



Bylaws

Cornell University Student Assembly

As amended on August 30, 2018

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4 **ARTICLE I: EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

5 **Section 1: Ex-officio Membership**

6 Ex-officio membership grants members of the Cornell community (student, alumni, faculty, staff, administrator, etc.)
7 full-debating privileges but not voting privileges. These positions are granted to community members to either
8 provide a perspective from another governing body or to enhance the overall operations of the Student Assembly.

9 **Section 2: Ex-Officio Executive Committee Positions**

- 10 A. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell community to serve as the
11 Executive Archivist.
12 B. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell community to serve as the
13 Parliamentarian.
14 C. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve as Director
15 of Elections.

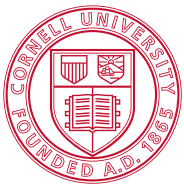
16 **Section 3: Organizational Liaisons**

- 17 A. The SA shall grant one member chosen by the Greek Tri-Councils an ex-officio position as an
18 organizational liaison. The liaison chosen by the Tri-Councils shall be selected on a rotating basis from
19 the three councils, beginning with a representative of InterFraternity Council, following with Panhellenic
20 Association, and finishing with Multicultural Greek Letter Council. Each liaison will serve for one
21 semester, and a liaison from the next council in the rotation will be granted membership at the beginning
22 of the following semester.
23 B. The SA will grant one executive member from Residential Student Congress an ex-officio position as an
24 organizational liaison.

25 **Section 4: Shared Governance Liaisons**

- 26 A. Student Trustees. The SA will grant the Student Trustees ex-officio positions as shared governance
27 liaisons for the duration of their terms.
28 B. Undergraduate University Assembly Members. The SA will grant both student-elected University
29 Assembly members ex-officio positions for the duration of their terms.

30 **ARTICLE II: OFFICERS**



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31 **Section 1: Officers**

32 The officers of the SA shall be a President, an Executive Vice President, a Vice President of Internal Operations, a
33 Vice President for Finance, a Vice President of External Affairs, a Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion, a
34 Director of Elections, a Parliamentarian, and an Executive Archivist. These officers shall perform the duties
35 prescribed by this Charter and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the SA.

36 **Section 2: Election and Appointment of Officers, Time of Election/Appointment**

37 The SA will, as soon as possible after the spring election, hold an organizational and planning meeting in executive
38 session. At this meeting, the voting members will elect from among themselves the offices of Vice President of
39 Internal Operations, Vice President for Finance, a Vice President of External Affairs, a Vice President of Diversity
40 and Inclusion. At this meeting or a meeting soon after, the voting members will elect from the Cornell community
41 (student, employee, faculty, alumnus living in Ithaca) the office of Director of Elections. Self-nomination will be in
42 order in each of the elected offices. Elected officers should be approved by a majority vote of SA members present at
43 organizational meeting. Additionally, at this meeting or a meeting soon after the members will affirm the
44 appointments of Parliamentarian and Executive Archivist. The offices of Parliamentarian and Executive Archivist will
45 be appointed by the SA President. Each nominee for the respective offices shall be subject to majority approval of the
46 SA voting members. The newly elected officers will undertake the responsibilities of their position at the start of their
47 term on the SA. Elections for officers shall be by secret ballots. SA voting members may have one vote for each
48 position to be filled but may not vote for any one individual twice on any ballot.

49 **Section 3: Terms of office**

50 Officers shall serve for a term of one year or until their successor is elected and is administered the oath of office or
51 until the first of June of the year following the incumbent officer's election, whichever occurs first.

52 **Section 4: Recalling officers**

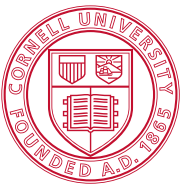
53 Two-thirds vote of the voting membership of the SA may vote to recall any officer of the SA from his or her office.

54 **ARTICLE III: OFFICER DUTIES**

55 **Section 1: President**

56 The responsibilities of the President are as follows:

- 57 1. Attend and chair all SA meetings.
- 58 2. Attend all Assemblies' leadership meetings and meetings with Executive staff.
- 59 3. Submit agenda items for leadership meetings after soliciting topics from Assembly members.
- 60 4. Serve as the primary Assembly correspondent with the administration, the media, and the student body.



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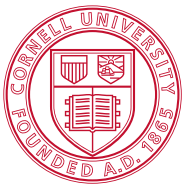
- 61 5. Correspond with the University President following each Assembly meeting enumerating all actions that are
62 passed and are under the University President's purview and to solicit his or her response.
- 63 6. Correspond with the Deans of the College of Agriculture and Life Science; College of Architecture, Art, and
64 Planning; College of Arts and Sciences; College of Engineering; School of Hotel Administration; College of
65 Human Ecology; School of Industrial and Labor Relations, College of Business; following each Assembly
66 meeting enumerating all resolutions that are passed and under the purview of each individual college and
67 school and to solicit their responses.
- 68 7. Supervise all elected officers and ensure they are discharging their responsibilities.
- 69 8. Attend all open sessions of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Trustees Executive Committee held in
70 Ithaca and report back to the Assembly on said meetings.
- 71 9. Appoint Assembly Parliamentarian and Executive Archivist.
- 72 10. Write and present annual SA report by the end of the term.
- 73 11. Consult with the Director of Elections regarding elections' advertising as long as the President is not eligible
74 for reelection.

