



Resolution 55: Amending the Previously Adopted Resolution 27

Abstract: This resolution incorporates changes requested by the University President into the previously adopted Resolution 27, to ensure approval of Charter amendments while maintaining original intent.

Sponsored by: Nicholas Maggard '26, Clyde Lederman '26, Agnes Coleman '26, Patrick Kuehl '24, Suraj Parikh '24

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 02/19/2024, 5-0-1

Type of Action: Internal Policy

Originally Presented: 02/29/2024

Current Status: Pending Assembly Adoption

Whereas, on January 25th, the University President returned Resolution 27 to the Student Assembly.

Whereas, on February 14th, members of the Executive Committee and Internal Operations Committee met with the Dean of Students to discuss the reasons for the resolution being returned.

Whereas, further changes need to be incorporated into the amendment to secure approval by the University President.

Whereas, two Charter amendments will be introduced to the Assembly. The first, Resolution 55, which covers the majority of Resolution 27's changes. The second, which will be introduced at a later point in time, will incorporate any remaining intended changes prior to the end of the Assembly term.

Whereas, two edited versions of the Charter have been provided. The "greenline" version shows all edits made by Resolutions 20, 27, and 55. The "redline" version shows changes to the Charter as it would stand after the changes made by Resolutions 20 and 27, specifically showing changes incorporated into this resolution.

Be it further resolved, Article IV, Section 1, Subsection M be struck and replaced with:

"One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Veterans Representative by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent



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30 *undergraduate students who currently or have previously served in the Armed Forces of*
31 *the United States.”*

32 **Be it further resolved**, Article IV, Section 1, Subsection N be struck and replaced with:

33 *“One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Student Workers’*
34 *Representative by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole*
35 *to represent the community of undergraduates who, in addition to being students,*
36 *simultaneously bear the responsibilities of being employed for pay, in any capacity, in*
37 *any form, or by any employer.”*

38 **Be it further resolved**, Article IV, Section 3, Subsection A be struck.

39 **Be it further resolved**, the word “or” in Article IV, Section 3, Subsection A be struck.

40 **Be it further resolved**, the words “, or undergraduate student” be inserted after “graduate or
41 professional student” in Article IV, Section 3, Subsection A.

42 **Be it further resolved**, the words “a single transferrable voting system using the Hare method”
43 be struck and replaced with “the method set forth in the Election Rules of the Student
44 Assembly.”

45 **Be it further resolved**, Article IV, Section 5, Subsection A be struck and replaced with:

46 *“The term of each Assembly shall be coterminous with the term of the University*
47 *Assembly; the term of each voting and non-voting member shall be coterminous with the*
48 *term of the Assembly.”*

49 **Be it further resolved**, the words “and Advisory Board” in the name of Article IV, Section 6 be
50 struck.

51 **Be it further resolved**, Article IV, Section 6, Subsections B, C, D, and E be struck.

52 **Be it further resolved**, the words “between May 1st and the conclusion of the Spring Semester”
53 be struck from Article IV, Section 8, Subsection B and replaced with “during the first 30 days of
54 the term of the Assembly.”

55 **Be it further resolved**, the words “following the conclusion of the Spring Semester” be struck
56 from Article IV, Section 8, Subsection C and replaced with “following the conclusion of the first
57 30 days of the term of the Assembly.”

58 **Be it further resolved**, Article IV, Section 8, Subsection D be struck.



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59 **Be it further resolved**, the following text be appended to the end of Article IV, Section 8,
60 Subsection E:

61 *“The Office of the President shall remain vacant until filled. The Assembly, by majority*
62 *vote, may choose to exercise the powers of the vacant office of President or Executive*
63 *Vice President, as needed to continue the proper functioning of the Assembly.”*

64 **Be it finally resolved**, the Office of the Assemblies, in consultation with and as approved by the
65 Parliamentarian, shall be authorized to make stylistic adjustments as necessary to incorporate
66 these changes into the Charter of the Student Assembly.

67 **Respectfully Submitted,**

68 Nicholas Maggard ‘26

69 *Parliamentarian*, Student Assembly

70

71 Clyde Lederman ‘26

72 *Vice President of Internal Operations*, Student Assembly

73

74 Agnes Coleman ‘26

75 *Executive Archivist*, Student Assembly

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77 Patrick Kuehl ‘24

78 *President*, Student Assembly

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80 Suraj Parikh ‘24

81 *Vice President of External Affairs*, Student Assembly



Charter

Cornell University Student Assembly

As Amended on ~~October 30, 2023~~ February 29, 2024.

PREAMBLE

After consultation with members of the student body, and to effect more extensive involvement in campus governance through a University Assembly and constituent assemblies' representatives of faculty, students, and employees, the President, through the authority granted him by the Board of Trustees, hereby establishes this Charter for the Student Assembly of Cornell University.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Student Assembly of Cornell University (herein after referred to as the SA).

ARTICLE II: OBJECT

The object of this assembly shall be to effect more extensive involvement in campus governance in the undergraduate student body. This is accomplished by charging the assembly with the authority and the responsibility to examine any matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the student community and to make proposals concerning those issues to the appropriate officers or decision-making bodies of the University.

ARTICLE III: AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

Section 1: Legislative Authority Over Policies

The SA will have legislative authority over the policies of the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students, and will have the authority to review the budgets and actions of said departments. Additionally, the SA will have authority over its own policies and operations. Finally, no proposal of the SA shall be altered in any way without the prior consent of the SA Executive Board or the SA. If approved by the SA Executive Board, the alteration must be made public at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- A. The SA shall by majority vote have the authority to require at any time information directly from a department or a specific individual within that department concerning the budget, policies, or actions of said department. The request for this information shall be made in the form of legislation at a SA meeting.
- B. Should a request be refused, the SA by simple majority vote may request the information be given to the Vice President for Student and Campus Life who shall forward it to the SA. The Vice President for Student and Campus Life shall act unless otherwise directed by the President of the University, pursuant to Article 3, Section 6.

Section 2: Actions of the Assembly

- A. Pursuant to the legislative authority and responsibilities of the SA the six principal actions of the Assembly are:
 - i. Legislation,
 - ii. Internal Policy Resolution,



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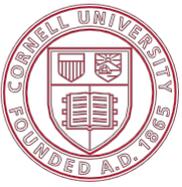
- 35 iii. Investigation,
- 36 iv. Recommendation,
- 37 v. Sense-of-the-Body Resolution,
- 38 vi. Referenda
- 39 B. Legislation is action of the SA to carry out its legislative and policy-making functions.
- 40 C. Internal Policy Resolutions are actions to enact internal rule changes, and to make amendments to the SA
- 41 Charter.
- 42 D. Investigation is action of the SA to gain information on issues pertinent to its purview.
- 43 E. Recommendation is an action of the SA expressing the recommendation of the SA in policy areas over which
- 44 the SA through its Charter may or may not have policy-making power.
- 45 F. A Sense-of-the-Body Resolution, which may or may not be directed at a particular individual, organization or
- 46 event, is an expression of the opinion of the SA regarding a matter of student concern.
- 47 G. Call for a Referendum is an action of the student body to determine community opinion regarding matters of
- 48 student concern.

