

Cornell University
Student Assembly

Resolution 53: Funding for Ornithological Conservation Projects

Abstract: A resolution requesting an increase in funding for the Student Assembly Environmental Policy and Planning Commission (SAEPPC), so that the commission may fund a conservation project on a university property.

Sponsored by: Adam Vinson '25, Flora Meng '27, Kassandra Jordan '24, Daniel Shi '25,

Reviewed by: Environmental Policy and Planning Commission, 02/07/2024 5
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Type of Action: Special Funding Project

Originally Presented: 02/15/2024

Current Status:

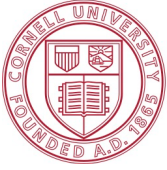
Whereas, the Cornell Equine Facility is creating a new barn in close vicinity to the Bluegrass Lane Natural Area, a popular area for birds and birdwatchers, with 215 species recorded and 3,780 submitted species checklists on the Cornell-run citizen science website [eBird](#).

Whereas, several species migrate or breed within the area, including species deemed to be of special concern such as the Red-Headed Woodpecker, Grasshopper Sparrow, and a species of high conservation priority, the Bobolink.

Whereas, the Lab of Ornithology has several active projects involving live birds in the Equine Facility area, including influential projects on the effects of climate change on North American bird species.

Whereas, the Equine Facility architects and designers, recognizing the risk that their project could face to local wildlife, reached out to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to discuss ways to reduce environmental impact.

Whereas, the Lab of Ornithology recommended UV film retrofits for windows to prevent bird collisions and made a deal with the College of Veterinary Medicine to split costs, with the Lab of Ornithology paying for installation costs.



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Whereas, the division responsible for funding this project within the Lab of Ornithology lacks the necessary funds due to budgetary constraints, and so it has sought assistance from the assembly to fully support their portion.

Whereas, the SAEPPC has voted in favor of supplying this project with supplementary funding to replace the funds that the Lab of Ornithology was unable to raise.

Be it therefore resolved, that the SAEPPC requests \$5,000 to be added to its budget to spend on this project.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Vinson '25

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative, Student Assembly
Environmental Policy and Planning Commission Chair

Flora Meng '27

Representative at Large, Student Assembly

Kassandra Jordan '24

Representative at Large, Student Assembly

Daniel Shi '25

Committee Member, SAEPPC