75 **Section 2: Executive Vice President**

76 The responsibilities of the Executive Vice President are as follows:

- 77 1. Attend all SA meetings and act as Chair in the absence of the President.
- 78 2. Chair the Executive Committee
- 79 3. Assume the office of President should a vacancy arise.
- 80 4. Serve as Assembly correspondent in the absence of or on behalf of the President.
- 81 5. Attend all Assemblies' leadership meetings and meetings with Executive Staff.
- 82 6. Submit agenda items for leadership meetings after soliciting topics from Assembly members and be
83 responsible for the creation of the weekly agenda for Assembly meetings.
- 84 7. Coordinate and assist the undergraduate student UA delegation.
- 85 8. Supervise and assist all ad-hoc committees.
- 86 9. Track actions of the Assembly to ensure final disposition and confirm correspondence with appropriate units
87 when Assembly actions impact them.
- 88 10. Help initiate and organize lobby efforts at both the state and federal levels.
- 89 11. Be responsible for responding to questions or comments made during Open Microphone. Issues can be
90 delegated to other members of the Assembly.
- 91 12. Be responsible for keeping contact with University Relations and reporting on a regular basis to the SA on
92 issues that concern the student body.
- 93 13. Oversee the Committees on Health and Wellness, Academic Affairs, the Environment, and Residential Life
94 by assisting and advising the committee chairs, attending meetings as necessary, and holding monthly
95 executive sessions with all committee chairs.
- 96 14. Plan fall retreat for committee chairs with the Vice President of Internal Operations.
- 97 15. Coordinate and supervise new member orientation with the Vice President of Internal Operations.

98 **Section 3: Vice President of Internal Operations**



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99 The responsibilities of the Vice President of Internal Operations are as follows:

- 100 1. Attend all SA meetings and act as Chair in the absence of the President and Executive Vice President.
- 101 2. Assume the office of Executive Vice President should a vacancy arise.
- 102 3. Chair the SA when the Assembly is in executive session.
- 103 4. Chair the Executive Cabinet.
- 104 5. Monitor committee membership.
- 105 6. Coordinate and supervise all aspects of the SA cabinet in Willard Straight Hall.
- 106 7. Maintain and monitor SA attendance records and send warning notices to members who are in jeopardy of
- 107 violating the Assembly attendance policy.
- 108 8. Oversee all SA committees by assisting and advising the committee chairs, attending meetings as necessary,
- 109 and ensuring that any vacancies are filled.
- 110 9. Enforce committee attendance and outreach requirements for all voting SA members.
- 111 10. Coordinate and supervise new member orientation with the Executive Vice President.
- 112 11. Supervise SA Liaisons.
- 113 12. Maintain relations with intercollegiate student organizations of which the SA is a member — e.g. Ivy Council,
- 114 SUNY Student Assembly.
- 115 13. Plan fall retreat for committee chairs with the Executive Vice President.

116 **Section 4: Vice President for Finance**

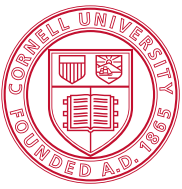
117 The responsibilities of the Vice President for Finance are as follows:

- 118 1. Serve as SA treasurer and report to the Assembly regarding Assembly balances in December and May.
- 119 2. Chair the Appropriations Committee.
- 120 3. Propose the Student Assembly's budget in the form of a resolution by one of the first two general assembly
- 121 meetings of each SA term.
- 122 4. Coordinate and chair meetings of Student Activity Fee recipients and draft proposal to SA regarding
- 123 establishing new fee, biannually.
- 124 5. Meet with GPSA members to discuss the Student Activity Fee Guidelines, which appear as Charter
- 125 appendices, at least once per semester.
- 126 6. Oversee the Financial Aid Review Committee and the Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund Commission by
- 127 assisting and advising the committee chairs and attending meetings as necessary.