49 **Section 3: Reporting of Student Assembly Actions**

- 50 A. Reporting to the President – All actions, excluding internal policy changes that do not affect the Student
- 51 Assembly Charter, of the SA will be reported by the SA President to the University President. The SA will
- 52 respond to any requests for information from the University President on its actions. The University
- 53 President may also request reconsideration of legislation proposed by the SA. Such a request must be filed
- 54 within thirty days of notification of the legislation. The SA will take action on such a request, and, if the
- 55 legislation is upheld, the SA will inform the University President. If the legislation is upheld and if the
- 56 University President still deems the action to be defective, the University President may veto the action of the
- 57 SA. The University President will review all actions of the SA that have been reported to him or her and
- 58 provide a written response to those actions within 30 days. The University President, when appropriate, may
- 59 also designate another member of the university administration to provide an additional written response to
- 60 an action of the SA.
- 61 B. Reporting to Other Bodies – The SA will report in writing its actions to the GPSA, Employee Assembly, and
- 62 the Faculty Senate, in conjunction with reporting of the actions to the President of the University. The
- 63 actions will be reported following each meeting by a SA member designated by the SA.
- 64 C. Annual Report - The SA will present an annual report at or after the last SA meeting of the spring term to the
- 65 President of the University and the student population. The report will include a summary of the SA’s work
- 66 during the preceding year and, in addition, describe any unresolved issues that are expected to arise in the
- 67 future. All members of the Cornell community will have access to this report. The report must be approved
- 68 by either a majority vote of the members present at the final meeting of the spring term or by a majority vote
- 69 of the voting membership of the Student Assembly electronically prior to being presented to the University
- 70 President.

71 **Section 4: Objection to Actions**

- 72 A. Objection of SA Actions by Another Assembly – Should another Assembly object to an action of the SA, at
- 73 its next business meeting, the SA will review the objection and either modify the original position to account
- 74 for the objections of the other constituency(ies) or will reaffirm the original action. The SA shall report to the
- 75 objecting body(ies) within five working days of reviewing the objection.
- 76 B. Objection by SA of another Assemblies Actions – If the SA determines by a two-thirds vote that the action
- 77 of another constituency body impacts its constituency, comparable procedures for the reconciliation of the
- 78 differences will be pursued.



79 **Section 5: University Calendar**

- 80 A. The Provost will consult with the SA in the formulation of the University Calendar. The SA may review and
81 ask for reconsideration of the calendar before it becomes final. In addition, the SA may propose changes in
82 the calendar to the Provost.
83 B. The Provost shall make the calendar available for comment at least thirty days before public announcement
84 of the final calendar.

85 **Section 6: Presidential Information**

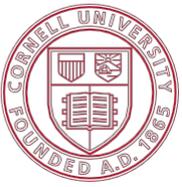
86 The SA may request and obtain specific information from the President of the University regarding any subject which
87 it deems of general student concern. If such a request is made, and said information is not furnished, the University
88 President will report to the SA the reasons why said information cannot be furnished within two regularly scheduled
89 SA meetings following the denial of the request. The SA will not request information falling into the following
90 categories: salary or wage records of specific individuals, academic or financial records of specific individuals, medical
91 or categorical (race, sex, age, etc.) records of specific individuals and information otherwise defined as confidential or
92 restricted by law.

93 **Section 7: President's Report**

94 The President of the University or his/her appointee will make a report in writing to the SA at the end of each
95 semester. This report will be due at the beginning of the last SA meeting of each semester. This report will include: 1)
96 the status of all policies and departments affected by campus governance legislation during the semester, 2) the status
97 of all SA legislative actions awaiting Presidential consideration, and 3) progress reports requested by the SA leadership
98 on any past legislative action(s).

99 **Section 8: Public Hearings, Forums, and Referenda**

- 100 A. The SA will have the authority and responsibility to conduct public hearings, forums, and referenda
101 concerning topics of current student interest, and to determine in other appropriate ways student needs and
102 opinions.
103 B. At two times during the course of the fall and spring semesters, a student or student group (referred to as the
104 "submitter") may submit a referendum of any topic of current student interest to the Student Assembly
105 general body upon successful collection of support from at least 3-percent of the registered undergraduate
106 student body (submitters should plan to collect at least 450 undergraduate signatures) according to the
107 following procedure:
108 i. The referendum must contain a single or a series of referendum questions that are neutrally worded
109 and call for a yes/no response. Once the submitter has started gathering signatures, the question may
110 not be changed or modified in any way. Submitters must collect signatures (defined as a willfully
111 submitted record of first name, last name, and NetID) exclusively from registered undergraduate
112 students at Cornell University. Digital and print solicitation methods are permitted, provided that the
113 referendum question and sponsoring student or student organization are clearly visible. An electronic
114 form (ex, Google form) may be used to gather the names and NetIDs of students, but the final
115 submission must be on the appropriate form provided by the Office of the Assemblies.
116 ii. The deadlines for submission of referendums will be a date to coincide with the deadlines of the
117 election materials for the Fall and for the Spring. All deadlines will be advertised through the SA
118 monthly newsletter as well as the other usual publicity instruments. Once a referendum question with
119 the appropriate number of signatures has been submitted, the SA general body will roll call vote by

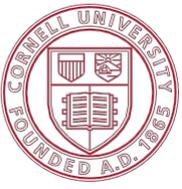


120 simple majority whether to hold the referendum. The vote will also make the provision for two
121 collective community votes. If the SA votes by a margin of 80% or more of voting members to NOT
122 hold the referendum, the referendum is suspended. If the SA votes by simple majority but less than
123 80% of the vote to NOT hold the referendum, the submitter may overturn the decision of the SA by
124 collecting the signatures of at least 10-percent of the registered undergraduate student body using the
125 same method described in section A. 2. Once a referendum is approved or has gathered the support
126 of at least 10-percent of the registered undergraduate student body, the following timeline will be
127 observed:

- 128 a. STATEMENT PERIOD. The Student Assembly Executive Vice President will put out a
129 call for pro or con statements regarding the referendum question. Any member of the
130 Cornell community may submit a statement. Each statement will be no longer than 300
131 words. The statements must pertain to the topic of the referendum question. The deadline
132 for pro or con statements will be seven (7) days from when the call was first made public.
- 133 b. PROMOTIONAL PERIOD. Once the seven-day statement period has ended, the Student
134 Assembly Vice President for Public Relations has a period of three (3) days to promote the
135 referendum question and any submitted statements. The Office of the Assemblies will
136 distribute via email to all registered undergraduate students the following: information on
137 when and how to vote in the referendum, the referendum question, and any pro or con
138 statements submitted.
- 139 c. VOTING PERIOD. The Office of the Assemblies will conduct the referendum on the next
140 business day following the conclusion of the promotional period. The voting period will be
141 exactly 36 hours. The Office of the Assemblies will display any pro or con statements
142 submitted during the statement period on the poll.
- 143 iii. The Office of the Assemblies will publicly release the results of the referendum within one business
144 day following the conclusion of the Voting Period, including the percentage of the undergraduate
145 population that voted.
- 146 iv. If a referendum has a majority of votes in favor of the submitter, then the President of the Student
147 Assembly will communicate the referendum question, a summary of each side of the argument, and
148 the results of the referendum to the Office of the President in the form of a referendum action.
- 149 v. The Office of the Assemblies will record and make publicly available all communication between the
150 President of the Student Assembly and the Office of the President.

151 **Section 9: Authority to Appoint Delegates, Committee Members and Liaisons**

- 152 A. Two members will be selected from and by the membership of the SA to serve as voting members of the UA
153 and to act as a liaison between the UA and the SA. Elections for the two SA voting members to the UA shall
154 be by separate secret ballots. Elections will be conducted using a single transferable vote system. The
155 President may not be one of the SA representatives to the UA. The remaining two undergraduate student
156 members of the UA shall be elected by the undergraduate student body at the time of SA's spring elections in
157 the same manner as SA voting members. Elected representatives to the UA shall serve for one calendar year,
158 taking office June 1st. Elected representatives to the UA shall serve for one calendar year, taking office June
159 1st. Should a seat on the UA be empty, the seat shall be declared vacant. Undergraduates may not hold a
160 directly elected seat in both the UA and the SA during the same term.
- 161 B. If at any time during the course of an academic year, a UA member elected directly from the undergraduate
162 student body should leave his office, then the seat shall be filled by the next highest-ranking non-winning
163 candidate. If there should not be a next highest-ranking non-winning candidate after the special election, the
164 seat will be filled by the undesignated at-large candidate receiving the most number of votes in the preceding
165 spring election.
- 166 C. The SA will have the authority to appoint student members of the UA committees.



