that benefits from the consultation of Asian & Asian American individuals including, but not
49 limited to, a representative of Residential Student Congress, the Asian & Asian American Center
50 (A3C) staff and interns, the Facilitator of Cornell Asian Pacific Student Union (CAPSU), the
51 President of South Asian Council (SAC), Asian & Asian-American members in Residential and New
52 Student Programs (RNSP), and anyone else deemed necessary.

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² The Asian and Asian American Living Learning Community is a residential community base for all Dartmouth students interested in engaging with issues specific to Asian/Asian American identity and the histories of trans-Pacific migrations, regardless of prior knowledge base or racial identification.

³ The Asian Pacific American Theme House (APATH) was established in 1992 and is a residence for students who have an interest in Asian American and Pacific Islander history, culture, and contemporary issues. APATH provides a small community experience in a large university. The program offers a dynamic environment for interaction and learning through academic and social activities such as group discussions, cultural events, and community service. A live-in theme program assistant provides resources and support for residents' social and academic needs. Our academic seminar brings together students and faculty, alumni, community leaders, activists, and other speakers to discuss a variety of topics. Through social and academic activities, students gain leadership skills, form a close-knit community, and have fun.

⁴ The Asian Culture House was established to enhance awareness of all Asian cultures and to promote cultural diversity on campus. Each semester, members are required to organize one event that pertains to Asian culture and to attend events organized by fellow members. These projects are excellent opportunities to increase visibility and impact on campus. The Asian Culture House currently occupies the first floor of Morrow residence hall. The House is open to all students. In fact, it is vital to the success of the House to include people of all nationalities and cultures who are interested in Asian culture. Students are not required to be Asian or to speak an Asian language. Any and all those who possess an interest in Asian culture are strongly encouraged to apply. Sincere interest, strong commitment, and enthusiasm are most sought in applicants.



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54 **Respectfully Submitted,**

55 Shivani Parikh '19

56 *Residential Student Congress Liaison, Student Assembly*

57 *President, South Asian Council*

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59 Savanna Lim '21

60 *Freshman Representative, Student Assembly*

61 *Member, Chinese Students Association*

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63 Omar Din '19

64 *Board Member, Muslim Educational & Cultural Association*

65 *HumEc Rep, Student Assembly*

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67 Anuush Vejalla '20

68 *Vice President, South Asian Council*

69 *Secretary, Hindu Student Council*

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71 Hana Gabrielle Bidon '20

72 *Large Events Coordinator, Cornell Minds Matter*

73 *Member, Cornell Filipino Association*

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75 Kimaya Raje '20

76 *President, Hindu Student Council*

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78 Carunya (Caro) Achar, '18

79 *Ex Officio, South Asian Council*

80 *Student Organizer, Cornell Organization for Labor Action*

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82 Joseph Anderson '20

83 *Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly*

84 *Vice President, Residential Student Congress*

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86 Mayra Valadez '18

87 *VP Diversity & Inclusion, Student Assembly*

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89 Michelle Zhao '20

90 *President, Chinese Students Association*

91 *Programming Co-Director, East Coast Asian American Student Union*

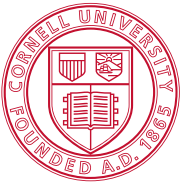
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93 Olivia Corn '19

94 *Arts and Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*

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Cornell University Student Assembly

- 97 Nancy Liang '21
98 *Marketing and Outreach Committee, East Coast Asian American Student Union*
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100 Katherine Tam '21
101 *Freshman Liaison, Chinese Students Association*
102 *Programming Committee, East Coast Asian American Student Union*
103
104 Shraddha Harshvardhan '20
105 *Chief Organizer, Let's Talk About Diversity*
106
107 Ellie Month '21
108 *Member, Student Assembly Infrastructure Committee Fund*
109
110 Benjamin Finegan '19
111 *Staff Writer, Cornell Daily Sun*
112 *Member, Student Assembly Infrastructure Committee Fund*
113
114 Derek Yan '20
115 *Member, Student Assembly Infrastructure Committee Fund*
116
117 Sarah Park '20
118 *Women's Representative, Student Assembly*
119
120 Katha Sikka '20,
121 *Member, Asha Cornell*