Cornell University
Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, November 29, 2018 Meeting
4:45pm-7:00pm in Memorial Room, Willard Straight Hall

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

II. Approval of the Minutes

a. November 15th, 2018

III. Presentations

a. Sorority and Fraternity Accountability Review Committee
    i. Mary Beth Grant, Senior Associate Dean of Students
    ii. Joe Anderson, Executive Vice President, Student Assembly
b. Mental Health Task Force
c. Cornell Health Survey Results

IV. Open Microphone

V. Announcements and Reports

a. VP Finance Barbaria- Byline Reports
    i. Orientation Steering Committee
    ii. Welcome Weekend
    iii. Student Assembly
b. Rep. Huang
    i. Transfer Student Housing
c. EVP Anderson
    i. Student Legal Services
    ii. New York State Lobbying Efforts

VI. New Business

a. Resolution 17: Approval of Spring 2018 Election Rules
    i. Election Rules with Proposed Amendments
    ii. Incumbency and Student Engagement Amendment-Rep. Dominguez
b. Resolution 18: Reinstating the Publication of Median Grades
c. Resolution 19: In Opposition to the Department of Education's Proposed Title IX Changes
d. Resolution 20: Establishing a Student Health Advisory Committee
e. Resolution 21: In Support of Cornell Health Survey Results

VII. Initiative Reporting

VIII. Adjournment

Cornell University
Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, November 15, 2018 Meeting
4:47pm-7:00pm in Memorial Room, Willard Straight Hall

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

a. V. Devatha called the meeting to order at 4:47 pm.
b. Roll Call:
   i. *Present*: D. Barbaria [0], V. Devatha [0], O. Din [2.5], J. Dominguez [0], A. Hailu [1], S. Harshvardhan [1], N. Hernandez [0], C. Huang [0], A. Jain [0], K. Kebbeh [1], S. Lim [0], N. Matolka [0], I. Pavlov [0.25], M. Peralta-Ochoa [2.5], E. Shapiro [0], M. Shovik [1], J. Sim [0], M. Stefanko [1], F. Uribe-Rheinbolt [0], I. Wallace [0], B. Weintraub [0]
   ii. *Absent*: J. Anderson [0], O. Egharevba [2], S. Iruvanti [1], U. Mustafa [0], D. Nyakaru [1], G. Park [1.5]
   iii. *Arrived After Roll Call*: V. Xu (0.25)

II. Approval of the Minutes

a. Motion to approve the November 8, 2018 minutes – approved.

III. Open Microphone

a. No speakers at the open microphone.

IV. Announcements and Reports

i. D. Barbaria said that the Appropriations Committee (henceforth AppsCom) met with five byline organizations this week and voted on each of them as follows:
   1. Alternative Breaks, stay of funding (1-13-0-1)
   2. Community Partnership Funding Board, stay in funding (1-9-0-1)
   3. Women's Resource Center, stay in funding (0-12-1-0)
   4. Convocation Committee, increase in funding (initial vote of 5-3-2-1, followed by a vote of 6-4)
   5. ALANA, stay in funding (3-7-0-1)
ii. S. Lim asked how much funding these organizations get.
iii. E. Shapiro asked what maintenance of funding would imply.
iv. D. Barbaria said that these votes are unofficial, and that he believes that it will be okay for a maintenance in ALANA's funding since they have a large surplus.
v. S. Lim spoke about the Free the Tampon initiative, and said that she would recommend that they engage in a college startup program.

vi. J. Sim said that an email sent out yesterday should include information about how the Student Assembly works, and said that members should go to kb.cornellsa.com and look at the attendance policy and all outlines and details. He added that any members with question should reach out to him. He also said that he should be notified by email of any absences 24 hours prior to the meeting.
vii. N. Hernandez said that the SA is cosponsoring the ISU Thanksgiving dinner.
viii. V. Devatha said that they will be meeting with the central web developer on Sunday.
ix. J. Sim said that families should meet sometime this week, and should aim to meet at least once before Sunday.
x. There was a question from the floor.
xi. V. Devatha said that he will look into it.
xii. I. Wallace asked what was done in this regard last year.
xiii. V. Devatha said that the rest of the meeting would involve planning for the spring semester, and that any members of the community who were willing were invited to stay for this executive session.

V. Adjournment

a. V. Devatha adjourned the meeting at 5:01 pm.

VI. Executive Session

Respectfully Submitted,
John Hannan
Clerk of the Assembly

Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/29/2018
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #17
Approval of the Spring 2019 Elections Rules

ABSTRACT: This resolution updates the Student Assembly Election Rules for the Spring 2019 Student Assembly Elections.

Sponsored by: Shashank Vura '19

Whereas, the Student Assembly Bylaws task the Elections Committee with coordinating and implementing the regularly scheduled and special elections of the Student Assembly;

Whereas, to appropriately coordinate and implement the Student Assembly elections, the Elections Rules must be up to date;

Whereas, the Student Assembly Elections Committee approved the attached rules for the upcoming Spring 2019 elections;

Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly approves the Spring 2019 Student Assembly Election Rules in the attached document;

Respectfully Submitted,

Shashank Vura '19
Director of Elections, Student Assembly

Reviewed by: Elections Committee, 8-0-1, 11/28/2018

Cornell University
Student Assembly

Student Assembly Election Rules

Adopted on Thursday, December 3, 2009. Amended on Friday, December 3, 2010, Friday, December 2, 2011, Thursday, November 29, 2012, Friday, December 6, 2013, Thursday, May 1, 2014, Thursday, November 20, 2014, Thursday, March 26, 2015, Thursday, December 3, 2015, Thursday, May 5, 2016, Thursday, December 1, 2016, Tuesday, August 29, 2017, Friday, December 1, 2017, Thursday, May 7, 2018, Thursday, November 29, 2019

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Article I: Election Guidelines

Elections are the foundation upon which representative governance rests. These rules are designed to protect the rights of all candidates, as well as all members of the University community, and to ensure that the election process takes place in an open and fair arena. Candidates must respect the rights and privileges of all members of the Cornell community, and follow all election guidelines outlined in this document. Election rules are subject to the approval of voting members of the Student Assembly each semester.

A. Voter Eligibility

To vote in an election for a seat in the Student Assembly (SA) or for the directly elected seats on the University Assembly (UA), a person must:

1. Be a full-time, matriculated undergraduate student enrolled in a degree-granting unit of the Ithaca campus of the University; and,
2. Be a member of the constituency for which the seat is designated, if it is designated for one of the following:
    a. Specific to college of enrollment
    b. Freshman
    c. Transfer

B. Candidate Information

1. **Eligibility and Requirements**

To be a candidate, a person must, prior to the petitioning deadline specified in the election calendar:

1. Be eligible to vote in the election for the seat and plan to remain seated so for the full term for which they are seeking election[1].
2. Submit a completed candidate registration form and any associated materials required in that form. You may not register for more than one position on the candidate registration form.
3. Submit petitions endorsed by the required number of people who are eligible to vote in the election for that specific position, which is the lesser of 10% of those eligible to vote for that specific position or:

[1] Candidates should not plan to pursue study abroad programs or internships that would require them to leave the Ithaca campus for any semester during their tenure.

a. 300 for President and Executive Vice President
b. 150 for all other at-large seats
c. 100 for Arts and Sciences seats
d. 25 for Transfer seat
e. 75 for all other seats

4. Not already hold a directly elected voting position on the SA and/or UA for the term for which they are seeking election.
5. Have not resigned for a reason other than a Health Leave of Absence or been removed from the SA or from a directly elected UA seat during the Student Assembly term prior to the academic year of the term for the seat being elected.

To be a candidate, a person must, prior to the commencement of voting as specified in the elections calendar:

1. Attend at least one full SA meeting in that semester and register his or her attendance at that meeting with the Director of Elections, unless waived by the Director of Elections for extenuating circumstances[2].
2. Apply online to serve on at least one committee of the SA.

The Office of the Assemblies, assisted by the Elections Committee, will review submitted materials for compliance with petitioning requirements as follows:

1. A sampling method may be used as long as at least 10% of required signatures are validated for all petitions and all required signatures are attempted to be validated for any petition found to be ineligible.
2. All petitions will be available for viewing only to members of the Cornell community and may be examined in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall after the announcement of candidates. Petitions may not be photocopied once submitted.
3. The Office of the Assemblies will notify the Director of Elections, who will notify any candidates who fail to meet petitioning requirements prior to the announcement of candidates.
4. Candidates who are listed on the ballot but found to have not fulfilled eligibility requirements prior to tabulation of results will be disqualified with vote counts untallied and discarded.

2. Petitioning

In order to demonstrate that they will be a respectable representative of the student body at large, candidates are required to collect a certain number of petition signatures. The required number of petition signers is designated above. Candidates are expected to maintain the highest standards of integrity when collecting petition signatures. In addition to the Early Campaigning rules detailed in Article 1, Section C(1) of these elections rules, the following restrictions are in place to ensure fairness during the petitioning period. Candidates may not:

1. Announce their candidacy on social media platforms in order to collect signatures
2. Announce their candidacy in front of a classroom during class hours in order to collect signatures

[2] However, this rule does not apply to past SA representatives.

3. Circulate unattended petitions

Supporters of potential candidates may collect petition signatures in accordance with the above rules. The names and netID of both the potential candidate and the individual who collected the signatures must be noted on the petition form.

3. Written Statements

1. Each candidate is asked to submit a short statement, which may be no more than 1,250 characters, including spaces (NOT word count) via the online Candidate Profile portal. Submissions must be plain text.
2. Statements will be displayed in informational materials published by the Elections Committee.
3. Statements may not include names of any political coalitions.
4. If a candidate's statement does not conform to these guidelines, the statement will not be posted.

4. Pictures

Candidates may have their photos taken in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, before the petition deadline. Photos will be displayed in informational materials published by the Elections Committee. Candidates may submit a photograph of themselves that conforms to the specifications noted in the online candidate registration form.

5. Printed Promotional Materials Provided by the Office of the Assemblies

Each candidate may receive a combination of up to 300 one-sided 8 1/2" X 11" or 150 two-sided 8 1/2" X 11" printed materials at no charge. These may be posters or quarter-cards, or a combination of both.

a. The design must be attached, exactly as it is to be copied, as a PDF to the Candidate Profile Form online and submitted by the application deadline.
b. All materials must include the dates and times of the elections and be in compliance with election guidelines.
c. Candidates may select up to two different paper colors from the swatches provided by the Office of the Assemblies.
d. Materials will be printed in black & white only.
e. No Cornell insignia or logo is allowed.
f. Candidates who do not submit materials **(**which meet these criteria**)** by the petitioning deadline, forfeit the opportunity to receive such materials from the Office of the Assemblies.
g. The Office of the Assemblies will be responsible for making the copies.
h. The Office of the Assemblies will not assist in designing, modifying, or otherwise formatting a printed submission.

6. Candidate Forum

All candidates are encouraged to participate in the Candidates' Forums held by the Elections Committee during the campaign period. The Elections Committee will be responsible for planning, coordinating, and marketing these forums. At the forum, candidates are encouraged to discuss their experience, platforms, and more. Candidates are also encouraged to use the forum as an opportunity specifically to discuss why they are more qualified for the contested position than their opponent(s). The Director of Elections shall reach out

to student organizations that receive funding from the Student Assembly, encouraging them to use the candidate forum as an opportunity to consider candidates for endorsements.

C. Election Guidelines

1. Early Campaigning Prohibition

Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must not participate in the following campaign activities until campaigning officially begins:

1. Distribution of printed campaign materials to the public.
2. Advertising candidacy by chalk, poster, or other method designed for public viewing.
3. Making speeches or statements to student organizations .
4. Promoting their candidacy through email, social networking tools, or other digital media

The Elections Committee may challenge or disqualify a candidate if a violation is found to compromise the fairness of the election.

2. Restrictions for Current SA Members

Current SA members seeking reelection:

1. Must refrain from any form of individual or self-promoting publicity during the petitioning period.
2. Must not host constituency outreach events that are meant to fulfill an outreach requirement from the deadline for election materials through the last day of voting.