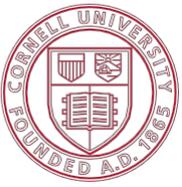
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- 167 D. The SA will have the authority to appoint student members to be liaisons to departments and administrators
168 in the University.
- 169 i. During the process of committee appointments, the following two appointments must be made:
170 liaison to the Athletic Department and liaison to the Dean of Faculty. The liaison positions shall have
171 the responsibility of increasing the communication between the SA and the respective University
172 departments.
- 173 ii. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint one member to serve as
174 Liaison to the Provost. The student will interact and work directly with the Provost on issues that
175 affect and concern students on a regular basis during the member's term of office.
- 176 iii. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint at least one undergraduate
177 student to serve as liaison to the Student Health Fee Advisory Committee. The liaison will be a
178 voting member of the Committee.
- 179 iv. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint one undergraduate student
180 to serve as Liaison to the Student Health Plan Advisory Committee. The liaison will be a voting
181 member of the Committee.

182 **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

183 **Section 1: Composition**

- 225 A. The Assembly shall consist of 37 voting members.
- 226
- 227 B. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the University undergraduate
228 student population as President of the Student Assembly.
- 229
- 230 C. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the University undergraduate
231 student population as Executive Vice President of the Student Assembly.
- 232
- 233 D. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as a Representative At-Large by virtue of attaining the
234 second greatest number of votes in the most recent election for President of the Student Assembly; this office
235 shall be distinct from that of a directly elected Representative At-Large.
- 236
- 237 E. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as a Representative At-Large by virtue of attaining the
238 second greatest number of votes in the most recent election for Executive Vice President of the Student
239 Assembly; this office shall be distinct from that of a directly elected Representative At-Large.
- 240
- 241 F. Six voting members of the Assembly shall each be directly elected as a Representative At-Large by and
242 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole.
- 243
- 244 G. Two voting members of the Assembly shall each be elected as a Minority Students Representative by and
245 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent minority students.
- 246
- 247 H. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the Women's Issues Representative by and from the
248 University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent women's issues.
- 249
- 250 I. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the First-Generation College Students Representative



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251 by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent first-generation college
252 students.

253
254 J. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the Students with Disabilities Representative by and
255 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent students with disabilities.

256
257 K. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the International Students Representative by and
258 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent international students.

259
260 L. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the LGBTQIA+ Representative by and from the
261 University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,
262 Queer, Intersex, Asexual students.

263
264 ~~M. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Veterans Representative by and from the population
265 of undergraduate students who currently or have previously served in the Armed Forces of the United States,
266 except for undergraduate students who serve as members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps, to represent
267 students who currently or have previously served in the Armed Forces of the United States.~~

268 One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Veterans Representative by and from the University
269 undergraduate student population as a whole to represent undergraduate students who currently or have previously
270 served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

268
269 ~~N. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Student Workers Representative by and from the
270 University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent undergraduate students who are engaged
271 in paid employment contemporaneously with their academic studies.~~

272 One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Student Workers' Representative by and from the
273 University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent the community of undergraduates who, in
274 addition to being students, simultaneously bear the responsibilities of being employed for pay, in any capacity,
275 in any form, or by any employer.

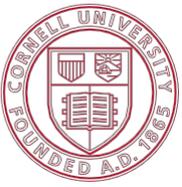
272
273 O. Four voting members of the Assembly shall each be elected at-large by and from the undergraduate freshman
274 student population to represent the same.

275
276 P. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the undergraduate transfer student
277 population to represent the same.

278
279 Q. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student populations of
280 each the following colleges and schools to represent the same: the Brooks School of Public Policy; the Dyson
281 School of Business, the College of Architecture, Art and Planning; the School of Hotel Administration; the
282 College of Human Ecology, and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

283
284 R. Two voting members of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student populations of
285 each the following colleges and schools to represent the same: the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences,
286 and the College of Engineering.

287
288 S. Three voting members of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student population



289 of the College of Arts and Sciences to represent the same.
290

291 Section 2: Qualifications of Voting Members

- 299 A. Each voting member of the Assembly shall be registered, full-time undergraduate student at Cornell
300 University for the duration of their term; no voting member of the Assembly shall represent a
301 particular college or school without being a registered, full-time student in the same; nor shall a voting member
302 hold office without meeting the qualifications set forth for election to that office.
303
- 304 B. No member of the Assembly shall hold the office of more than one voting member, nor be absent from the
305 Ithaca Campus of Cornell University for more than three weeks during the academic year.
306
- 307 C. Upon failing to satisfy the provisions of this section, no voting member may be deemed disqualified absent
308 an affirmative two-thirds vote of the seated members of the Assembly.

310 Section 3: Non-Voting Membership

- 315 ~~A. Each undergraduate student shall be a non-voting member of the Assembly; such members may participate~~
316 ~~in debate but may not to vote.~~
317
- 318 B. The Assembly may designate any faculty member, employee, or graduate or professional student, or
319 undergraduate student as a non-voting member.

320 Section 4: Method of Election

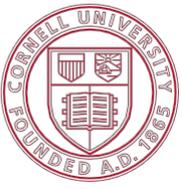
- 324 A. Each voting member of the Assembly and undergraduate representative to the University Assembly shall be
325 elected by ~~a single transferable voting system using the Hare Method~~ the method set forth in the Election Rules
326 of the Student Assembly, except as otherwise provided for in this Charter.

327 Section 5: Term of the Assembly

- 344 ~~A. The term of each Assembly shall commence on May 1st and expire on April 30th annually~~ The term of each
345 Assembly shall be coterminous with the term of the University Assembly; the term of each voting and non-voting
346 member shall be coterminous with the term of the Assembly.
346
- 347 B. There shall be no limit as to the number of terms a voting member of the Assembly may serve.
348
- 349 C. Each voting member shall take the oath of office and shall be bound to that oath for the duration of their term
350 prior to being seated.
351

352 Section 6: Advisor ~~and Advisory Board~~

- 368 A. The University President may appoint one administrator or faculty member to serve as an advisor to the
369 Assembly.
370



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- 371 B. ~~There shall be board to advise the Assembly known as the “Student Assembly Advisory Board, which shall~~
372 ~~herein after be referred to as the “Advisory Board.”~~
- 373
- 374 ~~C. It shall be the responsibility of the Advisory Board to provide the Assembly with counsel and guidance.—~~
- 375
- 376 ~~D. The Advisory Board shall consist of six alumni of Cornell University each of whom shall have served either~~
377 ~~as a member of the Student Assembly or as a Student Elected Trustee; two members of the Faculty Senate;~~
378 ~~the University President or his or her designee; two members of the Assembly; and four other individuals~~
379 ~~whose qualifications shall be determined in the Bylaws of the Student Assembly.~~
- 380
- 381 ~~E. Each member of the Advisory Board, except for the University President, shall be appointed and may be~~
382 ~~removed by the Assembly.—~~
- 383

384 Section 7: Attendance Requirement

- 403 A. Each voting member of the Assembly shall be required to attend all regularly scheduled and special meetings
404 of the Assembly.
- 405
- 406 B. The Assembly may adopt rules governing the attendance of voting members and non-voting members and
407 sanctions for violation of such rules including removal from the Assembly; however, the Assembly shall
408 adopt no rule that permits nor requires the removal of a voting member for their absence from no fewer than
409 four regularly scheduled meetings.
- 410
- 411 C. The Assembly may not adopt attendance rules that interfere with the observance of a religious or cultural
412 holiday.
- 413

414 Section 8: Vacancies

- 434 A. A vacancy shall exist in the office of a voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate representative
435 to the University Assembly before the expiration of the term of office upon the death, resignation, removal,
436 recall, disqualification, declination of or failure to elect a duly qualified officeholder.
- 437
- 438 B. A vacancy that exists in the office of any voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate representative
439 to the University Assembly between May 1st and the conclusion of the Spring Semester, during the first 30 days
of the term of the Assembly shall be filled by the candidate attaining the second greatest number of votes in the
most recent election for the same office.
- 441
- 442 C. A vacancy that exists in the office of any voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate representative
443 to the University Assembly following the ~~conclusion of the Spring Semester~~ first 30 days of the term of the Assembly
444 shall be filled by the Assembly. At the next regularly scheduled meeting following the creation of the vacancy, the
445 vacancy shall be filled by a roll-call vote; the vacancy shall not be filled without a two-thirds affirmative vote of
446 the seated membership of the Assembly.
- 447
- 448 ~~D. In the period between the creation of a vacancy in the office of President or Executive Vice President and the~~



