

Resolution 38: Supporting LGBTQ+ Students Through Promoting Identity-Based Resources on Campus

Abstract: Urging Cornell University to improve upon its manner of promulgating information of the LGBTQIA+ resources on its campus to its student body, in response to reported inefficiencies from the Cornell LGBTQIA+ community.

Sponsored by: Karys Everett '25, Claire Ting '25

Reviewed by: D&I Committee, Voted 6-0-5, 04/12/2023

Type of Action: Recommendation

Originally Presented: 04/10/2023

Current Status: New Business

Whereas, LGBTQ+ students often hide their gender identity and sexual orientation, in fear of homophobic and/or transphobic violence

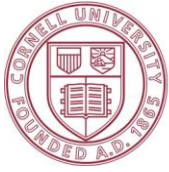
Whereas, in 2023 alone, the ACLU reports over 450 anti-LGBTQ+ bills that have been introduced at the state level, creating fear for students who reside in such states¹

Whereas, students seek sanctuary at Cornell as an inclusive community where they are supported and uplifted per Cornell's value of "Any Person, Any Study", where identity-based violence is not condoned

Whereas, now more than ever it is imperative that medical, physical, and online resources for LGBTQ+ students are made even more accessible to support the student community

Whereas, it is important that Queer students have the option to receive medical and mental care from medical staff who are not only trained in Queer medical care but identify as queer as well. In the same way individuals prefer to receive a physical from a member of the same gender, or when individuals looking for mental health physicians seek those who are not only qualified, but empathetic due to experiences of their own, Queer students reserve the right to have a health care professional that can relay expertise from personal experience with the issue

<https://www.acLU.org/legislative-attacks-on-lgbtq-rights>¹



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27 **Whereas**, communication with the LGBTQ+ Liaison of CAPS lead to them expressing that as a
28 queer individual themselves, they and other Queer advisors would feel more than comfortable
29 indicating that they identify as Queer

30 **Whereas**, there has been a communication inefficiency in connecting students to valuable on-
31 campus resources

32 **Whereas**, *Resolution 18: Expanding Awareness of Academic Programs and Opportunities* has
33 previously addressed how students have lacked knowledge of valuable academic resources due
34 to limited advertising and direct outreach to students

35 **Whereas**, a similar issue occurs with identity-based resources, where communication
36 inefficiencies create obstacles which prohibit the connection of students with necessary resources
37 of various natures

38 **Whereas**, Queer students have indicated that they knew that organizations such as the LGBT
39 Resource Center and Haven: The LGBTQ Student Union existed, but lacked awareness of the
40 scope of valuable resources that they offered, creating discouragement from further seeking
41 resources

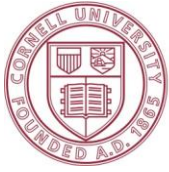
42 **Whereas**, leaders from the LGBT Resource Center and Haven have observed that the full scope
43 of their resources are not being fully utilized due to a lack of student awareness. These
44 organizations wish to increase their promulgation of resources and information; however, the
45 scope of outreach is limited to students who can find them through social media, campus groups,
46 and newsletters, creating inefficiencies in serving the student body's needs as they are unable to
47 identify who is in need

48 **Be it therefore resolved**, that Cornell and The LGBT Resource Center collaborate in order to
49 promote and provide a channel of central access and connection, such as creating features on
50 platforms like Student Center, where students can opt-in to receiving more detailed information
51 regarding various LGBTQ+ resources on-campus

52 **Be it further resolved**, providing an option to opt-out (temporarily or permanently) if receiving
53 this type of material poses a danger to the student's safety on the grounds of identity-based
54 discrimination

55 **Be it further resolved**, that Cornell and the Deans of their respective colleges promote and
56 provide LGBTQ+ resources in neutral, high foot traffic areas of information to produce higher
57 visibility of said resources with actions such as but not limited to:

- 58
- Highlighting LGBTQ+ centered spaces along with other resources provided on campus



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- 59 • Promoting information and opportunities regarding identity-centered spaces and their events
60 through email,
61 • Making spaces like Loving House or other Co-Horts apparent as LGBTQ+ centered spaces
62 during housing selection

63 **Be it further resolved,** that there is accountability and management of the identity-based needs
64 that are promoted through Cornell, the Deans of their respective colleges, and the directors of
65 The LGBT Resource Center, ensuring that all resources and the promotion there of, stay
66 consistent and dependable for the students in need

67 **Be it further resolved,** That Cornell equips freshman and transfer orientation leaders with a list
68 of LGBTQ+ resources to make available for new students, allowing for students who are not
69 comfortable publicly seeking these resources, to have a neutral point of reception

70 **Be it further resolved,** That the university allow (by preference of the provider), an indication
71 of which health providers like CAPS identify as queer

72 **Be it further resolved,** That the university strengthen their relationship with the LGBTQ+
73 Resource Center and Haven: The LGBTQ Student Union, to create a centralized listing of
74 various resources and programs on campus in an easily navigable online platform.

75 **Be it finally resolved,** For Cornell to express support for its LGBTQ+ student population to hold
76 true to its motto of “Any person, any study” after a national wave of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation

77 **Respectfully Submitted,**

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79 *LGBTQIA+ Liaison at Large, Student Assembly*

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81 Claire Ting '25

82 *Representative to the School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Student Assembly*