3. Compliance with University Policies and Campus Code of Conduct

Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must be aware of and comply with all applicable policies and provisions of the Campus Code of Conduct, including but not limited to:

1. Use of Cornell Name, Logo & Artwork policy
2. Event Registration policies
3. Facilities reservation policies, including Willard Straight Hall area reservation policies
4. University Postering & Chalking policies
5. Residential & New Students Programs' policy for postering in residence halls
6. Dining hall policies, including a prohibition of distributing printed campaign materials in dining halls without permission from authorized staff, and as designated in the Campus Code of Conduct[3]

A violation of any University policy is a violation of these rules and therefore grounds for a challenge if it compromises the fairness of the election. It is the candidate's responsibility to read the referenced documents and be familiar with the rules and regulations established within them. The Director of Elections

[3] Please note that it is against the University Postering and Chalking Policy to chalk on any vertical surface, regardless of the location.

may also refer any reported violations to the Office of the Judicial Administrator or any other appropriate office, which may impose disciplinary remedies and penalties according to its own rules and procedures.

4. Campus Mail

Candidates and their supporters acting on their behalf may not use Campus Mail for campaigning purposes.

5. Electronic Communications and Social Media

Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:

1. Must obtain permission from the administrator of any university-hosted bulk mailing lists
2. Must comply with Cornell University IT policies

6. Campaign Finance

Candidates or supporters acting on their behalf must submit all receipts and/or proof of fair market value with the signed expense report to the Office of the Assemblies by the deadline specified in the election calendar. Candidates who do not submit receipts and/or proof of fair market value will be presumed to have spent $0 on their campaign.

1. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not exceed the $50 limit for out-of-pocket expenses and fair market value of donations of materials, professional services, and/or money
    a. Fair market value is the value at which something is to be obtained normally if documentation of its dollar value is not provided.
    b. If there is a supporting receipt for a good used in a candidate's campaign, then the value of that good is the dollar value on the supporting receipt as long as the transaction was conducted at arm's length.
    c. For donated materials, professional services, or other goods for which no official receipt is provided, candidates must seek the most plausible assessment of the fair market value of the good. Professional services will be defined as any work for which the given individual/donor is typically compensated. Volunteer time donated by full-time students will not be considered professional services.
    d. Paid advertisements and related costs on social networking sites or other websites must also be accounted for at fair market value.
2. Candidates who do not receive or choose not to receive free promotional materials printed by the Office of the Assemblies will be eligible for up to $50 in reimbursements to cover out-of-pocket expenses from the campaigning period that can be used towards the following expenses: website expenses (web hosting, domain names, and online advertising), chalk, printed materials, or any other promotional materials approved by the Director of Elections that are not a violation of these elections rules.
3. Candidates who do receive free promotional materials printed by the Office of the Assemblies will be eligible for up to $25 in reimbursements to cover out-of-pocket expenses from the campaigning period that can be used towards the following expenses: website expenses (web hosting, domain names, and online advertising), chalk, printed materials, or any other promotional materials approved by the Director of Elections that are not a violation of these elections rules.

7. Endorsements

All registered student organizations receiving funds from the Student Assembly are encouraged to endorse candidates. If an organization chooses to endorse a candidate, it is expected to abide by the guidelines below.

1. Student Activities Funding Commission (SAFC) funded and Student Activity Fee (SAF) byline funded organizations may endorse candidates. All groups must act in a way that is fair and balanced when deciding on the endorsement of candidates.
2. The Elections Committee may recommend that the SA impose fines on or revoke allocated funds from organizations failing to comply.

All registered students, except candidates, are encouraged to individually endorse candidates once the campaign period officially begins.

8. Campaign Ethics

Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:

1. May not, at any time before, during or after the elections, harass, threaten, or coerce others.
2. May not provide anything of material value to a member of the Cornell community to further themselves in the election or to promote their candidacy.
3. May not compel any person to endorse their candidacy, assist their campaign, or act as supporter as an explicit or implicit condition for initiation to, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in a group or organization.

D.Restrictions on Ticketing and Slates

1. General Rules

Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not:

1. Include any other candidate's name, a common "ticket" name, or a shared slogan and/or symbol on any promotional materials or within any form of electronic communication and/or media.
2. Share or pool campaign finances with any other candidates or supporters acting on their behalf.
3. Distribute any promotional materials, send any electronic communication, or utilize any other form of electronic media on behalf of any other candidate except if the candidate does so for another candidate in the President and/or Executive Vice President races.
4. Campaign with or on behalf of each other or engage in any coordination of campaigning activities except if the candidate does so for another candidate in the President or Executive Vice President races.

2. Special circumstance for the President and Executive Vice President elections

Candidates in any race, besides those running for the position of President of Executive Vice President, will be given the freedom to distribute promotional material, send electronic communications, campaign on behalf of, and speak for candidates in the President or Executive Vice President races. Candidates who

choose to do so are considered supporters and are held accountable to all clauses in these rules that pertain to candidates and their supporters. The President and Executive Vice President candidates are strictly prohibited from coordinating activities. Candidates are strictly prohibited from performing the actions above for candidates not in the President or Executive Vice President races.

3. Plagiarism

Candidates may not disseminate written statements, promotional materials, or electronic communications that are plagiarized or substantially copied from any such items created or distributed by any current or former candidate.

Article II: Direct Election of President and Executive Vice President

A. President and Executive Vice President (EVP) Designation and eligibility

1. Two of the six Undesignated At-Large Representative seats are for the directly elected seats of President and Executive Vice-President.
2. All candidates running for any Undesignated At-Large seat, including those running for President and Executive Vice President, will be listed as Undesignated At-Large candidates on the ballot in the Undesignated At-Large race. Candidates who win President and Executive Vice President will be removed from the Undesignated At-Large seat race and their votes will be transferred to the next highest ranked candidates.

Article III: Election Procedures

A. The Election Calendar

1. The Director of Elections, in consultation with the Office of the Assemblies, will draft the election calendar prior to the semester of the election, and will be approved by the Elections Committee at a meeting in the prior semester if possible[4].
2. Consideration shall be given to any religious holidays that may fall during the election period, guaranteeing that the right to free religious observance is afforded to all potential candidates.

B. The Elections Committee

1. The Director of Elections shall serve as chair and a designated representative of the Office of the Assemblies shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of this committee.
2. Members of the Elections Committee may not seek SA or UA office for the academic year following their term of service on the committee.
3. The Director of Elections shall publish at the beginning of each semester a list of Assembly seats to be filled, in accordance with Student Assembly Charter.

[4] The Director of Elections should coordinate the schedule of the Student Assembly elections with other campus elections, such as those of the Student-Elected Trustee and Class Councils. It may also result in disciplinary referral to the Judicial 330 Administrator.

4. During a Challenge Review Meeting, the interpretation of the Elections Rules will lie with the sitting Elections Committee. The JCC's decision making process may only override the Committee's decision if and only if the Elections Committee did not follow the procedure outlined in the Elections Rules.
5. Elections Committee members are expected to abide by the highest standards of personal conduct and integrity. Students are mandated to excuse themselves from serving on the Elections Committee if they plan to take part in a campaign. Therefore, members should not be involved in the campaigning process. All conflicts should be considered and resolved before the election cycle begins.. Elections Committee members may not sit on the Executive Board of an organization that endorses candidates in an SA election. If an Elections Committee member sits on the Executive Board of an organization or sat on that Executive Board at any time during the same semester of a particular SA election, that organization may not endorse candidates in that SA election, or that Elections Committee member must resign from the Elections Committee.
6. The Elections Committee should be prepared to meet immediately following the challenge deadline to rule on all pertinent challenges. The Elections Committee shall use Robert's Rules of Order to consider challenges, in addition to the election rules. In the event of conflict, these election rules supersede Robert's Rules of Order. The Elections Committee has no power to overrule the election rules under any circumstances.
7. The Director of Elections shall give a final report on the results of the election when there are no remaining unresolved matters.
8. For the benefit of the students, the Elections Committee shall establish voting booths across campus on the days of the election. Committee members will ensure that no campaigning occurs within 25 feet of a voting booth.

C. Independence of the Elections Committee

1. While members of the Elections Committee are expected to abide by the highest standards of integrity, they also enjoy independence from undue interference. Hence, students may not falsely accuse, harass, threaten or coerce any member of the Elections Committee for actions taken in their official capacity.
2. Subject to the determination of the Elections Committee, any violation of this section can result in temporary or permanent disqualification from contesting elections to the SA or UA.

D. Voting and Tabulation

1. The order in which names appear on the ballot shall be randomly selected.
2. Uncontested candidates will not be listed for a vote on the ballot and will be deemed victorious pending the resolution of challenges.
3. Results for challenged races will be posted after the Elections Committee has ruled on those challenges.
4. The Elections Committee will not have access to the results prior to and during challenge deliberations. The Office of Assemblies will release election results after the Elections Committee has validated the election results.

5. A printout of election results for qualifying candidates shall be available in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, for one year following the election. Disqualified candidates will not have their vote tallies made available.
6. The Student Assembly election results will be sent out to the entire student body via email using the Assembly's monthly email.

E. Challenges

1. Eligibility to Challenge

1. Any member of the Cornell community may submit a challenge.
2. The Director of Elections may submit a challenge.
3. The Elections Committee as a body may submit a challenge by majority vote.
4. Individual committee members, except the Director of Elections, may not submit a challenge.

2. Challenge Deadlines

1. Election challenges must be submitted by the election challenge deadline specified in the elections calendar.
2. The Director of Elections or the Elections Committee by a majority vote can submit a challenge at any time before the declaration of results.
3. No challenges will be accepted after these deadlines.
4. Once submitted, a challenge becomes part of the formal record, and may not be withdrawn except by the explicit permission of the Director of Elections.

3. Format of Challenges

Challenges must be in writing, submitted on the signed Challenge Form, and accompanied by the following supporting documentation:

1. Challenger's name
2. Candidate's name
3. Date of challenge
4. Reason for challenge and supporting evidence

4. Notification of Election Challenges

The Office of the Assemblies will notify the Director of Elections who will send an email notifying anyone who is named in an election challenge. The email will contain a scanned copy of the challenge.

5. Response to Election Challenges

A challenged candidate may review challenges to which they are a party in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, and address written statements in response to the committee. The challenged candidate may request a hearing in person with the committee.

6. Challenge Review Meeting

The committee will schedule a meeting to review challenges in Executive Session. Quorum for a challenge review meeting will consist of two-thirds of the seated membership of the Elections Committee. The committee, less temporarily recused members, will provide an opportunity for the challenged candidate to respond in person if requested by the challenged candidate or a member of the committee. For each challenge, the committee will determine:

1. Whether a preponderance of evidence substantiates each alleged violation. This vote will be taken for each violation individually, and a majority of the seated membership of the Elections Committee is required to declare that a preponderance of evidence substantiates each violation;
2. Which, if any, substantiated violations or combination thereof compromised the fairness of the election and constituted a material advantage to the extent the challenged candidate should be disqualified. If the committee finds either that a single substantiated violation or that a combination of substantiated violations should require the disqualification of a candidate, the Elections Committee, with at least two-thirds of the members present of the Elections Committee voting in the affirmative, may disqualify the candidate.

7. Written Report

1. For each rule violation, the Director of Elections or a member of the Elections Committee as delegated by the Director will create a written report thoroughly detailing the challenge(s), listing the tallies of all votes taken by the committee including the bifurcated voting process, the decision made, and how the decision was reached.
2. The report is kept confidential and only released to the challenged candidate and the challenger(s).
3. A copy, with all names other than the challenged candidate redacted, is kept in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall.
4. For each challenge, the committee will report to the challenger(s) and the challenged candidate all evidence received/found, any violations substantiated, and any decisions to disqualify the challenged candidate.