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449 ~~election of a new officeholder, pursuant to Subsections B and C of Section 8 of this Charter, the office shall~~
450 ~~remain vacant. The Assembly, by majority vote, may choose to exercise the powers of the vacant office of~~
451 ~~President or Executive Vice President, as needed to continue the proper functioning of the Assembly.~~

452
453 E. In the period between the creation of a vacancy in the office of President and the election of a new
454 officeholder, pursuant to Subsections B and C of this section, the order of precedence of the Officers, as
455 established by the Bylaws, shall be used to determine who shall preside at meetings of the Assembly as
456 Acting Chair. The Acting Chair shall exercise no authorities otherwise delegated to the President except those
457 as necessary for convening and presiding over the Assembly. [The Office of the President shall remain vacant](#)
458 [until filled. The Assembly, by majority vote, may choose to exercise the powers of the vacant office of President](#)
459 [or Executive Vice President, as needed to continue the proper functioning of the Assembly.](#)

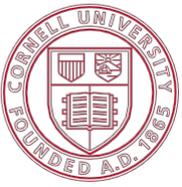
458
459 F. Any undergraduate student shall be eligible to fill a vacancy, provided they meet the qualifications to hold
460 office set forth in this article; notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, a vacancy in the office of a
461 Representative At-Large elected by virtue of attaining the second greatest number of in either the most recent
462 election for President or Executive Vice President of the Assembly, may, for the remainder of the term of the
463 Assembly in which the vacancy was created, be filled by as though the office were that of a directly elected
464 Representative At-Large.

466 **Section 9: Recall of Voting Members**

467
468 A. Each voting member of the Assembly may be recalled by their constituency. To be recalled through a
469 member's respective constituency, the following procedure shall be followed in the given order:

- 471 (1) A petition for the recall of the specific Assembly voting member will be registered with the
472 Office of the Assemblies before any signatures are obtained.
- 473
474 (2) Petitioning for recall shall last for a period of not more than fourteen days from the registration
475 of the petition. The required number of signatures shall be, for representatives from a school or
476 college, fifty percent plus one or one thousand from that constituency, whichever is less, for at-
477 large representatives, 15% of the student body. The petition will be presented to the Office of
478 the Assemblies.
- 479
480 (3) An informational forum will be scheduled and held within not more than one week of the
481 presentation of the petition, where a discussion of the recall will occur. The Assembly voting
482 member must have a reasonable opportunity to attend the forum.
- 483
484 (4) A special recall election will be scheduled for and held within not more than three days after the
485 informational hearing.
- 486
487 (5) Should the constituency vote to recall its representative, the seat shall be declared vacant.

488
489 B. The Assembly may only recall a voting member by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the seated voting
490 members of the Assembly.



Section 10: Responsibilities of Voting Members

- A. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies are required to make a reasonable effort to arrange at least two meetings a semester with their respective academic dean or associate dean(s) to discuss college/school specific issues and concerns. These representatives will then report back to the Student Assembly at the next regularly scheduled SA meeting briefing the Assembly on pertinent issues and occurrences that would take place as a result of these meetings.
- B. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies shall be charged with gathering information about their particular college and representing their respective constituencies, and voting according to their needs and desires.
- C. All voting representatives shall host at least one forum or outreach activity with individuals from their respective constituencies and report all outcomes to the SA at the next regularly-scheduled meeting following such an activity.
- D. All representatives may communicate regularly with their constituents through e-mail mailing lists and listservs, which may be maintained by their respective college dean's office, the Department of Campus Life, the Office of the Dean of Students, or the Office of the Assemblies.
- E. Any Student Assembly member, including the Vice President for Public Relations, must submit a mass message (e-mail, advertisement, press release, etc.) to the Executive Board for approval. The Executive Board may approve a message by a majority vote and the vote may be conducted by e-mail. The e-mail records must be saved.

ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Proposal of Amendments

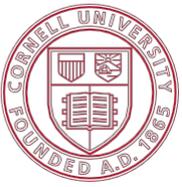
This charter may be amended at any regular meeting of the assembly by a two-thirds vote of the entire voting membership, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting. Amendments may be presented to the assembly by voting members or by community petition with at least 100 Cornell undergraduate student signatures. Any changes made to the attendance policy after the second meeting of the term will not go into effect until the following term.

Section 2: Presidential Approval

Amendments to this Charter are subject to the approval of the President of the University. Should the University President disapprove the amendments affected by this section, the University President will present a detailed verbal or written report to the SA indicating the reasons for disapproval. The report will be presented within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed amendments by the University President.

Section 3: Official Copy

The Office of Assemblies shall update the official copy of the charter within five business days of receiving notice of any amendment's ratification.



Charter

Cornell University Student Assembly

As Amended on ~~July 23, 2023~~ ~~October 30, 2023~~ February 29, 2024

PREAMBLE

After consultation with members of the student body, and to effect more extensive involvement in campus governance through a University Assembly and constituent assemblies' representatives of faculty, students, and employees, the President, through the authority granted him by the Board of Trustees, hereby establishes this Charter for the Student Assembly of Cornell University.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Student Assembly of Cornell University (herein after referred to as the SA).

ARTICLE II: OBJECT

The object of this assembly shall be to effect more extensive involvement in campus governance in the undergraduate student body. This is accomplished by charging the assembly with the authority and the responsibility to examine any matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the student community and to make proposals concerning those issues to the appropriate officers or decision-making bodies of the University.

ARTICLE III: AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

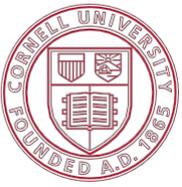
Section 1: Legislative Authority Over Policies

The SA will have legislative authority over the policies of the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students, and will have the authority to review the budgets and actions of said departments. Additionally, the SA will have authority over its own policies and operations. Finally, no proposal of the SA shall be altered in any way without the prior consent of the SA Executive Board or the SA. If approved by the SA Executive Board, the alteration must be made public at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- A. The SA shall by majority vote have the authority to require at any time information directly from a department or a specific individual within that department concerning the budget, policies, or actions of said department. The request for this information shall be made in the form of legislation at a SA meeting.
- B. Should a request be refused, the SA by simple majority vote may request the information be given to the Vice President for Student and Campus Life who shall forward it to the SA. The Vice President for Student and Campus Life shall act unless otherwise directed by the President of the University, pursuant to Article 3, Section 6.

Section 2: Actions of the Assembly

- A. Pursuant to the legislative authority and responsibilities of the SA the six principal actions of the Assembly are:
 - i. Legislation,
 - ii. Internal Policy Resolution,



Cornell University Student Assembly

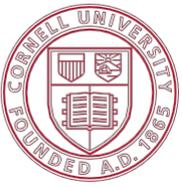
- 35 iii. Investigation,
- 36 iv. Recommendation,
- 37 v. Sense-of-the-Body Resolution,
- 38 vi. Referenda
- 39 B. Legislation is action of the SA to carry out its legislative and policy-making functions.
- 40 C. Internal Policy Resolutions are actions to enact internal rule changes, and to make amendments to the SA
- 41 Charter.
- 42 D. Investigation is action of the SA to gain information on issues pertinent to its purview.
- 43 E. Recommendation is an action of the SA expressing the recommendation of the SA in policy areas over which
- 44 the SA through its Charter may or may not have policy-making power.
- 45 F. A Sense-of-the-Body Resolution, which may or may not be directed at a particular individual, organization or
- 46 event, is an expression of the opinion of the SA regarding a matter of student concern.
- 47 G. Call for a Referendum is an action of the student body to determine community opinion regarding matters of
- 48 student concern.