128 **Section 5: Vice President for External Operations**

129 The responsibilities of the Vice President of External Affairs are as follows:

- 130 1. Coordinate constituency representatives' community outreach efforts (including, but not limited to,
- 131 community forums, meetings with Deans, internal school governments, etc.);
- 132 2. Invite all relevant stakeholders to Student Assembly meetings, when the weekly agenda is released;
- 133 3. Devise mechanisms for student organizations to become active members in the decision making process of
- 134 the SA; most importantly, committees;



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- 135 4. Oversee the City and Local Affairs Committee and the Technology Committee by assisting and advising the
136 committee chair and attending meetings as necessary;
137 5. Chair the Communications and Outreach Committee;
138 6. Consult with the Director of Elections regarding elections' advertising;
139 7. Arrange all advertising, postering, banners, social media, etc.;
140 8. Serve as a liaison to relevant news sources;
141 9. Serve as editor of SA newsletter to be sent over email to the entire undergraduate student body at least two
142 times/semester. The newsletter should include the current month's accomplishments and next month's plans,
143 accompanied by the name of a contact person to whom comments and questions may be addressed. Maintain
144 contact with Student Assembly alumni through distribution of the biannual Student Assembly newsletter to
145 any interested alumni;
146 10. Monitor and maintain all aspects of the Student Assembly website at <http://cornellsa.com>.

147 **Section 6: Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion**

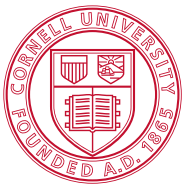
148 The responsibilities of the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion are as follows:

- 149 1. Chair the Diversity and Inclusion Committee;
150 2. Serve as a direct link between the SA and the Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives, as well as the Center
151 for Intercultural Dialogue;
152 3. Undergo a diversity training session provided by Human Resources and/or OADI;
153 4. Prepare training sessions for the SA on addressing issues of diversity along with the Vice President of
154 External Affairs;
155 5. Meet at least monthly with the Associate Vice Provost (OADI) and the Associate Dean of Students/Director
156 of Intercultural Programs;
157 6. Meet on an as-needed basis with other administrators and staff concerning diversity initiatives;
158 7. Attend the Diversity Community meetings on a semesterly basis;
159 8. Maintain communication with the individual diversity councils of the colleges;
160 9. Ensure that legislative acts of the SA are culturally inclusive;
161 10. Provide updates on the state of diversity at Cornell and work to align the SA with University initiatives;
162 11. Work with University-sponsored programs such as the Pre-freshmen Summer Program and Diversity
163 Hosting Month to introduce new students to the governance system of Cornell;
164 12. Coordinate with the Vice President of External Affairs to effectively communicate with groups that advocate
165 for underrepresented students on campus.
166 13. Coordinate with the Vice President of External Affairs to effectively communicate with groups that advocate
167 for underrepresented groups on campus.

168 **Section 7: Director of Elections**

169 The responsibilities of the Director of Elections are as follows:

- 170 1. Chair the Elections Committee and report all the activities of said committee to the general SA;



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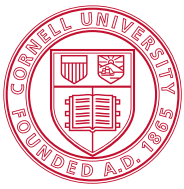
- 171 2. Assume responsibility for all aspects of the Fall and Spring elections and coordinate all efforts with the
172 Director of the Office of the Assemblies, the VP of External Affairs, and the President;
173 3. Serve as SA correspondent for election matters;
174 4. Ensure that the Elections Committee is successfully completing the following tasks:
175 a. Making every effort to ensure the greatest number of candidates for each available position,
176 b. Ensuring all candidates are aware of and abiding by elections, campaigning, postering, and other
177 Assembly and University policies,
178 c. Coordinating and advertising an informal “Meet the Candidates Forum”,
179 d. Coordinating and advertising opportunities for candidates to make public appearances,
180 e. Coordinating and advertising public forums specifically for candidates to discuss any ballot referenda, if
181 such forums are deemed necessary by the Executive Board,
182 f. Contacting student organizations and informing them of the elections process and encouraging them to
183 send delegates to elections activities in order to report candidates’ stances on relevant issues to their
184 organizations,
185 g. Ensuring that candidates have submitted pictures and statements
186 h. Making every effort to achieve the highest possible voter turnout by advertising and assisting the Office
187 of the Assemblies in the coordination of elections days;
188 5. Make sure, in conjunction with the VP of External Operations, that there are a substantial number of
189 potential ballot referenda to be considered for approval by the SA, and that all approved referenda are
190 advertised along with all elections activities described in #5 above (especially c. and e.).

191 **Section 8: Parliamentarian**

192 The Parliamentarian need not be an SA member. The office of Parliamentarian holds no special voting privileges. The
193 Parliamentarian also may not hold the President or Executive Vice President positions. The responsibilities of the
194 Parliamentarian are as follows:

- 195 1. Advise the President and committee chairs on questions of parliamentary procedure;
196 2. Classify new actions brought before the SA into the categories specified in Article III, Section 2, Item A of
197 the SA Charter;
198 3. Upon a specific request by an SA voting member, the Parliamentarian shall give the Assembly his/her
199 recommendation on a parliamentary inquiry;
200 4. The Parliamentarian shall present a workshop on parliamentary procedure and this charter to the incoming
201 assembly, preferably before the end of the spring semester but no later than the fourth week of the fall
202 semester;
203 5. The Parliamentarian shall count a hand vote to discern simple majority from the gallery, where all eligible
204 voters sit in a designated area;
205 6. The Parliamentarian shall coordinate with the Office of Assemblies to ensure that the SA governing
206 documents are public and reflect the changes made by the SA.