8. Reconsideration

1. If the committee determines a candidate should be disqualified, the candidate may request reconsideration within twenty-four hours of receiving the written report. To be reconsidered, the candidate seeking such reconsideration must submit a request in writing to the Office of the Assemblies, via email to assembly@cornell.edu, and the Director of Elections. The statement should address the specific findings in the written report to be reconsidered and should detail the specific points where the Elections Committee failed to correctly enforce these Elections Rules.
2. The committee will convene in response to such a request. The committee, after evaluating each request for reconsideration, will take a vote requiring a simple majority to determine if the previous decision to disqualify should be overturned.
3. If a disqualified candidate believes that the Elections Committee failed to correctly follow these Elections Rules after the Elections Committee's reconsideration, they may request a review by the Judicial Codes Counselor (JCC) within 24 hours after the Election's Committee's Reconsideration vote.
4. The challenged candidate will submit to the JCC, the Office of the Assemblies, and the Director of Elections all original appeal materials that were previously submitted to the Elections Committee as well as any additional materials that detail failures of the Elections Committee to follow

these Elections Rules.

5. The Elections Committee will submit all challenge reports pertaining to the candidate's appeal as well as any additional materials refuting or agreeing with claims made by the challenged candidate to the JCC within 24 hours after the candidate appeals to the JCC. If the Elections Committee agrees with the candidate's appeal, a vote with a simple majority of the seated membership of the Elections Committee in the affirmative may overturn their decision before the JCC completes a full review.
6. After a review of all materials sent by the candidate and the Elections Committee, the JCC will determine whether or not to take the case. If the JCC deems that the appealed case does not merit consideration, then the decision of the Elections Committee will be final. If the JCC takes on the case and finds that the Elections Committee did not correctly follow the Elections Rules, the JCC has the power to overturn the decision of the Elections Committee.

9. Confidentiality

1. Members of the committee and parties to a challenge may not share the contents of challenges, evidence, or decisions submitted to or received from the committee, except when explicitly permitted by these rules or by the Director of Elections. When publicly releasing confidential information, the Director of Elections must redact the names of all individuals who are not the challenged candidate.
2. A review of the Challenges may take place in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, by any member of the Cornell community. Challenges may not be photocopied, photographed, digitally recorded or removed from the Office of Assemblies.

SA Election Reform: Incumbency and Student Engagement

Submitted by: John Dominguez ‘20, ILR Representative

Introduction.

Last year, there were 10 uncontested elections with a lot of incumbents.[1] This has been a source of criticism from both within and outside the Student Assembly (SA). In lieu of calls to restructure the SA to improve engagement (see #restructuringhellyeah chat) and more accountability on the SA, this proposal looks to be a part of the solution.

Proposal.

Amend Article III Section A of the Election Rules to the effect that:

- Two Candidate Registration dates (early and late registration)
    - Early registration date is 1 week (7 days) before the late petition date
- Anyone can participate in early candidate registration but…
- SA incumbents must submit their candidate registration petition at the early date
    - **Who’s included:** Incumbents are *anyone* who is an elected member of the Student Assembly
- Upon the day of Early registration, Office of Assemblies publicly releases the candidate names in the races so far

Discussion.

Allows public to see which elections are still uncontested after early registration, so encourages people to run → attacks uncontested elections

[1] https://cornellsun.com/2018/04/11/s-a-election-results-announced-after-delay-of-almost-two-weeks/

- With “late” petition, people can see which roles look uncompetitive so can foster more competition
- The uncertainty of not knowing who else is running might be the reason why some do not run in the first place
- Example: Someone sees A&S Rep. seat open only 2/3 running, so this inspires a kid to run for that other open seat

Principle of rewarding good representation

- Allows general public to see which SA members want to do SA again
- If a poor representative, people will more likely challenge, or incentives challenges
- Gives credence to the constituent threat: “If you vote for XYZ, I will run against you”

Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/29/18
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #18
Reinstating the Publication of Median Grades

ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to reinstate the semesterly publication of median grade reports.

Sponsored by: Osai Egharevba '21

Whereas, from 1998 until 2011, the university published median grade reports at the end of each semester for all courses whose enrollment was greater than 10; and

Whereas, in May 2011, the Faculty Senate voted to cease the publication of median grades out of concerns regarding grade inflation; and

Whereas, median grades are recorded on student transcripts for graduate schools and employers to view, but students are not allowed to view this data until after they have completed the course; and

Whereas, at other universities, such as Dartmouth College and University of Michigan, median grades are published *in addition* to being recorded on transcripts, establishing a concept known as "Truth in Grading."; and

Whereas, median grades for many courses have largely stayed the same (and in some cases have increased) since the last time they were published, contradicting the argument that the publication of median grades contributes to grade inflation; and

Whereas, a student's course grade can easily be compared to the median grade for that course by looking at their transcript[1], contradicting the argument that one can "shop" for supposedly easy courses based on a median grade report; and

Whereas, various courses inherently have different grading bases and different faculty members may have different grading standards for the same course, contributing to the difference in median grades; and

Whereas, faculty often announce the expected median grade before the drop date for their courses at the beginning of the semester, having the same effect as publishing a median grade report; and

[1] For instance, a student who earns a B+ in a course whose median grade is a B would indicate stronger performance than one who recieved an A- in a class whose median grade is an A.

Whereas, academic transparency can be significantly improved by reinstating the publication of median grades, in addition to maintaining them on student transcripts; and

Whereas, the Faculty Senate has the authority to reinstate the publication of median grades, reintroducing the Truth in Grading concept; and

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly recommends that the Faculty Senate reinstate the semesterly publication of median grade reports.

Osai Egharevba '21
College of Engineering Representative, Student Assembly
Member, Acadmic Policy Committee

Moriah Adeghe '21
Chair, Academic Policy Committee

Robert Sanchez '21
Member, Academic Policy Committee

Jojo Cheng '21
Member, Academic Policy Committee

TJ Hunt '21
Member, Academic Policy Committee

Rachel Marciano '20
Member, Academic Policy Committee

(Reviewed by: Academic Policy Committee, 12-0-1, 11/8/2018)

Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/29/18
Type of Action:	Sense of the Body
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #19
In Opposition to the Department of Education's Proposed Title IX Changes

ABSTRACT: This resolution strongly condemns the changes proposed by the Department of Education and urges the Cornell Student Body to partake in the 60-day commenting period.

Sponsored by: Joe Anderson '20, Savanna Lim '21, and Ian Wallace '20

Whereas, on November 16th, 2018 the Department of Education release their proposed revisions for the handling of sexual misconduct cases under Title IX[1];

Whereas, in response to these proposed changes, several survivor advocate organizations have denounced these proposed changes as changes that would increase barriers to reporting and minimize the effects of sexual misconduct on college campuses;

Whereas, Columbia University[2] and several other universities have pledged support to maintain support for students, even in the wake of these proposed changes;

Whereas, these changes would drastically change the process in reporting, investigating, and deciding cases of sexual misconduct, including:

- Eliminating the single investigator model
- Requiring live hearing, which would be conducted by a neutral decision maker
- Allowing for a period of cross-examination period
- Complicates the duties of reporting for off-campus incidents
- Choosing a higher evidentiary standard
- Allowing for an appeals process;[3]

Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly vehemently denounces the proposed changes made by the Department of Education;

Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly actively encourages students to voice their opinions and to partake in the 60-day commenting period.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Anderson '20

[1] https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-devos-proposed-title-ix-rule-provides-clarity-schools-support-survivors-and-due-process-rights-all

[2] https://www.columbiaspectator.com/news/2018/11/20/university-pledges-to-maintain-support-for-students-as-trump-administration-announces-new-sexual-misconduct-rules/

[3] https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/16/us/politics/betsy-devos-title-ix.html

Executive Vice President, Student Assembly

Savanna Lim ‘21
Vice President of External Affairs, Student Assembly
Women’s Liaison at-Large, Student Assembly

Ian Wallace ‘20
LGBTQ+ Liaison at-Large, Student Assembly

Natalia Hernandez ‘21
Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion, Student Assembly
Minority Students Liaison at-Large, Student Assembly

Debbie Nyakaru ‘20
First Generation Students Liaison at-Large, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, VOTE, 11/28/2018)

Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/29/18
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #20
Establishing a Student Health Advisory Committee

ABSTRACT: This resolution establishes a Student Health Advisory Committee in conjunction with the GPSA and Cornell Health to improve quality of care and collaboration at Cornell Health

Sponsored by: Varun Devatha '19 and Joe Anderson '20

Whereas, Cornell Health has looked to increase the transparency and student feedback of their services:

Whereas, students have voiced their interest in participating in positive conversation with Cornell Health to help improve the quality of care that students are receiving;

Whereas, that current mechanisms are through the Student Health Benefits Advisory Committee and comment sections after patient care;

Whereas, these avenues are not sufficient mechanisms in communicating the concerns of students, as some concerns fall out the scope of the Student Health Benefits Advisory Committee and the lack of action that might be taken via comment sections;

Whereas, a Student Health Advisory Committee would serve the purpose of being a venue for students to work collaboratively with staff members at Cornell Health to work to improve quality of care as well as outreach and communication of Cornell Health;

Be it therefore resolved, that the bylaws of the Student Assembly be updated with the following in Article VI:

Insert:

Section 5. Special Committees

A. Student Health Advisory Committee: This committee shall be jointly established with between the Student Assembly, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, and Cornell Health. It shall be chaired by one member from the SA, one member from the GPSA, and one member from Cornell Health. Student Membership shall consist of 15 seats, 8 members selected from the SA, with 3 being SA voting members and 5 being non-SA voting members, and 7 from the GPSA. Staff from Cornell Health will be brought to the committee on an ad-hoc basis. Areas of focus for the committee will include, but are not limited to, physical health, mental health, and outreach and communication. Necessary communication between the Student Health Benefits Advisory Committee will occur on an ad-hoc basis.

Be it finally resolved, that the committee will fully established by the Spring of 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,

Varun Devatha ‘19
President, Student Assembly

Joe Anderson ‘20
Executive Vice President, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-0, 11/28/2018)

Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/29/2018
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #21
Affirming the Student Assembly & Graduate and Professional Assembly Cornell Health Survey

ABSTRACT: This resolution affirms the results of the SA/GPSA Cornell Health Survey and recommends the Student Health Fee be increased an additional $20-30 with funds allocated toward hiring more mental health providers and opening Cornell Health on Sundays.

Sponsored by: Varun Devatha '19, Joseph Anderson '20

Whereas, Cornell Health serves as the primary provider for Cornell undergraduate and graduate/professional students; and

Whereas, the demand for mental health support outpaces the growth of Cornell Health's budget; and

Whereas, Cornell Health operates with the goal of a near-zero surplus each year; and

Whereas, Cornell Health has recommended a 10% increase to the Student Health Fee; and

Whereas, a majority of surveyed students welcome a $20-30 additional increase in the Student Health Fee;

Be it therefore resolved, that the attached report be accepted by the Student Assembly; and

Be it further resolved, the Student Assembly recommends an additional increase in the Student Health Fee of $20-30; and

Be it further resolved, that Cornell Health directs the additional funds toward hiring more mental health providers and opening Cornell Health on Sundays; and

Be it further resolved, the Student Health Benefits Advisory Committee (SHBAC) adopt the recommendation of this Assembly

Be it finally resolved, that this resolution is forwarded to SHBAC and President Martha Pollack.

Respectfully Submitted,

Varun Devatha '19
President, Student Assembly

Joseph Anderson '20
Executive Vice President, Student Assembly

Nicholas Matolka ‘21
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 6-0-0, 11/29/2018)

Cornell Health Survey 2018

A **Student Assembly** & **Graduate and Professional Student Assembly** analysis of potential new services

CORNELL UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSEMBLY | GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSEMBLY | FALL 2018

Photo Credits | Robert Barker (UREL)

From the Office of the President
November 29, 2018

The following report outlines an analysis of new services that could be offered by Cornell Health as well as students' willingness to pay for them. The Student Assembly and Graduate & Professional Student Assembly collaborated with Cornell Health to conduct a survey that was sent to 22,019 recipients and received 3,034 responses. Undergraduates responded at a 12.98% response rate (1935), while graduates/professionals at 15.45% (1099). This deems the data statistically significant. While undergraduates make up about 68% of the student body (as per the recipient list), they made up 64% of responses. Due to the small difference, the survey should be interpreted as a reflection of the student body at-large.