49 **Section 3: Reporting of Student Assembly Actions**

- 50 A. Reporting to the President – All actions, excluding internal policy changes that do not affect the Student
- 51 Assembly Charter, of the SA will be reported by the SA President to the University President. The SA will
- 52 respond to any requests for information from the University President on its actions. The University
- 53 President may also request reconsideration of legislation proposed by the SA. Such a request must be filed
- 54 within thirty days of notification of the legislation. The SA will take action on such a request, and, if the
- 55 legislation is upheld, the SA will inform the University President. If the legislation is upheld and if the
- 56 University President still deems the action to be defective, the University President may veto the action of the
- 57 SA. The University President will review all actions of the SA that have been reported to him or her and
- 58 provide a written response to those actions within 30 days. The University President, when appropriate, may
- 59 also designate another member of the university administration to provide an additional written response to
- 60 an action of the SA.
- 61 B. Reporting to Other Bodies – The SA will report in writing its actions to the GPSA, Employee Assembly, and
- 62 the Faculty Senate, in conjunction with reporting of the actions to the President of the University. The
- 63 actions will be reported following each meeting by a SA member designated by the SA.
- 64 C. Annual Report - The SA will present an annual report at or after the last SA meeting of the spring term to the
- 65 President of the University and the student population. The report will include a summary of the SA's work
- 66 during the preceding year and, in addition, describe any unresolved issues that are expected to arise in the
- 67 future. All members of the Cornell community will have access to this report. The report must be approved
- 68 by either a majority vote of the members present at the final meeting of the spring term or by a majority vote
- 69 of the voting membership of the Student Assembly electronically prior to being presented to the University
- 70 President.

71 **Section 4: Objection to Actions**

- 72 A. Objection of SA Actions by Another Assembly – Should another Assembly object to an action of the SA, at
- 73 its next business meeting, the SA will review the objection and either modify the original position to account
- 74 for the objections of the other constituency(ies) or will reaffirm the original action. The SA shall report to the
- 75 objecting body(ies) within five working days of reviewing the objection.
- 76 B. Objection by SA of another Assemblies Actions – If the SA determines by a two-thirds vote that the action
- 77 of another constituency body impacts its constituency, comparable procedures for the reconciliation of the
- 78 differences will be pursued.



79 **Section 5: University Calendar**

- 80 A. The Provost will consult with the SA in the formulation of the University Calendar. The SA may review and
81 ask for reconsideration of the calendar before it becomes final. In addition, the SA may propose changes in
82 the calendar to the Provost.
83 B. The Provost shall make the calendar available for comment at least thirty days before public announcement
84 of the final calendar.

85 **Section 6: Presidential Information**

86 The SA may request and obtain specific information from the President of the University regarding any subject which
87 it deems of general student concern. If such a request is made, and said information is not furnished, the University
88 President will report to the SA the reasons why said information cannot be furnished within two regularly scheduled
89 SA meetings following the denial of the request. The SA will not request information falling into the following
90 categories: salary or wage records of specific individuals, academic or financial records of specific individuals, medical
91 or categorical (race, sex, age, etc.) records of specific individuals and information otherwise defined as confidential or
92 restricted by law.

93 **Section 7: President's Report**

94 The President of the University or his/her appointee will make a report in writing to the SA at the end of each
95 semester. This report will be due at the beginning of the last SA meeting of each semester. This report will include: 1)
96 the status of all policies and departments affected by campus governance legislation during the semester, 2) the status
97 of all SA legislative actions awaiting Presidential consideration, and 3) progress reports requested by the SA leadership
98 on any past legislative action(s).

99 **Section 8: Public Hearings, Forums, and Referenda**

- 100 A. The SA will have the authority and responsibility to conduct public hearings, forums, and referenda
101 concerning topics of current student interest, and to determine in other appropriate ways student needs and
102 opinions.
103 B. At two times during the course of the fall and spring semesters, a student or student group (referred to as the
104 "submitter") may submit a referendum of any topic of current student interest to the Student Assembly
105 general body upon successful collection of support from at least 3-percent of the registered undergraduate
106 student body (submitters should plan to collect at least 450 undergraduate signatures) according to the
107 following procedure:
108 i. The referendum must contain a single or a series of referendum questions that are neutrally worded
109 and call for a yes/no response. Once the submitter has started gathering signatures, the question may
110 not be changed or modified in any way. Submitters must collect signatures (defined as a willfully
111 submitted record of first name, last name, and NetID) exclusively from registered undergraduate
112 students at Cornell University. Digital and print solicitation methods are permitted, provided that the
113 referendum question and sponsoring student or student organization are clearly visible. An electronic
114 form (ex, Google form) may be used to gather the names and NetIDs of students, but the final
115 submission must be on the appropriate form provided by the Office of the Assemblies.
116 ii. The deadlines for submission of referendums will be a date to coincide with the deadlines of the
117 election materials for the Fall and for the Spring. All deadlines will be advertised through the SA
118 monthly newsletter as well as the other usual publicity instruments. Once a referendum question with
119 the appropriate number of signatures has been submitted, the SA general body will roll call vote by

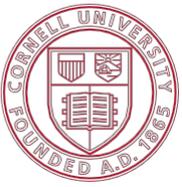


120 simple majority whether to hold the referendum. The vote will also make the provision for two
121 collective community votes. If the SA votes by a margin of 80% or more of voting members to NOT
122 hold the referendum, the referendum is suspended. If the SA votes by simple majority but less than
123 80% of the vote to NOT hold the referendum, the submitter may overturn the decision of the SA by
124 collecting the signatures of at least 10-percent of the registered undergraduate student body using the
125 same method described in section A. 2. Once a referendum is approved or has gathered the support
126 of at least 10-percent of the registered undergraduate student body, the following timeline will be
127 observed:

- 128 a. STATEMENT PERIOD. The Student Assembly Executive Vice President will put out a
129 call for pro or con statements regarding the referendum question. Any member of the
130 Cornell community may submit a statement. Each statement will be no longer than 300
131 words. The statements must pertain to the topic of the referendum question. The deadline
132 for pro or con statements will be seven (7) days from when the call was first made public.
- 133 b. PROMOTIONAL PERIOD. Once the seven-day statement period has ended, the Student
134 Assembly Vice President for Public Relations has a period of three (3) days to promote the
135 referendum question and any submitted statements. The Office of the Assemblies will
136 distribute via email to all registered undergraduate students the following: information on
137 when and how to vote in the referendum, the referendum question, and any pro or con
138 statements submitted.
- 139 c. VOTING PERIOD. The Office of the Assemblies will conduct the referendum on the next
140 business day following the conclusion of the promotional period. The voting period will be
141 exactly 36 hours. The Office of the Assemblies will display any pro or con statements
142 submitted during the statement period on the poll.
- 143 iii. The Office of the Assemblies will publicly release the results of the referendum within one business
144 day following the conclusion of the Voting Period, including the percentage of the undergraduate
145 population that voted.
- 146 iv. If a referendum has a majority of votes in favor of the submitter, then the President of the Student
147 Assembly will communicate the referendum question, a summary of each side of the argument, and
148 the results of the referendum to the Office of the President in the form of a referendum action.
- 149 v. The Office of the Assemblies will record and make publicly available all communication between the
150 President of the Student Assembly and the Office of the President.