207 **Section 9: Executive Archivist**



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208 The Executive Archivist need not be an SA member. The office of Executive Archivist holds no special voting
209 privileges. The Executive Archivist also may not hold the President or Executive Vice President positions. The
210 Executive Archivist shall be responsible for verifying the novelty or precedence of any proposed action or legislation
211 with Assembly members, or others, bring before the Executive Board.

212 **Section 10: Offices of Officers**

213 The President, Executive Vice President, and Vice President of Internal Operations will each have independent
214 offices titled respectively: "The Office of the President, The Office of the Executive Vice President, The Office of the
215 Vice President of Internal Operations." Members of each office will aid their respective officer in the execution of any
216 requested tasks and duties. Members of each Office will be appointed by the respective officer's discretion and will
217 not require further Student Assembly approval. Members of each Office will be included in both the general Student
218 Assembly Listserv and the Executive Board Listserv.

219 **ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS**

220 **Section 1: Regular Meetings**

221 Regular meeting times and places will be publicly announced at least 72 hours-prior to the scheduled meeting date.

222 **Section 2: Special Meetings**

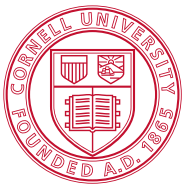
- 223 A. The President may convene special meetings of the SA to consider issues of immediate and pressing concern.
224 The President will also call a special meeting after being instructed to do so by six of the voting members of
225 the SA.
- 226 B. Conflicts- If there is a major conflict that affects a significant portion of the undergraduate student body,
227 such as a religious conflict, any member may direct the SA president to call a special meeting in lieu of the
228 regularly scheduled meeting. The request must be made 2 weeks in advance of the regularly scheduled
229 meeting at issue.

230 **Section 3: Organizational Meeting**

231 The first meeting of the academic year shall be known as the Organizational Meeting and shall be for the purpose of
232 adopting the schedule for regular meetings and approving the standing rules.

233 **Section 4: Informal meetings**

234 The SA shall hold an informal meeting as events warrant at the discretion of the Executive Board. This meeting will
235 be reserved for informal discussions between SA members and other interested parties, to set goals and priorities for
236 the upcoming weeks. No legislation can be decided upon during these informal sessions. The attendance policy will
237 remain in effect during the meeting.



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238 **Section 5: Executive Session**

239 With the concurrence of two-thirds of the voting members in attendance, the SA or any of its committees may go into
240 executive session during a regularly scheduled meeting only to discuss confidential matters as defined by this Charter.
241 No policy determinations will be made in executive session. The Student Assembly may also hold executive sessions
242 for internal elections and planning purposes. Executive session shall be closed to non-voting, non-executive members
243 of the assembly. Community members may be invited by the assembly to participate in an executive session. Secret
244 ballot votes shall be reserved for executive sessions.

245 **Section 6: Quorum**

246 A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members of the SA.

247 **Section 7: Community Votes**

- 248 A. Should there only be one undergraduate ex-officio non-elected member in attendance, he or she will only be
249 allocated one vote.
- 250 B. The community clause may only be exercised on final votes of sense-of-body resolutions, which excludes (1)
251 funding and budgetary decisions, (2) amendments to the SA Charter and Standing Rules, (3) the ability to
252 make motions, (4) creation/dissolution of committees (5) selection of officers, committee members, and
253 liaisons from the popularly elected SA (i.e. allocation of the Student Activity Fee, approval of Parliamentarian,
254 Liaison to the Provost, etc.).
- 255 C. Prior to the final vote of a resolution, qualifying undergraduate members of the community will be permitted
256 to cast their vote. The President will announce to the Assembly the collective vote of the gallery and liaisons
257 prior to the casting of popularly elected members' votes on any given sense-of-the-body resolution. Both
258 community votes will be allocated to the side that has a simple majority.
- 259 D. Any member of the undergraduate student body can request, at the beginning of a meeting, that the current
260 status of all students wishing to participate in a community vote be validated. Each member of the
261 community must then present their Cornell IDs to the Parliamentarian, who will subsequently validate their
262 status as undergraduates via the Cornell website.

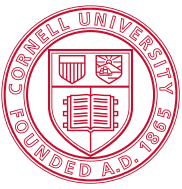
263 **Section 8: Regularly Scheduled Meetings for Purposes of the Student Assembly**

264 **Attendance Policy**

- 265 A. Attendance at all organizational and specially scheduled meetings is required, when the Executive Committee
266 provides SA members at least 72-hours prior notice of the meeting.
- 267 B. Any member who fails to attend a required meeting or event shall be considered absent. Any late arrival or
268 early departure from a required meeting will result in a half-absence. This includes Executive Sessions.