The results show that undergraduates are overwhelmingly more concerned about increasing the resources provided by Cornell Health. At the same time, undergraduates and graduates/professional students are near-equivalent in their willingness to pay for services, with a majority of students willing to increase the Student Health Fee at least an additional $20-30. Nearly 66% of students are willing to see at least an additional $10-20 increase.

Students, undergrads and graduate/professionals alike, are primarily focused on increasing the number of mental health providers (80.75%) and opening Cornell Health on Sundays (79.85%). There is also minor desire for an academic/public health partnership and an online/app-based mental health resource.

While a more detailed demographic-based analysis of the data was planned, the rapid timeline prevented such a measure. While that information will be unavailable for the Student Health Benefits Advisory Committee during its Student Health Fee discussion, it will be relevant in preparing for the future of Cornell Health. Such an analysis should take place as soon as possible.

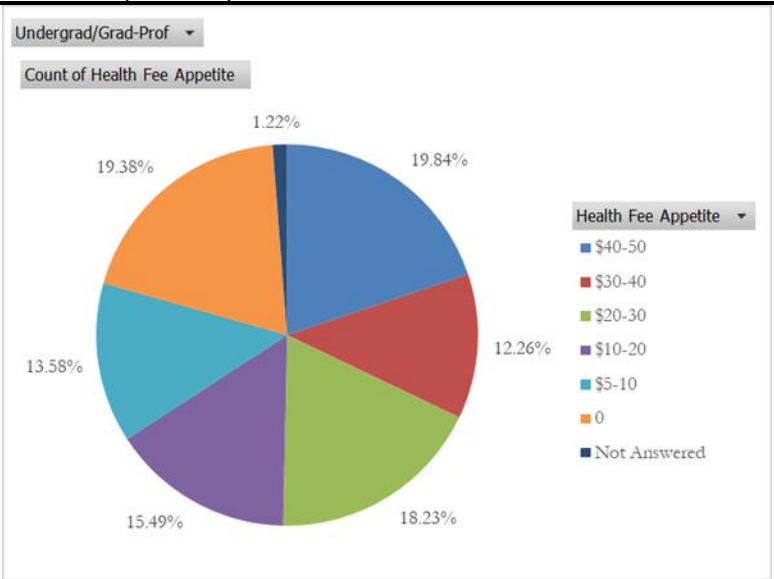
This report is to be presented at the November 29th Student Assembly meeting and the November 30th Student Health Benefits Advisory Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Varun Devatha
President | Student Assembly
vad33@cornell.edu

Analysis

Overall				
	Strategy	Early Cost Estimate	High Priority	Medium Priority+
1	Hire more mental health providers to improve student access to support	$25-35	60.02%	80.75%
2	Develop online and app-based mental health resources	$5-15	21.62%	51.09%
3	Create an on-campus transportation service to and from Cornell Health	$5-15	17.67%	40.94%
4	Open Cornell Health on Sundays	$15-20	43.87%	74.89%
5	Create an academic/public health partnership	$15-20	25.64%	53.56%
Undergrad				
	Strategy	Early Cost Estimate	High Priority	Medium Priority+
1	Hire more mental health providers to improve student access to support	$25-35	66.98%	84.29%
2	Develop online and app-based mental health resources	$5-15	24.13%	54.62%
3	Create an on-campus transportation service to and from Cornell Health	$5-15	20.00%	45.12%
4	Open Cornell Health on Sundays	$15-20	49.15%	79.85%
5	Create an academic/public health partnership	$15-20	29.30%	57.93%
Graduate/Professional				
	Strategy	Early Cost Estimate	High Priority	Medium Priority+
1	Hire more mental health providers to improve student access to support	$25-35	47.77%	74.52%
2	Develop online and app-based mental health resources	$5-15	17.20%	44.86%
3	Create an on-campus transportation service to and from Cornell Health	$5-15	13.36%	33.38%
4	Open Cornell Health on Sundays	$15-20	34.58%	66.15%
5	Create an academic/public health partnership	$15-20	19.20%	45.86%



Prioritization of strategies occurred on what is essentially a 4-point scale, deeming "medium" and "high priority" as indicators of student desire.

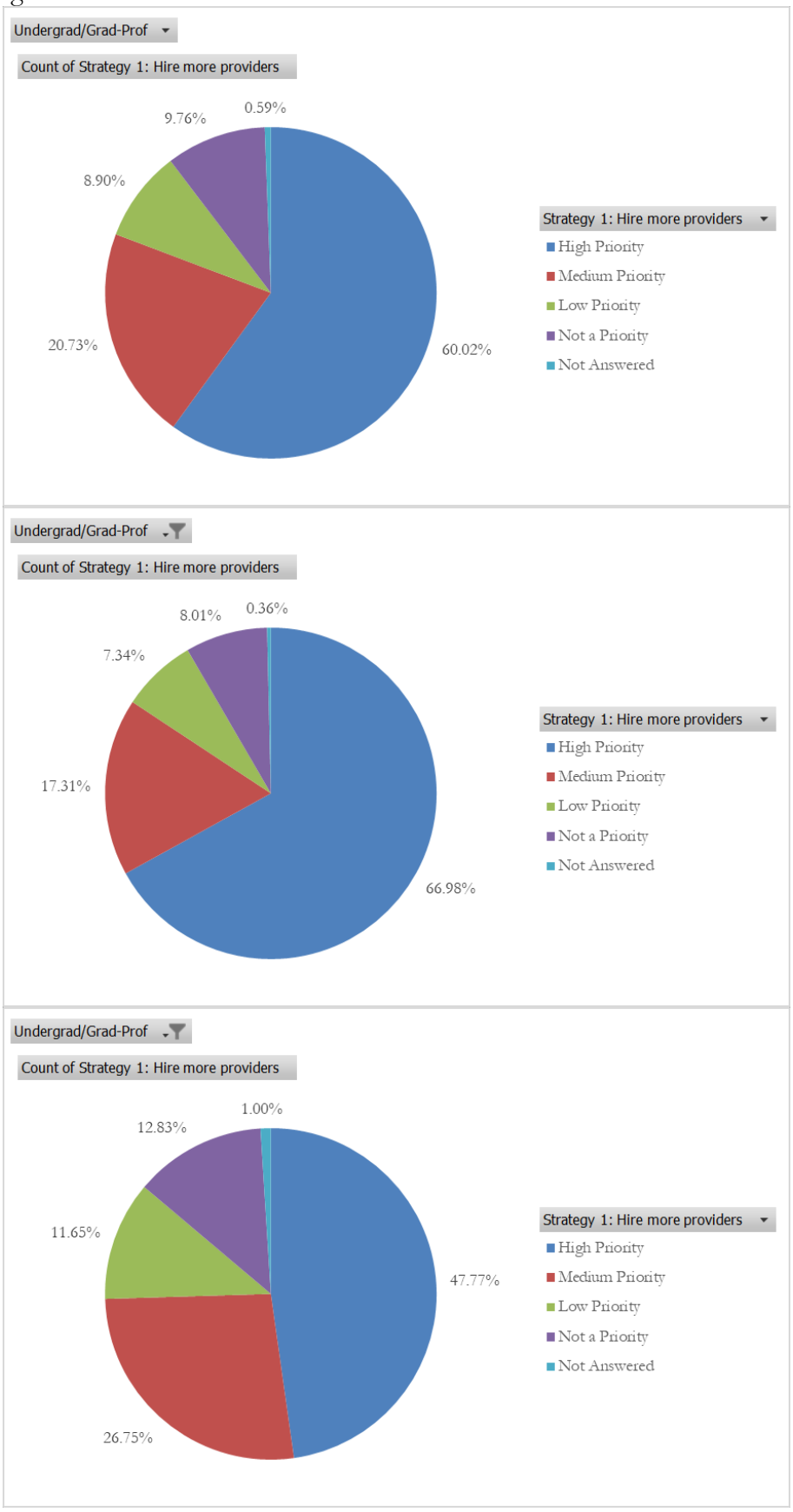
While there is significant desire for midstream and downstream support such as hiring more mental health providers and opening Cornell Health on Sundays, this must be balanced with upstream support, like an academic/public health partnership, which could prevent the need for downstream resources in the first place.

Undergraduates desired transportation to Cornell Health significantly more than graduate/professionals. This may be partially due to the latter's higher rate of vehicle ownership. Additionally, while only 45% of undergraduates saw this as a necessity, it would be beneficial to due further analysis on how residence impacted the results. Even if less than 50% of students desired this support, if students from North Campus and Collegetown (among other areas) are not visiting Cornell Health simply because of transportation, this is an issue that must be addressed.

The following strategies and willingness to increase the Student Health Fee are ordered in the following manner: overall, undergraduate, graduate/professional

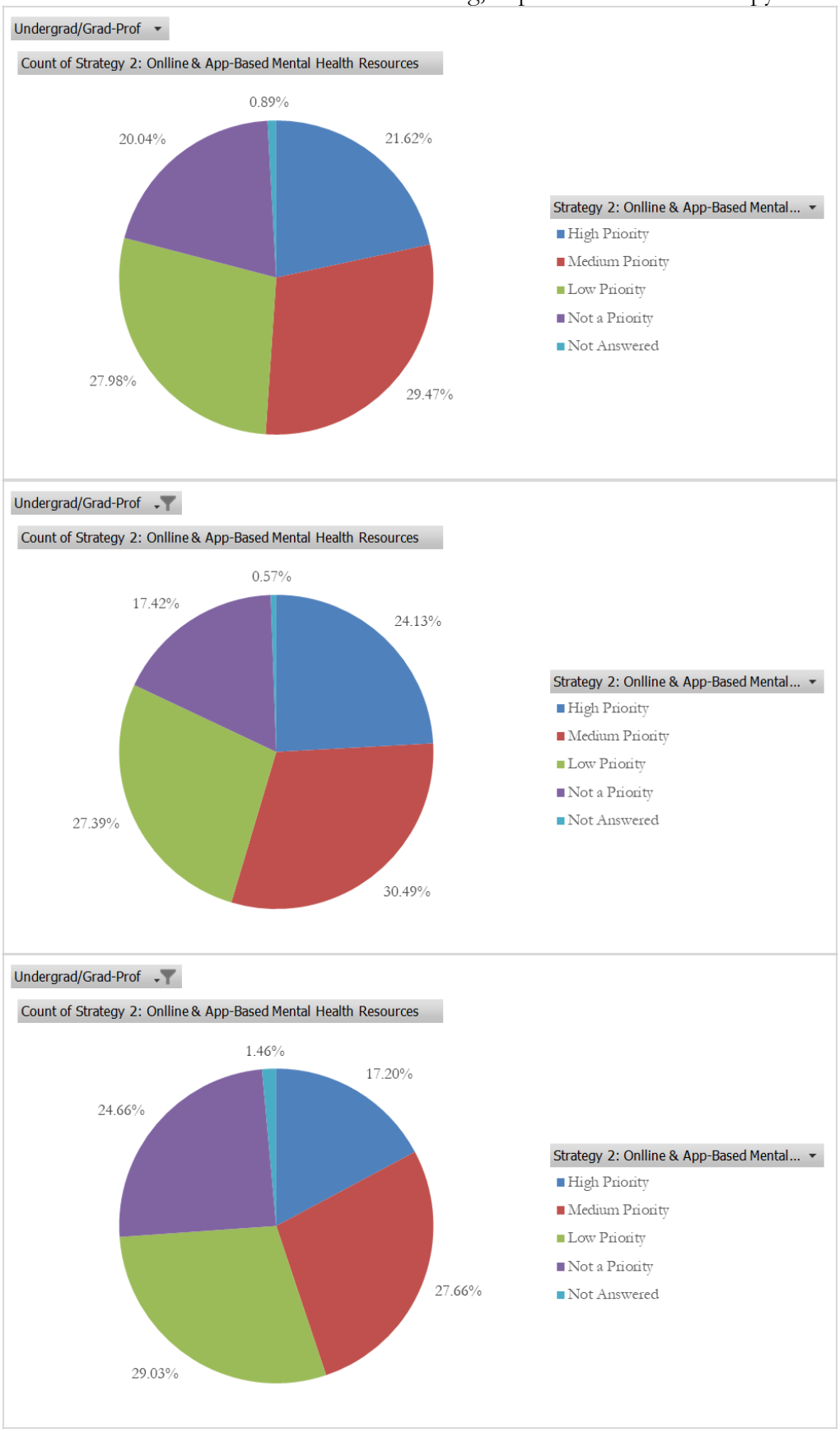
Strategy 1: Hire more mental health providers to improve student access to support: $25-35

This initiative would expand a team of counselors that detect early signs of mental health need, initiate preventive strategies, and remain highly accessible to students for immediate interventions, so students can get support before their needs become urgent.