151 **Section 9: Authority to Appoint Delegates, Committee Members and Liaisons**

- 152 A. Two members will be selected from and by the membership of the SA to serve as voting members of the UA
153 and to act as a liaison between the UA and the SA. Elections for the two SA voting members to the UA shall
154 be by separate secret ballots. Elections will be conducted using a single transferable vote system. The
155 President may not be one of the SA representatives to the UA. The remaining two undergraduate student
156 members of the UA shall be elected by the undergraduate student body at the time of SA's spring elections in
157 the same manner as SA voting members. Elected representatives to the UA shall serve for one calendar year,
158 taking office June 1st. Elected representatives to the UA shall serve for one calendar year, taking office June
159 1st. Should a seat on the UA be empty, the seat shall be declared vacant. Undergraduates may not hold a
160 directly elected seat in both the UA and the SA during the same term.
- 161 B. If at any time during the course of an academic year, a UA member elected directly from the undergraduate
162 student body should leave his office, then the seat shall be filled by the next highest-ranking non-winning
163 candidate. If there should not be a next highest-ranking non-winning candidate after the special election, the
164 seat will be filled by the undesignated at-large candidate receiving the most number of votes in the preceding
165 spring election.
- 166 C. The SA will have the authority to appoint student members of the UA committees.



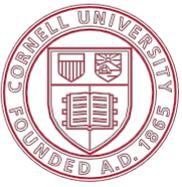
Cornell University Student Assembly

- 167 D. The SA will have the authority to appoint student members to be liaisons to departments and administrators
168 in the University.
- 169 i. During the process of committee appointments, the following two appointments must be made:
170 liaison to the Athletic Department and liaison to the Dean of Faculty. The liaison positions shall have
171 the responsibility of increasing the communication between the SA and the respective University
172 departments.
 - 173 ii. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint one member to serve as
174 Liaison to the Provost. The student will interact and work directly with the Provost on issues that
175 affect and concern students on a regular basis during the member's term of office.
 - 176 iii. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint at least one undergraduate
177 student to serve as liaison to the Student Health Fee Advisory Committee. The liaison will be a
178 voting member of the Committee.
 - 179 iv. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint one undergraduate student
180 to serve as Liaison to the Student Health Plan Advisory Committee. The liaison will be a voting
181 member of the Committee.

182 **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

183 **Section 1: Composition**

- 184 ~~A. General Composition—The SA will consist of 30 voting members who are registered undergraduate students~~
185 ~~at Cornell University. Up to two additional votes shall be allocated to the entire community of undergraduates~~
186 ~~as a whole present at a Student Assembly meeting on motions that express the opinion of the assembly. Such~~
187 ~~community votes shall be allowed only as provided by the Assembly in its bylaws. Twelve voting members of~~
188 ~~the SA will be elected by and from the student populations of the colleges and schools, one from each: the~~
189 ~~Dyson School of Business, the College of Architecture, Art and Planning; the School of Hotel~~
190 ~~Administration; the College of Human Ecology; and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Two each~~
191 ~~shall be elected from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Engineering; and three~~
192 ~~shall be elected from the College of Arts and Sciences. In addition, thirteen voting members will be elected~~
193 ~~at large by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole; two at large seats are to be~~
194 ~~reserved for candidates seeking the offices of President and Executive Vice President of the Student~~
195 ~~Assembly and must be explicitly designated as such; two at large seats are to be reserved for non-constituent,~~
196 ~~undesigned at large group candidates who do not run for President or Executive Vice President; one at~~
197 ~~large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent students with disabilities; two at large seats are~~
198 ~~to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent minority students; one at large seat is to be reserved for~~
199 ~~candidates seeking to represent international students; one at large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to~~
200 ~~represent womxn's issues in relation to the broader Cornell community; one at large seat is to be~~
201 ~~reserved for candidates seeking to represent First Generation College students; and one at large seat is to be~~
202 ~~reserved for candidates seeking to represent the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Asexual,~~
203 ~~Genderqueer, Pansexual, Questioning, Two-Spirit, and etc. community. The two remaining non-constituent,~~
204 ~~undesigned at large seats are to be contested by candidates running for President and Executive Vice~~
205 ~~President and by non-constituent, undesigned at large group candidates not running for President or~~
206 ~~Executive Vice President. Five seats shall be elected by and from new students entering in the fall. Should~~
207 ~~there be no candidate running for a given seat, the seat shall be considered vacant.~~
- 208 ~~B. Ex officio Membership—All undergraduate members of the Cornell student body are considered non-voting~~
209 ~~members of the SA, and are encouraged to attend and participate in meetings. The SA may designate ex-~~
210 ~~officio membership to any member of the Cornell Community as deemed necessary for the operation of the~~
211 ~~Student Assembly~~
- 212 ~~C. Specification of New Student Seats—Four new student seats shall be elected and held by new students~~



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213 ~~entering in the fall semester. One additional seat shall be designated the Transfer Seat and shall be elected by~~
214 ~~incoming transfer students and held by a transfer student who has entered the university that fall.~~

215 ~~D. Qualifications for Voting Membership—SA members elected from the various colleges and schools must be~~
216 ~~registered students in their respective colleges and schools by the beginning of the fall term of the academic~~
217 ~~year for which they were elected. SA members must resign their position if they cease to be a registered, full-~~
218 ~~time undergraduate student in their respective college. SA members elected at large must be registered~~
219 ~~students at Cornell by the beginning of the fall term of the academic year for which they were elected. SA~~
220 ~~members must resign their position if they plan to be away from the Ithaca campus for an extended period of~~
221 ~~time (i.e. a semester). Any SA member who vacates their current seat after being elected or re-elected to a~~
222 ~~position will forfeit their new seat. The forfeited position will devolve to the next runner up, and should there~~
223 ~~be no runner-up the seat will be re-run in the fall elections.~~

224
225 A. The Assembly shall consist of 37 voting members.

226
227 B. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the University undergraduate
228 student population as President of the Student Assembly.

229
230 C. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the University undergraduate
231 student population as Executive Vice President of the Student Assembly.

232
233 D. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as a Representative At-Large by virtue of attaining the
234 second greatest number of votes in the most recent election for President of the Student Assembly; this office
235 shall be distinct from that of a directly elected Representative At-Large.

236
237 E. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as a Representative At-Large by virtue of attaining the
238 second greatest number of votes in the most recent election for Executive Vice President of the Student
239 Assembly; this office shall be distinct from that of a directly elected Representative At-Large.

240
241 F. Six voting members of the Assembly shall each be directly elected as a Representative At-Large by and
242 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole.

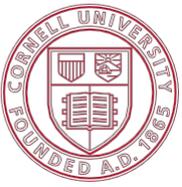
243
244 G. Two voting members of the Assembly shall each be elected as a Minority Students Representative by and
245 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent minority students.

246
247 H. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the Women's Issues Representative by and from the
248 University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent women's issues.

249
250 I. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the First-Generation College Students Representative
251 by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent first-generation college
252 students.

253
254 J. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the Students with Disabilities Representative by and
255 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent students with disabilities.

256
257 K. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the International Students Representative by and



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258 from the University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent international students.

259 L. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as the LGBTQIA+ Representative by and from the
260 University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,
261 Queer, Intersex, Asexual students.

262
263
264 ~~M. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Veterans Representative by and from the population~~
265 ~~of undergraduate students who currently or have previously served in the Armed Forces of the United States,~~
266 ~~except for undergraduate students who serve as members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps, to represent~~
267 ~~students who currently or have previously served in the Armed Forces of the United States.~~

268 One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Veterans Representative by and from the University
269 undergraduate student population as a whole to represent undergraduate students who currently or have previously
270 served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

268
269 ~~N. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Student Workers Representative by and from the~~
270 ~~University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent undergraduate students who are engaged~~
271 ~~in paid employment contemporaneously with their academic studies.~~

272 One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected as Student Workers' Representative by and from the
273 University undergraduate student population as a whole to represent the community of undergraduates who, in
274 addition to being students, simultaneously bear the responsibilities of being employed for pay, in any capacity,
275 in any form, or by any employer.

272
273 O. Four voting members of the Assembly shall each be elected at-large by and from the undergraduate freshman
274 student population to represent the same.

275
276 P. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected at-large by and from the undergraduate transfer student
277 population to represent the same.