269 **ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

270 **Section 1: Composition**



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271 The Executive Board shall be composed of the officers of the SA. The Executive Archivist, the Director of Elections
272 and the Parliamentarian serve as non-voting members of the Executive Board.

273 **Section 2: Duties**

274 The Executive Board of the SA shall coordinate the actions of the SA to ensure its smooth operation, set the agenda
275 for the Regular Meetings of the SA and inform all relevant parties of Executive Cabinet decisions. Additionally, the
276 board shall send its minutes to all representatives within 24 hours of its meeting.

277 **Section 3: Meetings**

278 The Executive Board shall hold meetings at least once a week during the academic year. Special meetings of the Board
279 may be called by the Executive Vice President and shall be called upon the written request of four members of the
280 board.

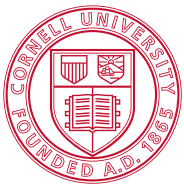
281 **ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES**

282 **Section 1: Creation and Maintenance of Committees**

- 283 A. Committees will be established with the adoption of a committee charge to be included in these bylaws. A
284 committee's charge must be adopted and placed in these Bylaws before its bylaws are to be considered.
285 Committee bylaws shall be adopted with a majority vote.
- 286 B. Any member of any SA committee or commission (except for the Appropriations committee, Executive
287 Committee, and Elections committee) who will be an undergraduate for the entirety of the following SA term
288 and who requests to maintain their membership during the transition from one SA term to the next may do
289 so at the discretion of the committee's outgoing chair. The chair of the committee or commission will
290 transmit the names of any returning members or commissioners to both the outgoing and newly elected Vice
291 Presidents of Internal Operations by the last day of classes in May. The Vice President of Internal Operations
292 will ensure that all returning committee or commission members are staffed and included on the appropriate
293 listserv once the new SA term begins on June 1st and will inform each chair of any returning members or
294 commissioners.
- 295 C. For the purposes of communication and collaboration, the President and all Vice Presidents of the Student
296 Assembly will serve as ex-officio non-voting members of all Student Assembly committees and commissions
297 on which they do not serve as voting members. This policy does not apply to the Appropriations Committee,
298 Infrastructure Fund Commission, and Elections Committee.

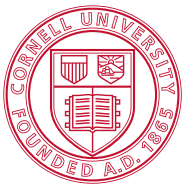
299 **Section 2: Review Committees**

- 300 D. Review Committees shall review all policies, programs, and actions and shall aid in the budget/program
301 planning process of sectors of the University that create policy directly affecting student life.
- 302 E. The Vice President for Student and Campus Life shall appoint a staff member to work with the chairperson
303 of certain review committee to assure proper functioning of the committee.



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- 304 F. Undergraduate members of the review committees will be designated by the appropriate constituency bodies
305 and by application. All non-Student Assembly members will be subject to the approval of the SA.
- 306 G. Review committees will discuss program assessment/planning documents with the SA during the fall
307 semester as part of the committee's responsibility for the areas under their jurisdiction.
- 308 H. Review committees will be convened in the beginning of the fall semester by the VP Internal Operations.
- 309 I. Furthermore, the Student Assembly review committees reserve, can, and should exercise at their discretion
310 legislative authority over residential life policies of the University (i.e. the Department of Campus Life and the
311 Office of the Dean of Students). When exercising this authority, review committees are recommended to
312 consult the Residential Student Congress of Cornell.
- 313 J. **Committee on Dining Services** – The Committee on Dining Services will work to represent student
314 interests in the Cornell food system. The committee will consist of at least one faculty member, two Dining
315 student workers and/or Dining Student Sustainability Coordinators, two voting SA members, one
316 graduate/professional student, and at least ten additional students. The VP of Internal Operations for the
317 Student Assembly will recommend additional students to both the committee Chair and the Executive
318 Cabinet for their approval. Additionally, the Director of Dining (or a designee) and the Budget Director of
319 Dining shall serve ex-officio. The Chair, who does not have to be a SA member, will work with the Director
320 to select relevant administrators and staff to be present at meetings. Members will collectively review the
321 policies and initiatives of Dining Services, and make recommendations to Student Assembly and Dining
322 Services leadership for improving existing policies or integrating new ideas.
- 323 K. **Health and Wellness Committee** – The Committee will develop initiatives and plan events on campus that
324 promote student health, wellness, and safety. The committee will engage organizations relevant to the
325 committee's mission including Cornell police, Gannett Health Services, the Skorton Center, CUEMS, Minds
326 Matter and any other organizations deemed relevant by the committee chair or Executive Vice President. The
327 committee's chair in collaboration with the Executive Vice President will develop a functional structure for
328 the committee and any additional positions shall be filled by the chair and Executive Vice President. The
329 Health and Wellness Committee will also address student concerns with campus safety by coordinating with
330 the University Assembly when necessary. The chair position can be held by any member of the Cornell
331 undergraduate student population, and the committee will be under the supervision of the Executive Vice
332 President
- 333 L. **Environmental Policy and Planning Commission** – The commission will research issues affecting the
334 campus and its surrounding area, as well as provide recommendations for reducing Cornell's environmental
335 impact. The Environmental Policy and Planning Commission will be charged with creating new legislation
336 and enforcing past environmental legislation. This commission is also charged with providing environmental
337 education and outreach in order to better inform students and the campus community about the campus's
338 environmental impact and sustainability issues. The Environmental Policy and Planning Commission will
339 work closely with students, administrators, student environmental organizations, the Cornell Sustainability
340 Office, the Campus Planning Committee, the Campus Infrastructure Committee, and the City and Town of
341 Ithaca Sustainability to better recognize and address the environmental concerns of the campus and its
342 community as well as to encourage collaboration in working toward the creation of a more sustainable
343 environment. The chair position can be held by any member of the Cornell undergraduate student population
344 and the committee will be under the supervision of the Executive Vice President.
- 345 M. **City and Local Affairs Committee** – This committee will advocate on behalf of students' interest at the city
346 and county government levels. In addition to its advocacy work, the committee will organize events that