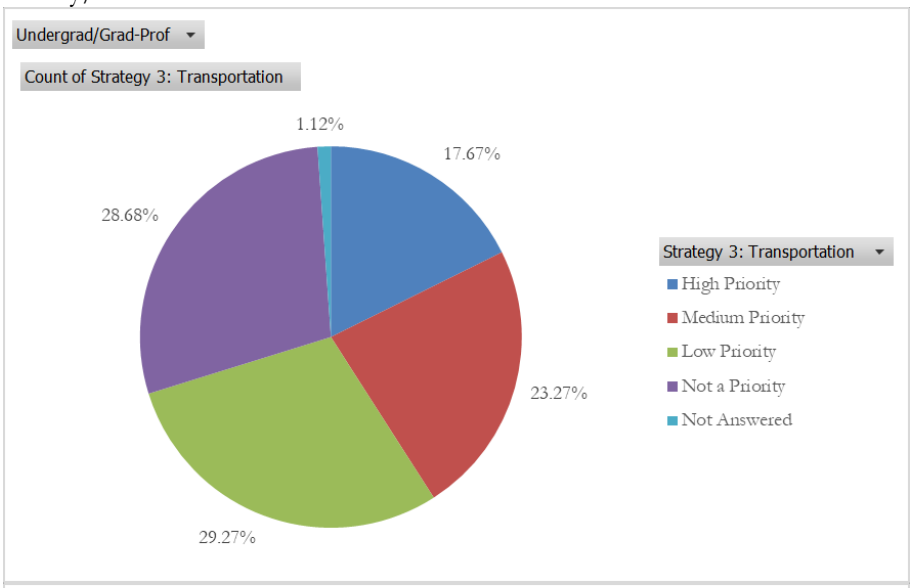
Strategy 2: Develop online and app-based mental health resources: $5-15

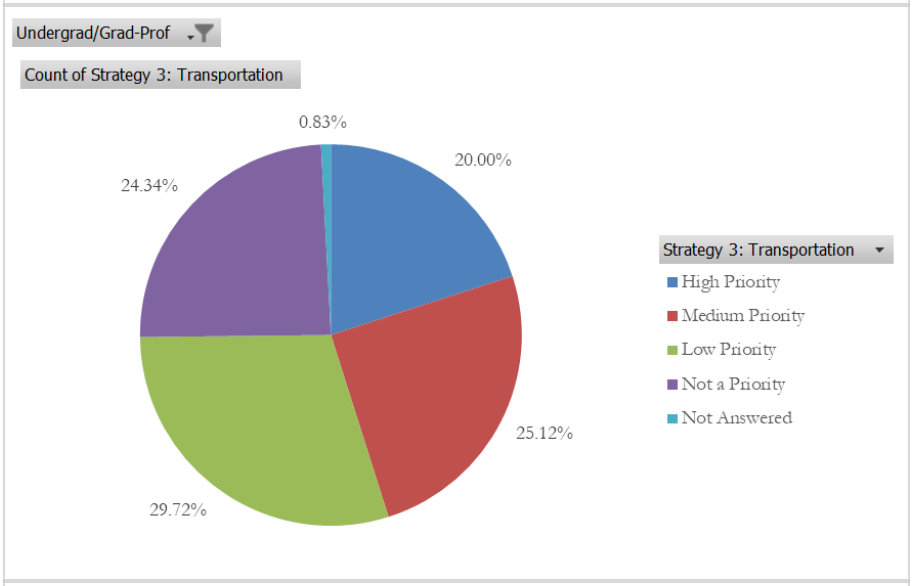
Therapy Assistance Online provides low intensity-high engagement therapy, online/app-based educational modules and practice tools with short phone conversations or video conferences with a therapist. Over 100 studies in 20 countries have shown this method to be as effective as hour-long, in-person individual therapy for common disorders.

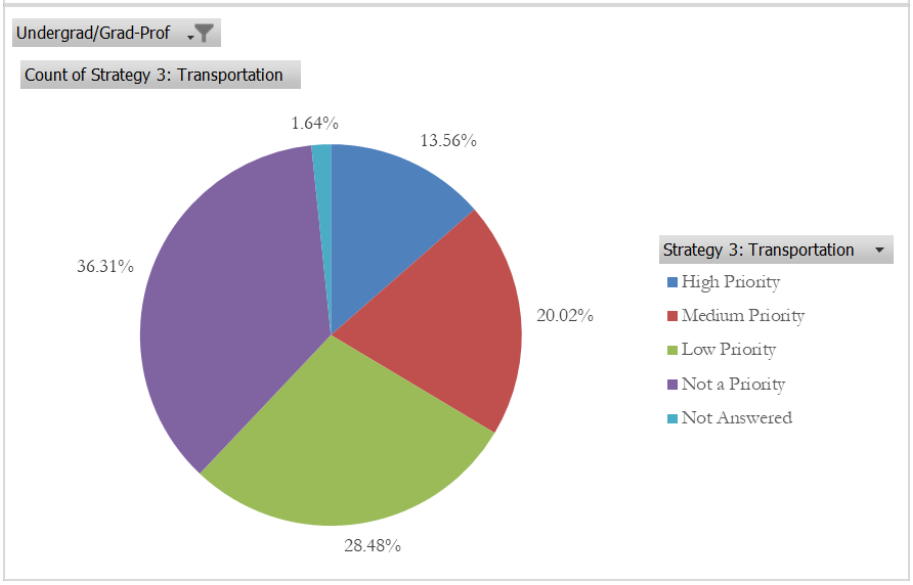


Strategy 3: Create an on-campus transportation service to and from Cornell Health: $5-15

This service would help students get to Cornell Health from their residences, academic buildings, etc., especially aiding students for whom mobility/travel distance is a barrier to healthcare.

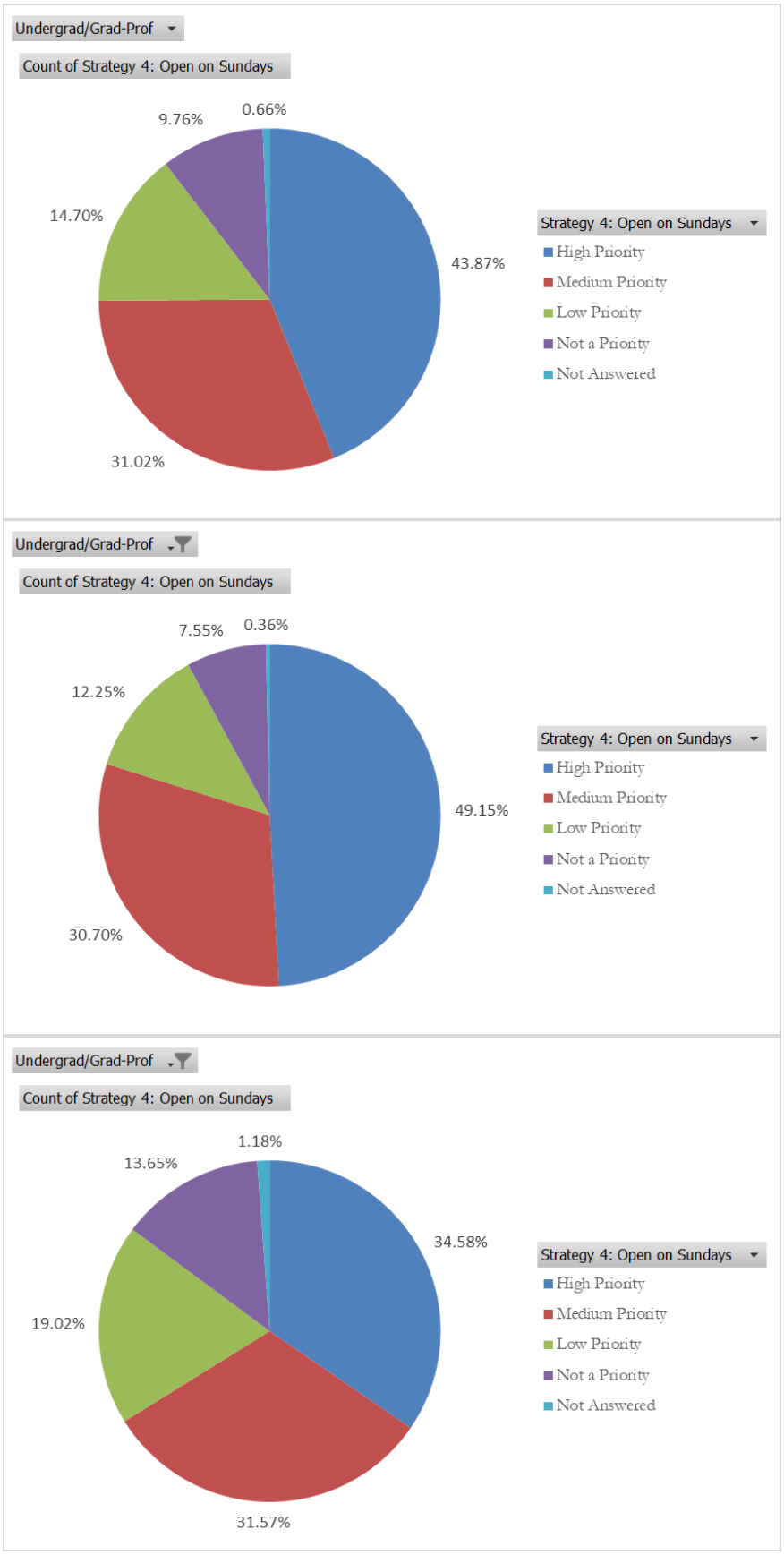






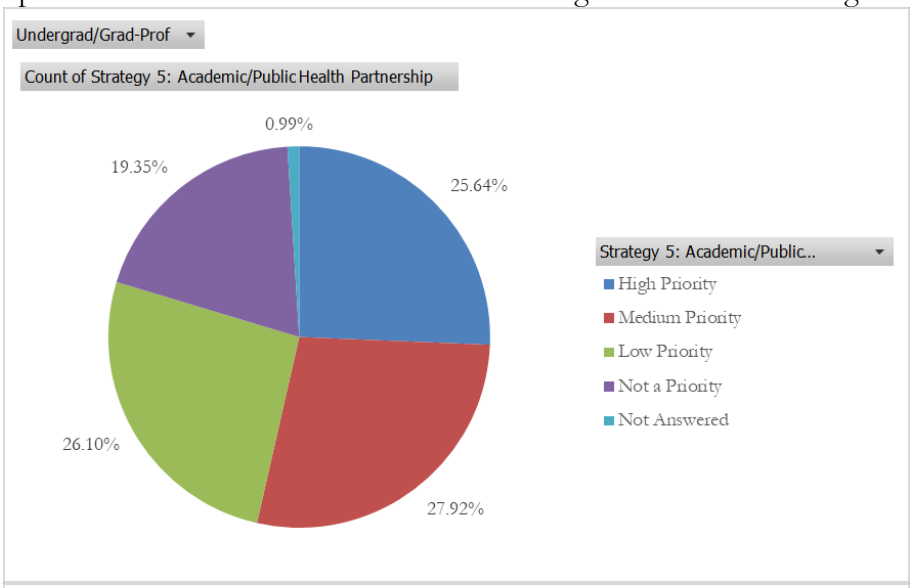
Strategy 4: Open Cornell Health on Sundays: $15-20