278
279 Q. One voting member of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student populations of
280 each the following colleges and schools to represent the same: the Brooks School of Public Policy; the Dyson
281 School of Business, the College of Architecture, Art and Planning; the School of Hotel Administration; the
282 College of Human Ecology, and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

283
284 R. Two voting members of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student populations of
285 each the following colleges and schools to represent the same: the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences,
286 and the College of Engineering.

287
288 S. Three voting members of the Assembly shall be elected by and from the undergraduate student population
289 of the College of Arts and Sciences to represent the same.

291 **Section 2: Election of Voting Members** Qualifications of Voting Members

292 ~~The President, Executive Vice President, Undergraduate Representative to the University Assembly, and other~~
293 ~~Undesignated at Large representatives will be elected by a single transferable voting system. Voters may rank all~~



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294 ~~candidates on the ballot for each of these races and any ballot that has candidate(s) who is/are unranked the ballot~~
295 ~~shall not be invalidated and will count towards the ranked candidate. All other representatives shall be elected by a~~
296 ~~plurality voting system. Voters will cast one vote per available seat, (e.g. if three Arts and Sciences representatives are~~
297 ~~to be elected, the voter will vote for three candidates).~~

299 A. Each voting member of the Assembly shall be registered, full-time undergraduate student at Cornell
300 University for the duration of their term; no voting member of the Assembly shall represent a
301 particular college or school without being a registered, full-time student in the same; nor shall a voting member
302 hold office without meeting the qualifications set forth for election to that office.

304 B. No member of the Assembly shall hold the office of more than one voting member, nor be absent from the
305 Ithaca Campus of Cornell University for more than three weeks during the academic year.

307 C. Upon failing to satisfy the provisions of this section, no voting member may be deemed disqualified absent
308 an affirmative two-thirds vote of the seated members of the Assembly.

310 **Section 3: ~~Terms~~ Non-Voting Membership**

311 ~~All elected members are elected to a term, ending on June 1st, with no limit as to the number of terms they may serve.~~
312 ~~Prior to being seated at the beginning of their term, each member shall take the oath of office and shall be bound to~~
313 ~~that oath for the duration of their term.~~

315 A. Each undergraduate student shall be a non-voting member of the Assembly; such members may participate
316 in debate but may not to vote.

318 B. The Assembly may designate any faculty member, employee, ~~or~~ graduate or professional student, or
319 undergraduate student as a non-voting member.

320 **Section 4: ~~Advisor~~ Method of Election**

321 ~~The University President will appoint one member of the administration to serve as consultant to the SA at its~~
322 ~~meetings.~~

324 A. Each voting member of the Assembly and undergraduate representative to the University Assembly shall be
325 elected by a single transferable voting system using the Hare Method the method set forth in the Election Rules
326 of the Student Assembly, except as otherwise provided for in this Charter.

327 **Section 5: ~~Absentees~~ Term of the Assembly**

328 ~~Any voting members who are absent for three regularly scheduled meetings cumulatively during their term will have~~
329 ~~their position vacated. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, a member will not be counted as if they were~~
330 ~~absent for an interview for a job, graduate school, or scholarship; if they were attending a required academic event for~~
331 ~~which accommodations could not be made; if they were representing the Student Assembly in an official capacity; if~~
332 ~~they were tending to a family emergency; or if they were under the care of a physician. The Executive Committee will~~
333 ~~review each circumstance individually and will determine a decision within 7 days of the request. Executive~~
334 ~~Committee may avert such a vacancy by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of seated voting members of the Executive~~



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335 ~~Committee. The vote would be conducted by secret ballot. The Executive Committee should consider the reasoning~~
336 ~~for past absences, the likelihood of future absences, and the representative's supplemental actions to represent their~~
337 ~~respective constituency in making their decision. The same action must be taken if the Executive Committee wishes~~
338 ~~to avert a vacancy whenever the three cumulative absences mark is exceeded. The Director of Elections will serve as~~
339 ~~Chair for these meetings. In the event that a Student Assembly member is observing a religious holiday on the day of~~
340 ~~a Student Assembly meeting, and that religious holiday has not already been accommodated for in the yearly Student~~
341 ~~Assembly schedule, Student Assembly members may contact the Vice President of Internal Operations for an excused~~
342 ~~absence before the start of the weekly meeting.~~

343
344 A. The term of each Assembly shall commence on May 1st and expire on April 30th annually. The term of each
345 Assembly shall be coterminous with the term of the University Assembly; the term of each voting and non-voting
346 member shall be coterminous with the term of the Assembly.

347 B. There shall be no limit as to the number of terms a voting member of the Assembly may serve.

348
349 C. Each voting member shall take the oath of office and shall be bound to that oath for the duration of their term
350 prior to being seated.

351 **Section 6: ~~Vacancies~~ Advisor and Advisory Board**

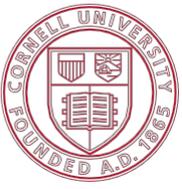
352
353 ~~All vacancies will be filled by seating the highest ranked non-winning candidate in the last election from the same~~
354 ~~constituency. If the highest ranked non-winning candidate declines, the seat will be offered to the next highest ranked~~
355 ~~non-winning candidate. If this procedure has been followed and the seat still remains vacant, the SA will solicit~~
356 ~~candidates from the unrepresented constituency during the first two weeks of the academic term immediately~~
357 ~~following the declaration of vacancy. If there is more than one candidate, an election will be held within the~~
358 ~~appropriate constituency, and the winner will be seated. If there is only one candidate, he or she will be seated~~
359 ~~immediately. If there are no candidates for a particular vacant seat, such seat will be labeled Undesignated and filled by~~
360 ~~the runner-up in the Undesignated At Large election. At the time for the next election, such seat will return to its~~
361 ~~previous designation. Vacant seats shall not figure into quorums or vote counts; only filled seats may. SA members~~
362 ~~who are college representatives and who leave their college will vacate their seats. Should a seat remain vacant or be~~
363 ~~vacated following the special election and there are no non-winning candidates from that constituency to fill the~~
364 ~~position, it shall be filled by the undesignated at-large candidate receiving the most number of votes in the preceding~~
365 ~~spring election. Should an undergraduate seat on the UA remain vacant after following these procedures, the SA may~~
366 ~~appoint an individual to assume the UA seat.~~

367
368 A. The University President may appoint one administrator or faculty member to serve as an advisor to the
369 Assembly.

370
371 B. There shall be board to advise the Assembly known as the "Student Assembly Advisory Board, which shall
372 herein after be referred to as the "Advisory Board."

373
374 ~~C. It shall be the responsibility of the Advisory Board to provide the Assembly with counsel and guidance.~~

375
376 ~~D. The Advisory Board shall consist of six alumni of Cornell University each of whom shall have served either~~
377 ~~as a member of the Student Assembly or as a Student Elected Trustee; two members of the Faculty Senate;~~
378 ~~the University President or his or her designee; two members of the Assembly; and four other individuals~~
379 ~~whose qualifications shall be determined in the Bylaws of the Student Assembly.~~



Cornell University Student Assembly

381 E. Each member of the Advisory Board, except for the University President, shall be appointed and may be
382 removed by the Assembly.
383

384 **Section 7: ~~Recalling of Voting Members~~ Attendance Requirement**

385 ~~A. If a voting SA member is to be recalled, they may be recalled either through their constituency or through the~~
386 ~~SA. To be recalled through a member's respective constituency each of the following procedures must be~~
387 ~~followed in the given order:~~

- 388 ~~(1) — A petition for the recall of the specific SA voting member will be registered with the Office of the~~
389 ~~Assemblies before any signatures are obtained.~~
- 390 ~~(2) — Petitioning for recall shall last for a period of not more than fourteen (14) days from the registration~~
391 ~~of the petition. The required number of signatures shall be: for representatives of a college~~
392 ~~constituency—50% plus one or 1000 from that constituency, whichever is smaller; for at large~~
393 ~~representatives—15% of the student body. The petition will be presented to the Office of the~~
394 ~~Assemblies.~~
- 395 ~~(3) — An informational forum will be scheduled and held within not more than one (1) week of the~~
396 ~~presentation of the petition, where a discussion of the recall will occur. The SA voting member must~~
397 ~~have a reasonable opportunity to attend the forum.~~
- 398 ~~(4) — A special recall election will be scheduled for and held within not more than three (3) days after the~~
399 ~~informational hearing.~~
- 400 ~~(5) — Should the constituency vote to remove its representative the seat shall be declared vacant.~~

401 ~~B. To be recalled by the SA, two thirds of the voting membership must vote in favor of recalling the SA member.~~

402
403 A. Each voting member of the Assembly shall be required to attend all regularly scheduled and special meetings
404 of the Assembly.

