Resolution 43: Authorizing the Transfer of Reserve Funds to Black Students United (BSU)

Abstract: This resolution authorizes the transfer of $24,378 from the Student Assembly’s reserve funds to Black Students United (BSU) to fund their annual trip to Washington, DC.

Sponsored by: Aissatou Barry ’24, George Rocco DeLorenzo ’24, Gracelynn Osei-Bosompem ’25, Naana Owusu ’25

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 11/29/2023

Type of Action: Resolution

Originally Presented: 11/30/2023

Current Status: Drafted

Whereas, the Student Assembly has an obligation to allocate funds in the best interest of the Cornell University student body.

Whereas, the Student Activity Funding Commission (SAFC) maintains significant rollover funds in its reserve account;

Whereas, Black Students United is planning a bus trip to the Washington D.C. area on February 23rd, 2024 to February 26th, 2024 for 38 members;

Whereas, Black Students United tried to plan this bus trip event last year, but ran into logistical issues with Cornell University because of the various Policies or Procedures restricting travel;

Whereas, Black Students United has planned this trip to adhere to the various travel Policies or Procedures and Campus Activities Universal Funding Guidelines1 in order to ensure this event can occur in the Spring 2024 semester;

Whereas, the Student Activity Funding Commission, as established in Section 2, Appendix A of the Charter of the Student Assembly, is the “designated finance commission of the Student Assembly”;

Whereas, the amount of money being requested by Black Students United is significantly less than the total sum of money SAFC has agreed to allow the Student Assembly access to in the 2023-2024 AY;

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1 Campus Activities Universal Funding Guidelines
Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly mandates that the $24,378 transferred from the reserve account to be earmarked for usage towards the transportation and lodging for Black Students United’s trip to Washington, DC.

Be it therefore resolved, Black Students United has an obligation to adhere to all Cornell University Policies and Procedures related to travel guidelines, including registering their travel with Campus Groups and include a Student Organization Travel Addendum and connecting with the Office of Risk Management and Insurance for proper travel waivers;

Be it further resolved, should this planned bus trip be canceled or otherwise not occur, or total expenses be less than the expenses elements outlined in their proposed budget, Black Students United will be required to give back to the Student Assembly all the unspent allocated monies proposed for this trip.

Respectfully Submitted,

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