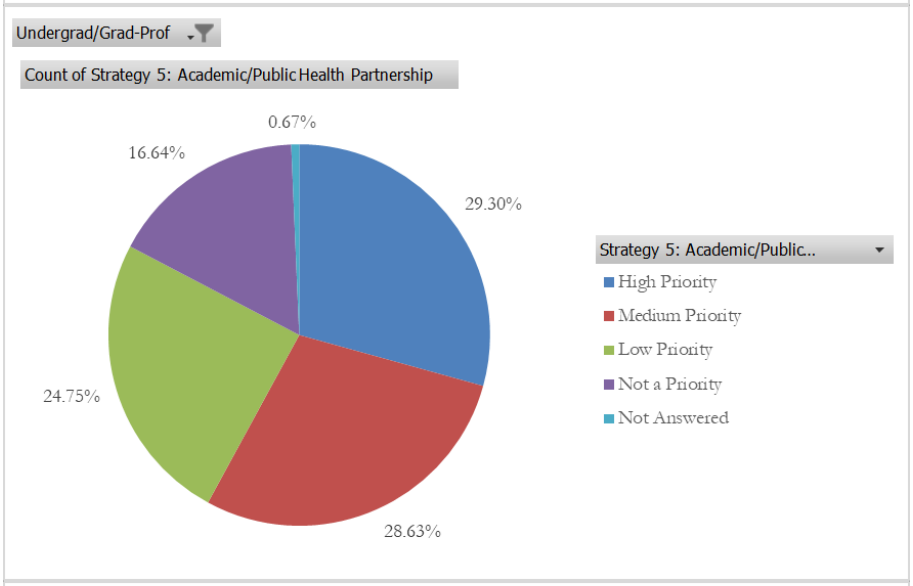
By offering Sunday hours, students would be able to receive urgent medical and mental health care services on Sundays, including access to the Pharmacy. This would expand weekend hours from Saturday only to Saturday and Sunday.

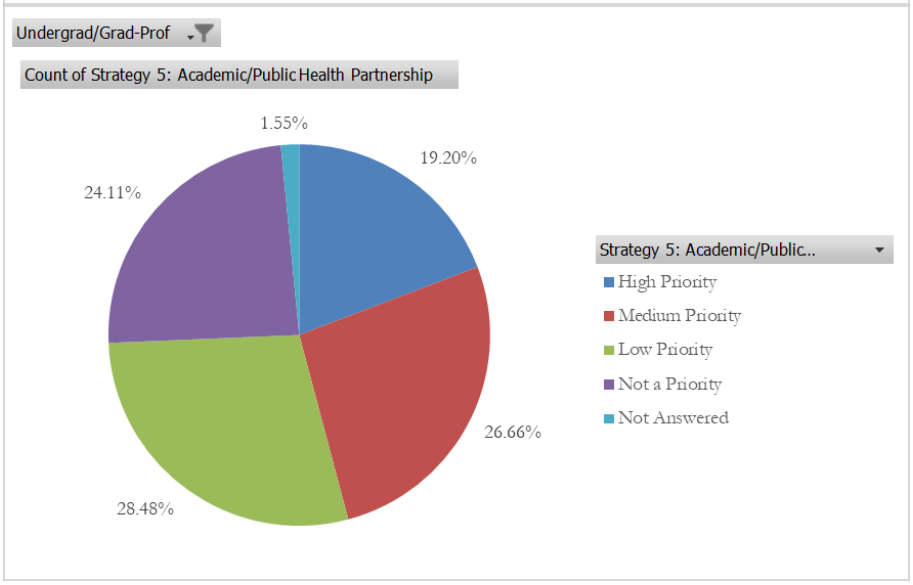


Strategy 5: Create an academic/public health partnership: $15-20

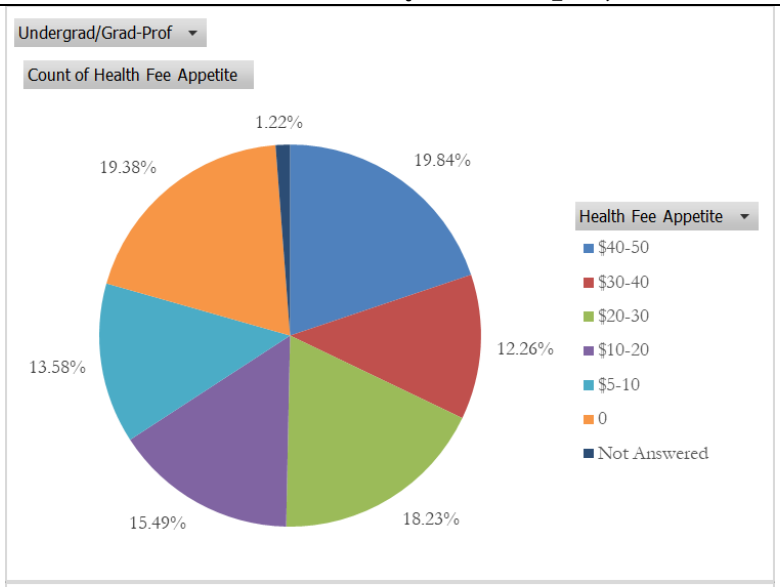
Faculty, academic advisors and public health professionals would collaborate to develop and implement teaching and advising practices that promote student mental health and well-being and enhance learning.

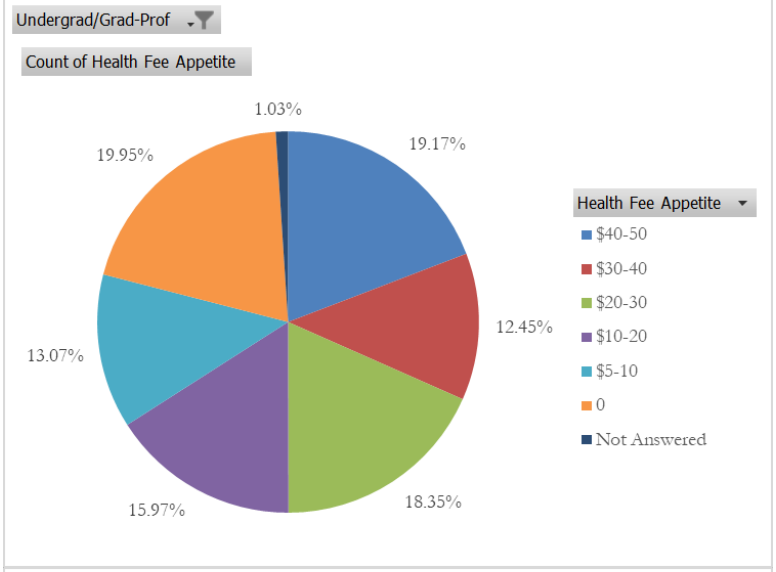


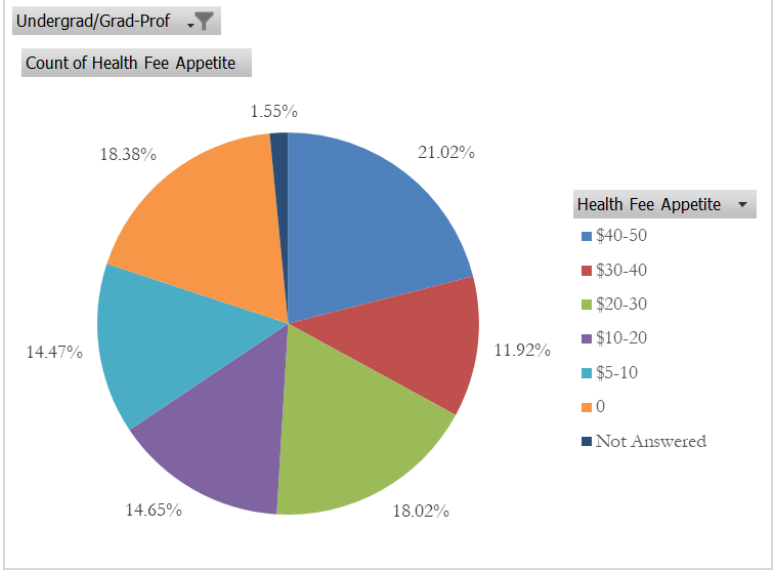




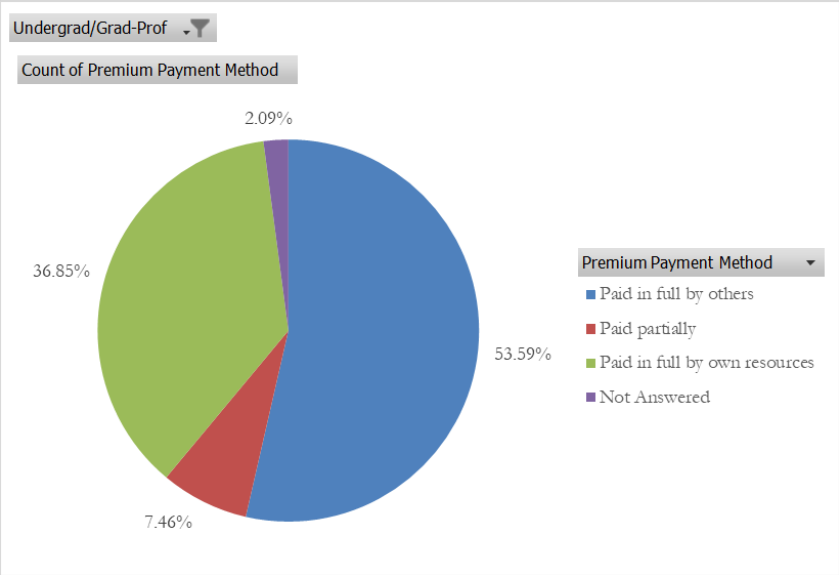
Willingness to increase Student Health Fee beyond the projected 10% to address strategies

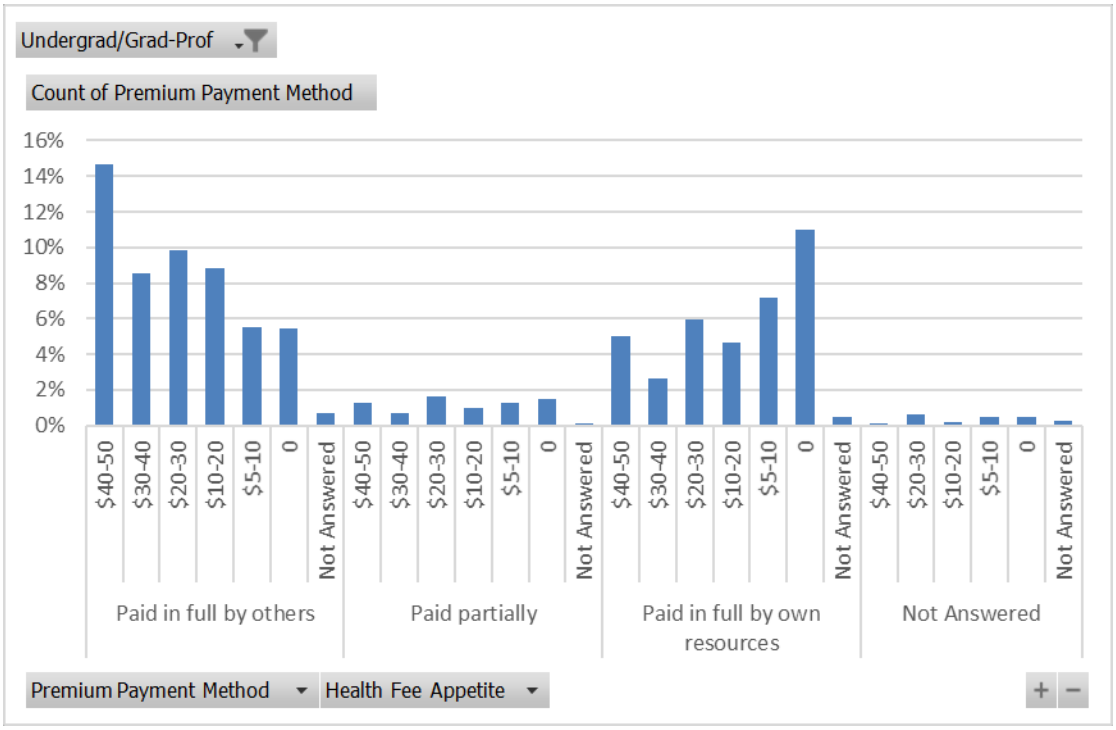






Graduate & Professional Students Payment Structure





While 53.59% of graduate/professional students have their Student Health Plan premium covered by other resources, it is interesting to note how similar overall graduate/professional and undergraduate response to a potential premium increase was. This could be explained by the socioeconomic spectrum of undergraduates, with financial aid offsetting Student Health Fee costs for many students. Further demographic-based analysis is required.