405
406 B. The Assembly may adopt rules governing the attendance of voting members and non-voting members and
407 sanctions for violation of such rules including removal from the Assembly; however, the Assembly shall
408 adopt no rule that permits nor requires the removal of a voting member for their absence from no fewer than
409 four regularly scheduled meetings.

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411 C. The Assembly may not adopt attendance rules that interfere with the observance of a religious or cultural
412 holiday.
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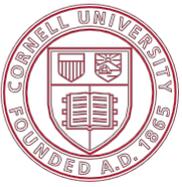
414 **Section 8: ~~Responsibilities of Voting Members~~ Vacancies**

415 ~~A. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies are required to make a reasonable effort~~
416 ~~to arrange at least two meetings a semester with their respective academic dean or associate dean(s) to discuss~~
417 ~~college/school specific issues and concerns. These representatives will then report back to the Student~~
418 ~~Assembly at the next regularly scheduled SA meeting briefing the Assembly on pertinent issues and~~
419 ~~occurrences that would take place as a result of these meetings.~~

420 ~~B. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies shall be charged with gathering~~
421 ~~information about their particular college and representing their respective constituencies, and voting~~
422 ~~according to their needs and desires.~~

423 ~~C. All voting representatives shall host at least one forum or outreach activity with individuals from their~~
424 ~~respective constituencies and report all outcomes to the SA at the next regularly scheduled meeting following~~
425 ~~such an activity~~

426 ~~D. All representatives may communicate regularly with their constituents through e-mail mailing lists and~~



Cornell University Student Assembly

listservs, which may be maintained by their respective college dean's office, the Department of Campus Life, the Office of the Dean of Students, or the Office of the Assemblies

~~E. Any Student Assembly member, including the Vice President for Public Relations, must submit a mass message (e-mail, advertisement, press release, etc.) to the Executive Board for approval. The Executive Board may approve a message by a majority vote and the vote may be conducted by e-mail. The e-mail records must be saved.~~

A. A vacancy shall exist in the office of a voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate representative to the University Assembly before the expiration of the term of office upon the death, resignation, removal, recall, disqualification, declination of or failure to elect a duly qualified officeholder.

B. A vacancy that exists in the office of any voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate representative to the University Assembly ~~between May 1st and the conclusion of the Spring Semester~~, during the first 30 days of the term of the Assembly shall be filled by the candidate attaining the second greatest number of votes in the most recent election for the same office.

C. A vacancy that exists in the office of any voting member of the Assembly or an undergraduate representative to the University Assembly following the ~~conclusion of the Spring Semester~~ first 30 days of the term of the Assembly shall be filled by the Assembly. At the next regularly scheduled meeting following the creation of the vacancy, the vacancy shall be filled by a roll-call vote; the vacancy shall not be filled without a two-thirds affirmative vote of the seated membership of the Assembly.

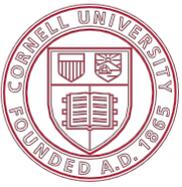
D. ~~In the period between the creation of a vacancy in the office of President or Executive Vice President and the election of a new officeholder, pursuant to Subsections B and C of Section 8 of this Charter, the office shall remain vacant. The Assembly, by majority vote, may choose to exercise the powers of the vacant office of President or Executive Vice President, as needed to continue the proper functioning of the Assembly.~~

E. In the period between the creation of a vacancy in the office of President and the election of a new officeholder, pursuant to Subsections B and C of this section, the order of precedence of the Officers, as established by the Bylaws, shall be used to determine who shall preside at meetings of the Assembly as Acting Chair. The Acting Chair shall exercise no authorities otherwise delegated to the President except those as necessary for convening and presiding over the Assembly. The Office of the President shall remain vacant until filled. The Assembly, by majority vote, may choose to exercise the powers of the vacant office of President or Executive Vice President, as needed to continue the proper functioning of the Assembly.

F. Any undergraduate student shall be eligible to fill a vacancy, provided they meet the qualifications to hold office set forth in this article; notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, a vacancy in the office of a Representative At-Large elected by virtue of attaining the second greatest number of in either the most recent election for President or Executive Vice President of the Assembly, may, for the remainder of the term of the Assembly in which the vacancy was created, be filled by as though the office were that of a directly elected Representative At-Large.

Section 9: Recall of Voting Members

A. Each voting member of the Assembly may be recalled by their constituency. To be recalled through a member's respective constituency, the following procedure shall be followed in the given order:

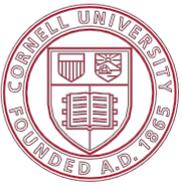


Cornell University Student Assembly

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- (1) A petition for the recall of the specific Assembly voting member will be registered with the Office of the Assemblies before any signatures are obtained.
 - (2) Petitioning for recall shall last for a period of not more than fourteen days from the registration of the petition. The required number of signatures shall be, for representatives from a school or college, fifty percent plus one or one thousand from that constituency, whichever is less, for at-large representatives, 15% of the student body. The petition will be presented to the Office of the Assemblies.
 - (3) An informational forum will be scheduled and held within not more than one week of the presentation of the petition, where a discussion of the recall will occur. The Assembly voting member must have a reasonable opportunity to attend the forum.
 - (4) A special recall election will be scheduled for and held within not more than three days after the informational hearing.
 - (5) Should the constituency vote to recall its representative, the seat shall be declared vacant.
- B. The Assembly may only recall a voting member by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the seated voting members of the Assembly.

Section 10: Responsibilities of Voting Members

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- A. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies are required to make a reasonable effort to arrange at least two meetings a semester with their respective academic dean or associate dean(s) to discuss college/school specific issues and concerns. These representatives will then report back to the Student Assembly at the next regularly scheduled SA meeting briefing the Assembly on pertinent issues and occurrences that would take place as a result of these meetings.
 - B. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies shall be charged with gathering information about their particular college and representing their respective constituencies, and voting according to their needs and desires.
 - C. All voting representatives shall host at least one forum or outreach activity with individuals from their respective constituencies and report all outcomes to the SA at the next regularly-scheduled meeting following such an activity.
 - D. All representatives may communicate regularly with their constituents through e-mail mailing lists and listservs, which may be maintained by their respective college dean's office, the Department of Campus Life, the Office of the Dean of Students, or the Office of the Assemblies.
 - E. Any Student Assembly member, including the Vice President for Public Relations, must submit a mass message (e-mail, advertisement, press release, etc.) to the Executive Board for approval. The Executive Board may approve a message by a majority vote and the vote may be conducted by e-mail. The e-mail records must be saved.



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517 **ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS**

518 **Section 1: Proposal of Amendments**

519 This charter may be amended at any regular meeting of the assembly by a two-thirds vote of the entire voting
520 membership, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.
521 Amendments may be presented to the assembly by voting members or by community petition with at least 100
522 Cornell undergraduate student signatures. Any changes made to the attendance policy after the second meeting of the
523 term will not go into effect until the following term.

524 **Section 2: Presidential Approval**

525 Amendments to this Charter are subject to the approval of the President of the University. Should the University
526 President disapprove the amendments affected by this section, the University President will present a detailed verbal
527 or written report to the SA indicating the reasons for disapproval. The report will be presented within thirty (30) days
528 of receipt of the proposed amendments by the University President.

529 **Section 3: Official Copy**

530 The Office of Assemblies shall update the official copy of the charter within five business days of receiving notice of
531 any amendment's ratification.