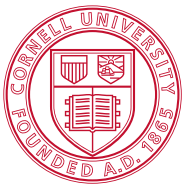


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- 347 foster a sense of engagement in the Ithaca community for Cornell students. The chair position can be held
348 by any member of the Cornell undergraduate student population and the committee will be under the
349 supervision of the Vice President of External Operations.
- 350 N. **Academic Policy Committee** – The committee will advise the Student Assembly on all academic matters at
351 Cornell. Committee members will research, review, recommend, and develop projects to improve academic
352 life for the student body. This committee will work closely with the Dean of Students and the Faculty Senate
353 to ensure that students’ concerns related to academic policy are voiced effectively to university officials. The
354 chair position can be held by any member of the Cornell undergraduate student population and the
355 committee will be under the supervision of Executive Vice President.
- 356 O. **Financial Aid Review Committee** – The committee will examine the financial aid policies of Cornell
357 University. It shall also be responsible for the administration of the Student Helping Students grant. The
358 committee shall consist of a chair, up to two SA members, between five and ten undergraduate students, at
359 least four-fifths of whom receive some form of institutionalized financial aid. The Associate Vice Provost for
360 Enrollment, the Directors of Financial Aid, the Associate Director of Financial Aid for Customer Service and
361 Community Relations, a counselor from the Office of Financial Aid, two faculty members, and the Vice
362 President for Student and Academic Services shall serve as ex-officio non-voting members. This committee
363 will be under the supervision of the Vice President for Finance.

364 Section 3: Operational Committees

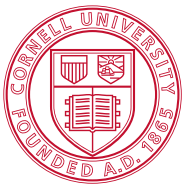
- 365 A. Operational Committees shall maintain the proper functioning of the internal organization of the SA, and
366 shall therefore facilitate the full expression of the SA’s responsibilities to the Cornell student body.
- 367 B. Operational committees shall be convened in the beginning of the fall semester, or when the committee’s
368 function prescribes, by the Committee on Committee Structure (or its successor body) in coordination with
369 interested SA voting members.
- 370 C. **Appropriations Committee** – The Appropriations Committee of the SA is the financial branch of the SA. It
371 reviews all requests for SA funding as well as the policies and guidelines regarding the Student Activity Fee
372 and those organizations, which receive funding from it. The Committee shall consist of 8 voting members of
373 the SA, to be selected by the Assembly at large during their organizational meetings; the VP Finance, who
374 shall serve as Chair; and 7 undergraduates at-large to be selected by the Executive Cabinet. The Director of
375 the Office of the Assemblies or their designee shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member. No SAFC
376 Commissioners shall serve as voting members of the Committee. Quorum shall be defined as a simple
377 majority of all voting members. A designee of the chair shall take minutes at all meetings.
- 378 a. **Financial Organization Review Committee** – The Financial Organization Review Committee
379 (FORC) operates as a subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. The Committee will be
380 responsible for working with the Student Activities Funding Commission (SAFC) to review all
381 organizations receiving SAFC funding and all organizations that apply for first time SAFC funding.
382 The Committee will consist of 3 members of the SA Appropriations Committee, 2 SAFC
383 commissioners, and the VP of Diversity and Inclusion. FORC will meet regularly on an as needed
384 basis but will hold at least one meeting each Spring semester that will include a full audit of all
385 existing SAFC funded organizations. FORC will review new organizations applying for SAFC
386 funding to determine (1) if there is an existing SAFC funded organization that fulfills the new
387 organization’s purpose and mission, (2) if there is an existing club that has identical or overlapping



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388 officers and/or advisor, and (3) whether the organization needs funding from SAFC to function or
389 can significantly benefit from access to SAFC funding. FORC will audit organizations currently
390 funded by SAFC to check (1) if any organizations have identical or multiple overlapping officers and
391 advisor, and (2) if there are any organizations that receive funding from multiple Orgsync profiles but
392 represent the same group. If an organization is found to clearly fall into any of these categories,
393 FORC can by majority vote declare that the organization in question is no longer in good standing
394 with SAFC, making the organization not eligible for SAFC funding. Any FORC decisions can be
395 appealed to the Appropriations Committee and overruled by a majority vote of the Appropriations
396 Committee.