From the Office of the President
November 28, 2018

The following report outlines an analysis of new services that could be offered by Cornell Health as well as students' willingness to pay for them. The Student Assembly and Graduate & Professional Student Assembly collaborated with Cornell Health to conduct a survey that was sent to 22,019 recipients and received 3,034 responses. Undergraduates responded at a 12.98% response rate (1935), while graduates/professionals at 15.45% (1099). This deems the data statistically significant. While undergraduates make up about 68% of the student body (as per the recipient list), they made up 64% of responses. Due to the small difference, the survey should be interpreted as a reflection of the student body at-large.

A brief analysis of the results will show that undergraduates are overwhelmingly more concerned about increasing the resources provided by Cornell Health. At the same time, undergraduates and graduates/professional students are near-equivalent in their willingness to pay for services, with a majority of students willing to increase the Student Health Fee at least an additional $20-30. Nearly 66% of students are willing to see at least an additional $10-20 increase.

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Sincerely,

Varun Devatha
President | Student Assembly
vad33@cornell.edu

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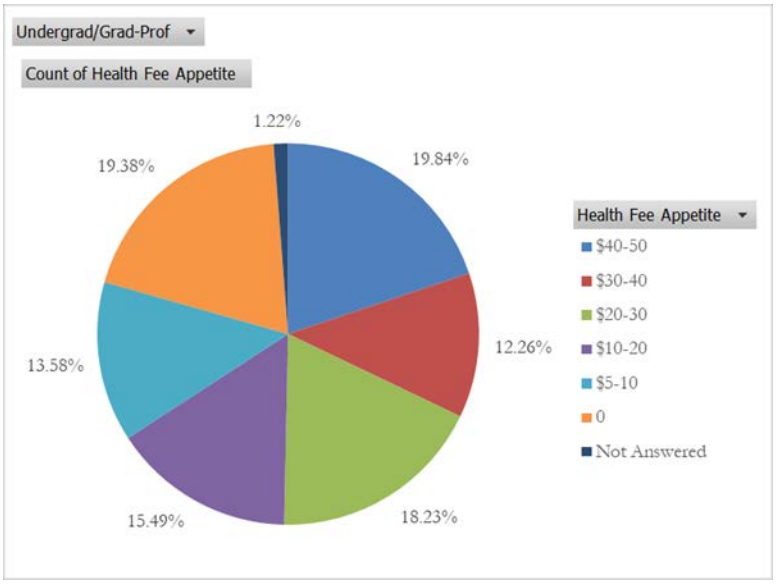

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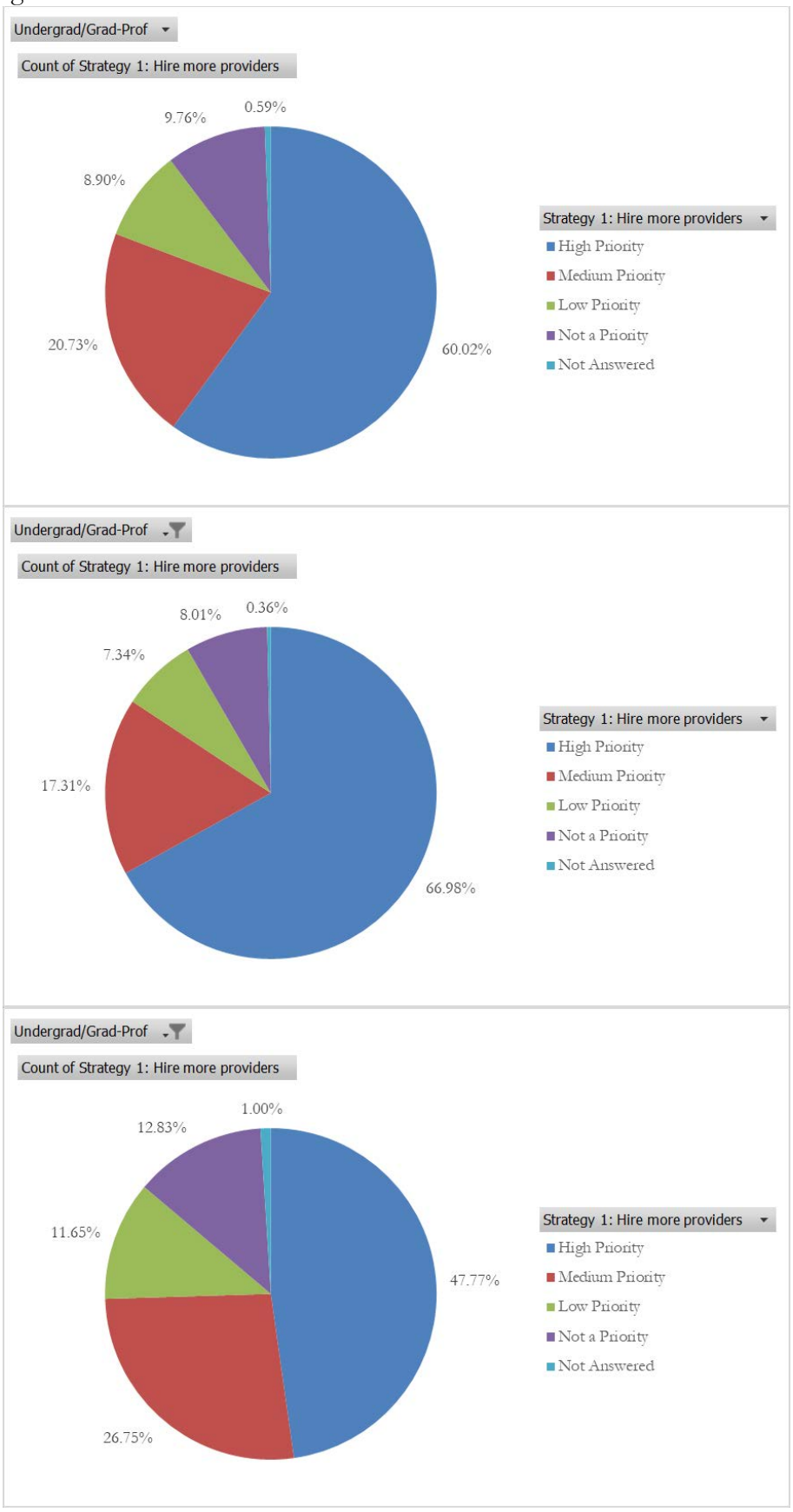

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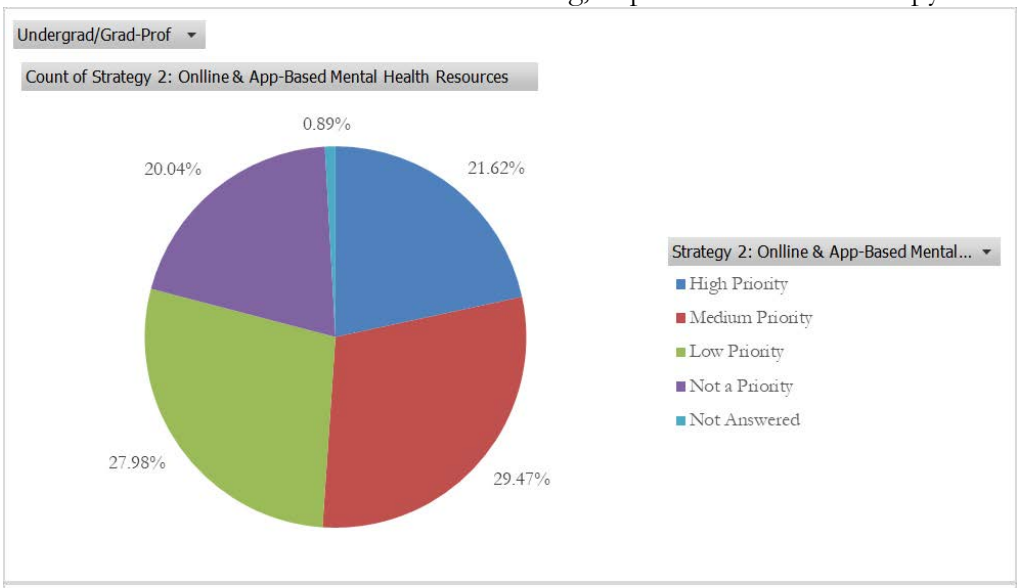
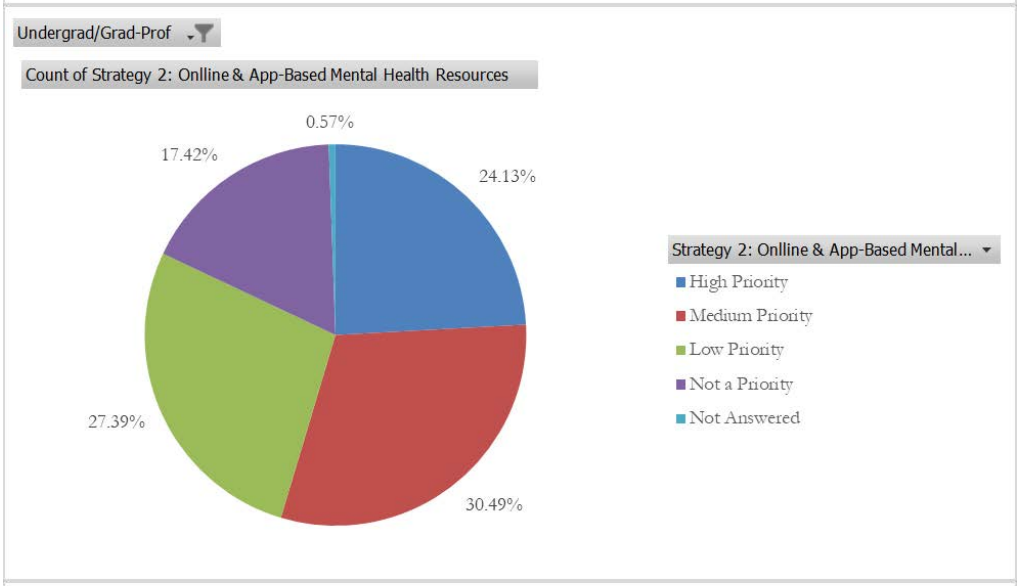
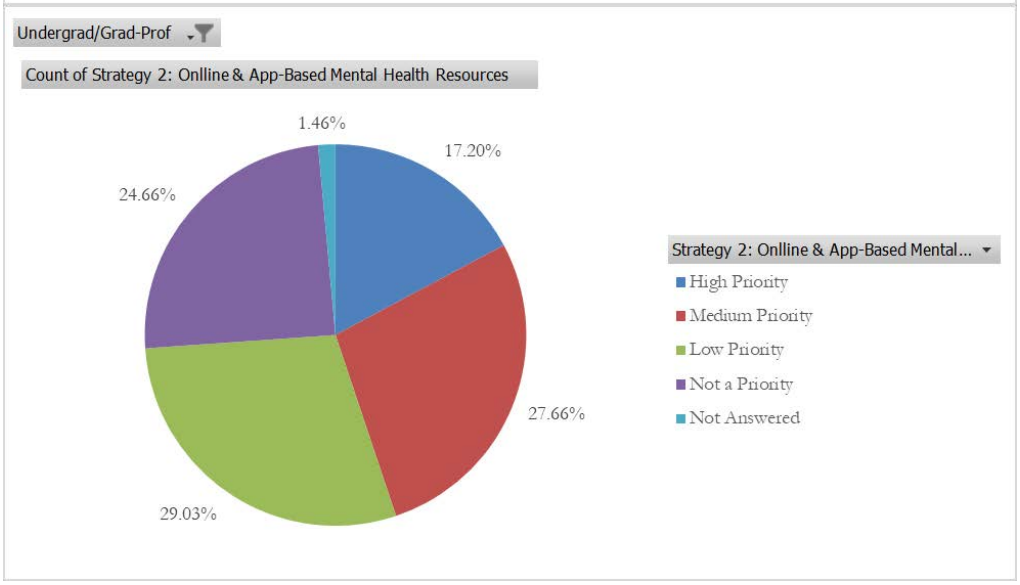
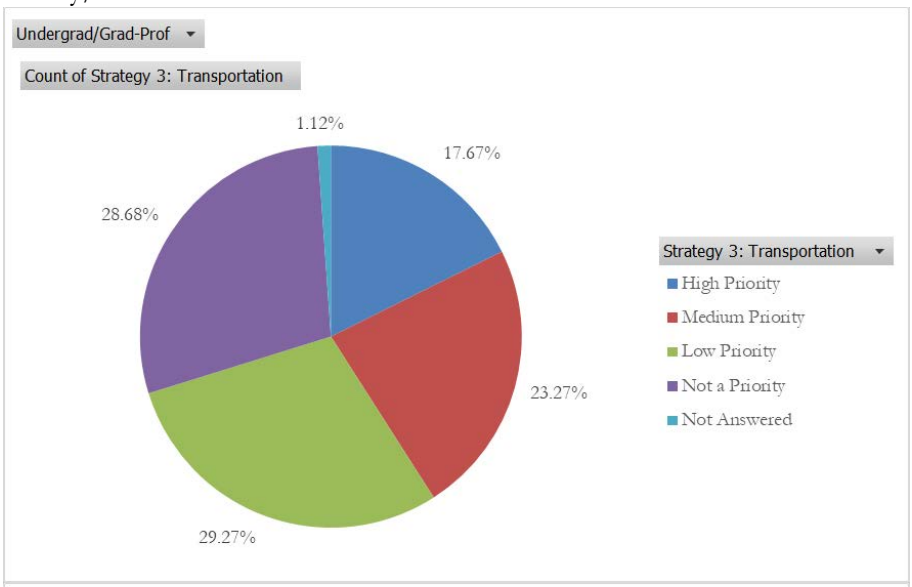


