

Resolution 75: Establishing the Student Assembly Campus Pulse Committee and Addressing Transparency Issues

Abstract:

Sponsored by: Patrick Kuehl '24

Type of Action: Internal Policy

Originally Presented: DD/MM/YYYY

Current Status:

Whereas, [11% of students are sexually assaulted](#) in their time at Cornell

Whereas, in the Spring of 2023 [multiple members of our community were drugged and raped at Social Fraternities](#) and this pattern shows a need for more resources to be allocated to keep members of our community safe.

Whereas, the Office of Ethics in its recent investigation [found a pattern of hostility in the Appropriations Committee](#) which led to an uncomfortable working environment for members of the Assembly and leadership from Byline organizations.

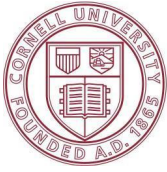
Whereas, the Office of Ethics also identified a lack of appropriate action taken to resolve issues of discrimination on the Student Assembly and identified increased transparency as an important step to stopping similar instances from transpiring in the future

Whereas, due to ongoing tensions on campus and around the world, incidents of [islamophobia](#), racism, and antisemitism have increased on our campus.

Whereas, it is the charge of the Student Assembly to advocate for policies and initiatives that protect and improve our campus community.

Whereas, we have witnessed this year an unprecedented amount of tension on our campus that has required the reallocation of resources from much needed services provided to the Cornell community.

Whereas, we recognize the need for increased communication between the assembly and its stakeholders.



Cornell University Student Assembly

Be it therefore resolved, the following text be inserted as Article VIII, Section 2 of the Bylaws of the Student Assembly:

Mandatory Anti-Bias and Transparency Training

As the pursuit of anti-discrimination is a standard for the Cornell Community, all voting and ex-officio members of the Student Assembly, as well as committee members, are required to attend and participate in an annual anti-bias and transparency training. This training shall be offered multiple times throughout the summer and first semester of the academic year. The training will be facilitated by the Campus Pulse Committee and contain at least the following topics:

- A. Recognizing implicit bias, this shall at a minimum be along the guidelines set forth by the UCLA Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Implicit Bias Video Series.
- B. The importance of diversity in the work of the Student Assembly
- C. Working with stakeholders
- D. Methods to increase relationships and transparency with the Cornell community
- E. The proper channels for the reporting of bias and harassment, at the Assembly level through the Office of Ethics and at the University level through OSCCS and Title IX.

Failure to complete such training is grounds for removal from the assembly, attendance will be cataloged by the Vice President of Internal Operations

Be it further resolved, the following text be inserted in Article I Section 4 of the Student Assembly Bylaws.

- F. All Student Assembly Byline organizations shall be granted one ex-officio member seat with the title (name of byline organization) representative.

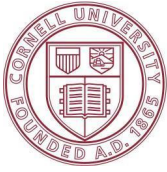
Be it further resolved, a Cornell endowed account be created with the name “The Student Assembly Campus Pulse Fund.”

Be it further resolved, \$400,000 be allocated from the SAFC reserve account to The Student Assembly Campus Pulse Fund.

Be it further resolved, the following text be inserted as Article VI, Section 4, Subsection B of the Bylaws of the Student Assembly:

B. Campus Pulse Committee

This committee shall serve as a programmatic body to increase the availability of resources to address pressing needs of the Student Body. It will also work to combat all



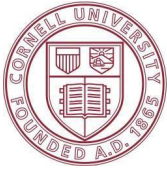
Cornell University Student Assembly

forms of bias including but not limited to, sexism, racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism, homophobia, and transphobia through programmatic implementation and workshops for the Cornell Community.

- A. Composition: The composition of the committee shall be as follows:
 - a. Four elected representatives of the Student Assembly other than the following.
 - b. The Womxn's Issues Liaison of the Student Assembly
 - c. The LGBTQIA+ representative of the Student Assembly
 - d. The President of HAVEN or their designee
 - e. The President of the Interfaith Council or their designee
 - f. The President of ALANA or their designee
 - g. The President of GJAC or their designee
 - h. Two community members as chosen by the Student Assembly by application to the committee
 - i. One representative of the Dean of Students as a voting member
 - j. One representative from Cornell Health as a voting member
 - k. The director of the Gender Justice and Inclusivity Center as a voting member

- B. Charge: The charge of the committee shall be as follows:
 - a. Implementing anti-bias programming, and community conversations which will work towards increasing empathy and cross-cultural dialogue between individuals and groups on the Cornell Campus
 - b. Implementing programming and infrastructure to address pressing needs of the campus community.
 - c. Planning, scheduling and running required student assembly anti-bias and transparency trainings for members of the Student Assembly
 - d. Work with the Intergroup Dialogue Project and other similar organizations to provide spaces for dialogue among diverse groups and people on the Ithaca campus.

- C. Operation: The operations of the committee shall be as follows:
 - a. It shall be the responsibility of the Womxn's Issues Liaison, in consultation with the Vice President of DEI, and the Director of the Gender Justice Advocacy Center to oversee the start of the committee each academic year. In the event that a Womxn's Issues Liaison is not elected in the Spring, it shall be the charge of the President of the Student



Cornell University Student Assembly

Assembly, in consultation with the Vice President of DEI and the Director of the Gender Justice Advocacy Center, to start this committee.

- b. A chair of this committee shall be elected internally.
- c. The committee shall meet at least once every two weeks
- d. The committee shall put a monthly memo about their work which will be distributed to the greater campus community via the Student Assembly newsletter.

Be it further resolved, that \$8,000 immediately be allocated to this committee from the Student Assembly reserve account to work towards the following initial priorities for the Fall 2024 Semester.

1. Implementation of date-rape-drug test kits in and around the Cornell Ithaca Campus
2. Increased financial support and programming for consent education courses on the Cornell Ithaca Campus
3. Increased cross cultural dialogue projects to recognize our shared humanity

Be it finally resolved, this newly created committee will work with other campus stakeholders, administration, and students to address gaps in the current resources and respond to pressing campus issues.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Kuehl '24

President of the Student Assembly