- 397 **D. Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund Commission** – The SAIF Commission (SAIFC) of the SA is
398 responsible for evaluating applications for funding through the SAIF. The rules governing the operation of
399 the SAIFC are contained in Appendix C of the SA Charter. The Commission shall consist of at least 12 and
400 no more than 17 commissioners. The commissioners must include five voting members of the SA, consisting
401 of a Chair, three Assembly members elected during the Assembly’s Spring organizational meetings, and one
402 New Student voting member of the SA, internally elected by the Assembly following the Fall election. The
403 remaining commissioners will consist of at least seven and no more than twelve undergraduate students who
404 are either returning commissioners or are selected from a pool of applicants and approved by the Executive
405 Cabinet, with the exact number of commissioners to be set at the discretion of the Chair of the Commission
406 and the Staffing Committee of the SA. No SAFC Commissioners shall serve as voting members of the
407 SAIFC (with the exception of the Vice President for Finance). No more than 2 of the voting Student
408 Assembly members on the SAIFC may also be voting members of the Appropriations Committee and no
409 more than 4 of the total voting members on the committee may be voting members of the Appropriations
410 Committee. Quorum shall be defined as a simple majority of all staffed voting members. Upon request, a
411 written summary of the meeting will be provided by the chair. The Vice President for Finance and Vice
412 President of External Affairs shall serve ex-officio as non-voting members of the Commission. The Director
413 of the Office of the Assemblies or their designee shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member.
- 414 **E. Communications and Outreach Committee** – The Communications and Outreach Committee helps to
415 bridge the disconnect between campus and the Student Assembly. The Assembly strives to foster
416 collaborative student activities, as well as inform the student body about the Student Assembly initiatives,
417 meetings, and resolutions. The committee will ensure a direct and ever present link between students active in
418 campus government, the administration, and students at-large and will relay student interest to the SA. The
419 committee will assist in furthering the outreach efforts of the assembly by aiding in the coordination of SA-
420 sponsored events including, but not limited to conducting polls, referenda, community outreach forums,
421 designated constituency events, and hearings. The committee will also assist in coordinating efforts and
422 devising strategies to involve more non-voting members in the decisions and events of the SA. The Assembly
423 plans recreational events for students. The SA Vice President of External Affairs will serve as Chair of the
424 Committee.
- 425 **F. Elections Committee** – The committee will coordinate and implement regularly scheduled and special
426 elections of the SA and directly elected undergraduate representatives to the UA. The SA Director of
427 Elections shall serve as chair with a vote only in the event of a tie. The committee consists of ten voting
428 members, of whom less than half may also be members of the SA. At one of the first two SA meetings of
429 each academic year, the Executive Cabinet will present a slate of proposed members to the SA for
430 confirmation, which the SA must approve or disapprove in its entirety. The Executive Cabinet may fill any



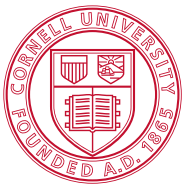
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- 431 subsequent vacancies without confirmation by the SA. No person may be a candidate in an election
432 supervised by the committee in the same academic year when the person served as a voting member of the
433 committee. All committee meetings will be closed. Only voting members will be permitted to attend the
434 meetings unless specifically invited by the Director of Elections. This committee will be chaired by the
435 Director of Elections of the Student Assembly.
- 436 G. **Executive Cabinet** – The committee shall staff any vacant committee positions the Student Assembly (SA)
437 is empowered to staff during meetings in early fall. The committee shall re-evaluate the committee application
438 outreach plan at the end of every spring term. The committee shall also evaluate SA committees' end of the
439 year report; and determine if the SA committee and/or their composition need to be changed. The
440 committee shall be charged with creating and enforcing an attendance policy for all committees. The
441 membership of this committee shall include the SA's President, Executive Vice President, Vice President for
442 Finance, Vice President of External Affairs, Vice President of Internal Operations, Vice President of
443 Diversity and Inclusion, and all SA committee chairs. Ex-officio membership shall be granted to the Director
444 of the Office of Assemblies. The VP Internal of Operations shall serve as chair. The VP of Internal
445 Operations shall be responsible for consulting with chairpersons of committees and recommending
446 candidates for vacant committee positions to the Executive Cabinet. The Executive Cabinet shall assume the
447 duties and responsibilities of the Student Assembly Staffing Committee, as referred to in other documents.

