

Resolution 60: Gender Neutral Bathrooms

Abstract: This resolution exhibits a history of the request for more accessible bathrooms on campus. This resolution upon passing would create a survey for the Cornell Student body to fill out, and should the majority feel unsatisfied create more options on campus.

Sponsored by: Karys Everett '25, Caleb Goillandean '26, CALS DEI Committee

Reviewed by: Name of Committee, DD/MM/YYYY

Type of Action: Sense of the Body

Originally Presented: DD/MM/YYYY

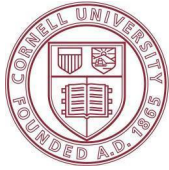
Current Status:

Whereas, On Thursday, November 3rd 2011 the assembly passed [Resolution 21: Availability of Accessible Gender-Neutral Bathrooms and Locker Rooms on Campus](#). This resolution expressed the discomfort and discrimination transgender and gender non conforming students may feel when made to use gendered bathrooms and locker rooms. It was resolved that:

1. Each new construction and renovation of facilities on the Ithaca campus include at least one accessible, single stall, gender-neutral restroom.
2. Current single-stall bathrooms on the Ithaca campus be converted to gender-neutral restrooms.
3. Diaper-changing stations be available in these gender-neutral bathrooms for the benefit of all types of family structures.
4. Each new construction of athletic and recreation facilities with locker rooms include at least one gender-neutral changing and shower facility.

Whereas, On February, 19th 2015 the Assembly passed [Resolution 43: Eradicating Cis-sexism](#) which called for Cornell University to eradicate what the drafters coined “Cis-sexism” which by their definition was the perpetuation of only recognizing two genders “male” and “female” which at the time of writing were the only genders the university recognized. It was resolved that:

1. That the Student Assembly recommends that the administration collect information regarding student’s gender identity in addition to data about their sex assigned at birth as required by the United States government.
2. That all intra-university forms and documents allow students to choose what their preferred gender is.



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3. That Cornell helps eradicate all forms of cissexism (making people identify with the sex they were assigned at birth) on campus.

Whereas, On February, 28th 2018 the Student Assembly passed [Resolution 33: Increasing Access to Gender Neutral Bathrooms on Campus](#) which commended the university for its implementation of more gender neutral bathrooms on campus after the passing of Resolution 21- but criticized the fact that many of the high traffic buildings on campus such as Robert Purcell Community Center, Appel Commons, and the Town House Community center- did not contain gender neutral bathrooms. Furthermore, a map was created outlining the location of gender neutral bathrooms, which, to the dismay of the drafters, was inappropriate stating “Students should not require a map to find a bathroom they can use”. It was therefore resolved:

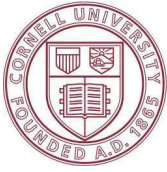
1. That Cornell University set the goal for itself that every building on campus will contain at least one gender neutral bathroom.
2. That in buildings where there are no gender neutral or single user restrooms Cornell University will redesign a gendered multi-stall bathroom to be gender neutral.
3. In future renovations Cornell University will incorporate designs for gender neutral restrooms.
4. That Willar Straight Hall enters a trial period in which all bathrooms on the fourth floor be designated all-gender.
5. That Bartels Hall, Duffield Hall, Statler Hotel, Robert Purcell Community Center, Appel Commons, Helen Newman Hall, Myron Taylor Hall, and Day Hall be considered high priority for inclusion of gender neutral bathrooms.

Whereas, On March, 23rd 2023, Cornell University updated [Design and Construction Standard 013011](#) to update its restroom signage, locations, and renovations stating “Single-occupant, accessible, gender-inclusive restroom, locker / shower facilities should be inclusively designing and usable by as many people as reasonably possible”.

Whereas, Students have expressed not being able to find feasible restroom facilities on campus that correspond with the buildings they most frequently visit.

Whereas, The precedent set by our predecessors demonstrates the history of need from the transgender and gender-nonconforming students on campus feeling unsatisfied, unheard, and unfulfilled by the Universities lack of inclusive bathroom spaces.

Whereas, Without these spaces, affected students are increasingly vulnerable to psychological and physical harm when forced into spaces where they feel unseen, and unwelcome. Furthermore, it is entirely unfair to affected students who do not have access to a bathroom in the buildings they frequent most, creating substantial risk of bodily harm when having to wait until they can find a bathroom they see fit.



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Be it therefore resolved, The Student Assembly send out a referendum to survey students on their experiences of bathroom accessibility on campus.

Be it further resolved, The survey be anonymous to protect students identity and allow for free and open response and discourse.

Be it further resolved, The survey contain the following questions:

1. Gender orientation. with the options of: Male, Female, Non-Binary, Gender-nonconforming, Other-with a subsequent space to express opinion, Prefer Not to Say.
2. How satisfied do you feel by the restroom options in the buildings you most frequently visit? With the options of: Satisfied, Mostly Satisfied, Somewhat Satisfied, Not Satisfied.
3. Do you feel that you have equal access to restrooms that correspond to your gender identity in the buildings you most frequently visit? with the options of: Yes, No, Other-with a subsequent space to express opinion.
4. Which Buildings do you most frequently visit? With the ability to choose multiple responses and the options of: Central, AG Quad, Arts Quad, Engineering Quad, East Campus, Geneva, North Campus, Tech Campus, West Campus, Other-with a subsequent space to express opinion.

Be it further resolved, The survey will be open for 2 weeks after the date it is sent out.

Be it finally resolved, Should the majority opinion of the survey be that the student body feels unsatisfied with their access to gender conforming spaces, Cornell University take immediate action in creating these spaces on campus, either through repurposing of existing restrooms on campus, or construction of new restrooms, which should be inclusively designing and usable by as many people as reasonably possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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