448 Section 4: Diversity

- 449 A. **Diversity and Inclusion Committee** – The committee shall serve as the body through which the SA, the
450 diversity councils of the undergraduate schools and colleges, the Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives
451 (OADI), and the Center for Intercultural Dialogue coordinate their efforts to promote awareness and
452 understanding of the increasing importance of diversity and create an environment that brings together
453 diverse perspectives and fosters diversity of thought. The charge of the Diversity and Inclusion committee
454 will be to:
- 455 a. To be a meeting grounds for interested students to meet members of the administration to
456 brainstorm, formulate and lead implementable policies in the field of diversity and inclusion.
 - 457 b. To review the efforts of the Diversity Committee and diversity councils of the colleges.
 - 458 c. To provide a brief report of its progress to be presented by the Vice President of Diversity &
459 Inclusion to the SA General Body by the final meeting in the fall semester, as well as a full report to
460 include (but not limited to) the goals of the academic year, the strategies devised for achievement of
461 these goals, the progress of UDC initiatives, college- specific initiatives, obstacles, and potential goals
462 for the next academic year to be presented in the same manner at the final meeting of the spring
463 semester.
 - 464 d. Composition
 - 465 i. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee will aim to be a collective voice of the diversity of
466 backgrounds, cultures, ethnicities, gender identities, races, religions, and sexual orientations
467 represented at Cornell.
 - 468 ii. Non-SA student representation: student members of the committee may be recruited from
469 institutions and organizations such as the diversity councils of the colleges, Women's
470 Resource Center, Center for Intercultural Dialogue, ALANA, Haven Executive board,



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- 471 Cornell Outdoor Education, International Student Union and any member of the Cornell
472 student body who is interested in diversity initiatives.
- 473 iii. Student Assembly representation: SA LGBT Liaison at-large, Women’s representative,
474 International representative, both Minority Liaisons, First Generation Students
475 Representative, and the Vice President of External Affairs are required to be members of the
476 committee.
- 477 iv. Administrative representation: this committee shall consist of at least one staff representative
478 from each of the diversity councils of the colleges; an OADI staff member; a staff
479 representative from the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies and a staff
480 representative of the Center for Intercultural Dialogue. The committee is required to meet
481 its staff representatives at least once every month in the academic year.
- 482 e. Structure
- 483 i. The Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion of the Student Assembly will chair the
484 Diversity and Inclusion committee. Ad-hoc task forces and leadership positions can be
485 created as the leadership of the committee sees fit. Task forces will be encouraged to work
486 together towards common goals.

487 **ARTICLE VII: COMMUNITY RIGHTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

488 **Section 1: Community Rights**

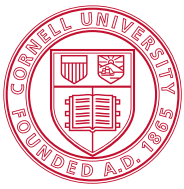
489 The SA and its committees shall respect and protect the rights of individual members of the Cornell community. All
490 members of the community, who do not otherwise have an appointed or elected position on the student assembly,
491 have the right to add a resolution to the Student Assembly Agenda as a sponsor (without the requirement of having a
492 member of the assembly being a sponsor) after gaining the approval of a Student Assembly committee through a
493 majority vote or after procuring the written signature of at least a majority of seated SA members and presenting it to
494 the SA President or their designee for verification at least 48 hours before the meeting at which the resolution is to be
495 introduced. Resolutions that appear on the agenda using either of these methods may not have more than 3 sponsors
496 who are not Student Assembly members of Student Assembly committee chairs.

497 **Section 2: Confidentiality**

498 When a subject under discussion or examination requires the use of personal confidential information, all reasonable
499 efforts shall be made to safeguard the confidentiality of this information. Confidential information is meant to include
500 any and all information that, if publicly exposed, would endanger the privacy, safety, or security of any member of the
501 Cornell community (students, faculty, and staff), or constitute a breach of any individual right guaranteed by the
502 University, the State of New York, or the federal government.

503 **Section 3: Infringement of Confidentiality**

504 If any member or group of the University feels that any action of the SA or its committees is infringing upon that
505 person’s or that group’s rights under this Article, then that person or group may appeal to the Judicial Codes



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506 Counselor (JCC) to determine whether probable grounds exist for a complaint. By majority vote, the SA may suspend
507 any actions related to an appeal to the JCC until the JCC makes a final ruling on the appeal.

508 **ARTICLE VIII: PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

509 **Section 1: Public Events and Campus Forums**

510 The SA shall conduct at least one public event or forum per semester at alternating locations on campus. These
511 public events or forums shall include administrators related to a particular topic of current student interest.

512 **ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

513 The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the SA in all cases to
514 which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Charter, Bylaws, Standing Rules, and any
515 special rules of order the SA may adopt.

516 **ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS**

517 These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the assembly by a two-thirds vote of the members present,
518 provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting. Amendments may be
519 presented to the assembly by voting members and by community petition with at least 100 Cornell undergraduate
520 student signatures.