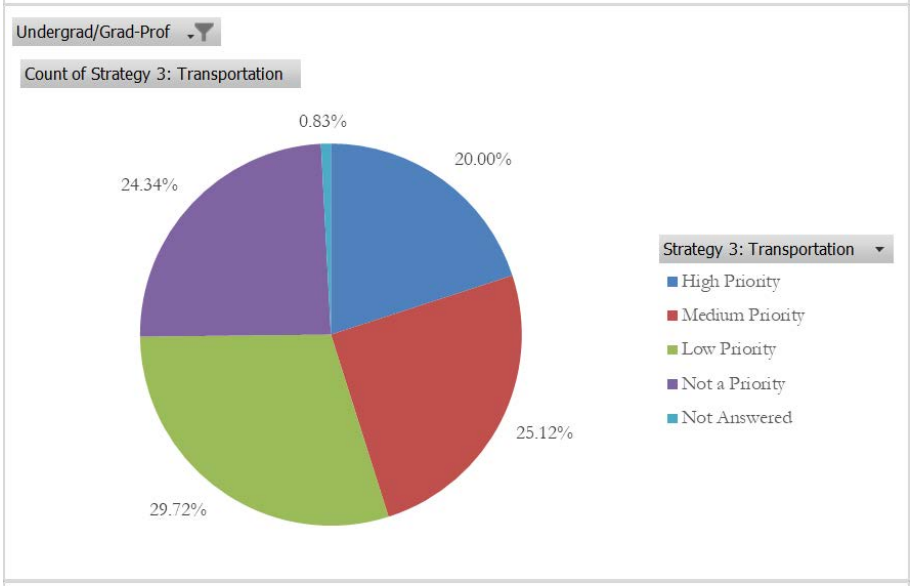


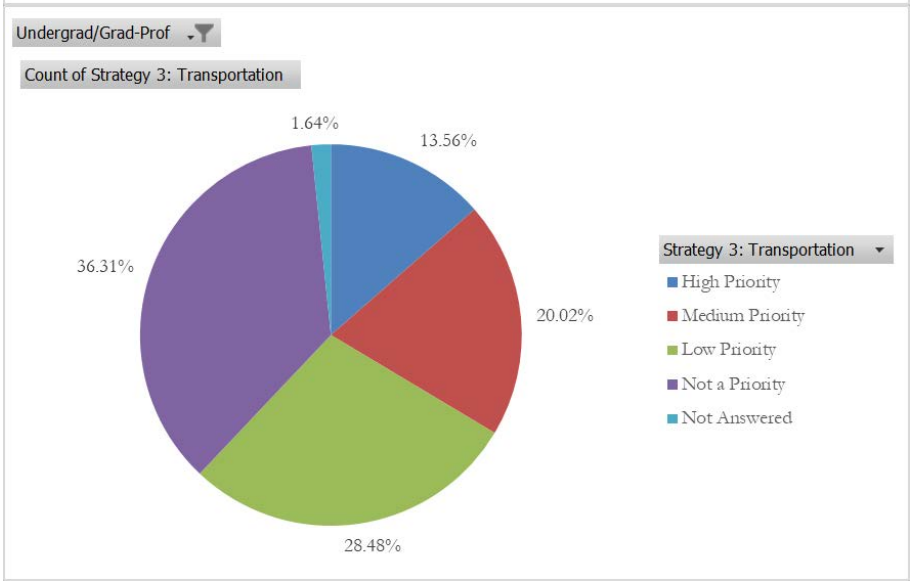


Strategy 3: Create an on-campus transportation service to and from Cornell Health: $5-15

This service would help students get to Cornell Health from their residences, academic buildings, etc., especially aiding students for whom mobility/travel distance is a barrier to healthcare.

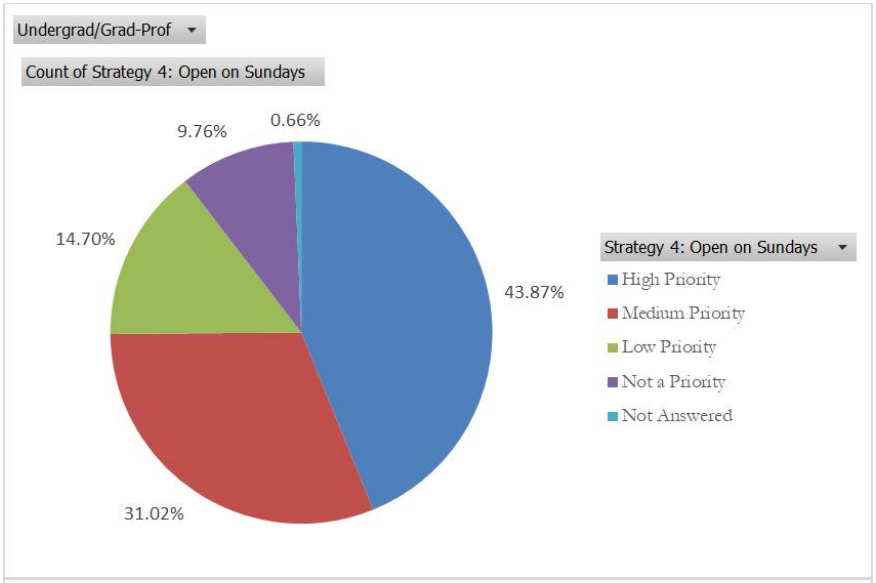


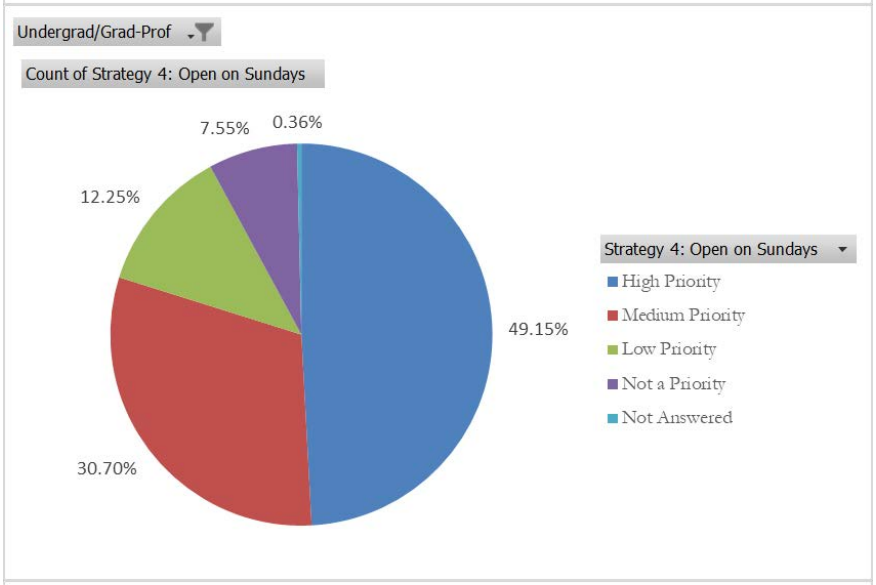


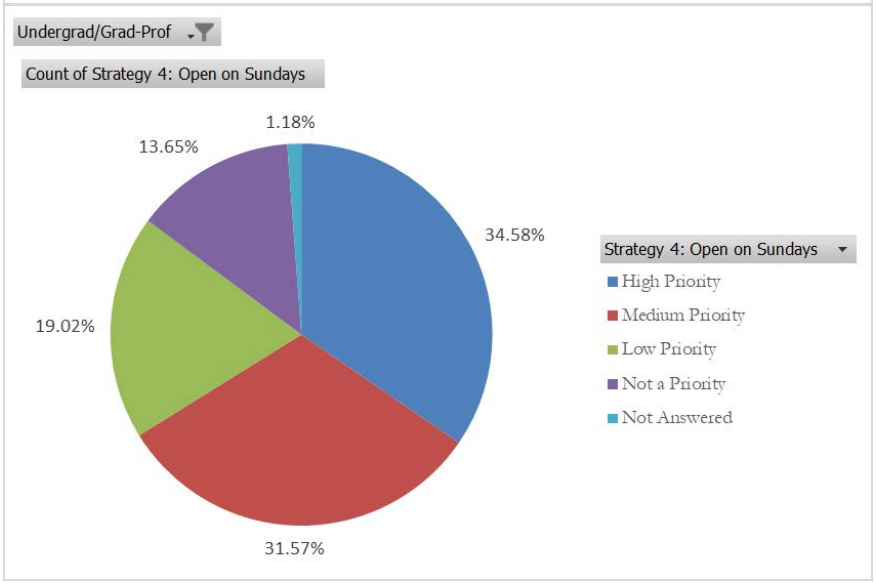


Strategy 4: Open Cornell Health on Sundays: $15-20

By offering Sunday hours, students would be able to receive urgent medical and mental health care services on Sundays, including access to the Pharmacy. This would expand weekend hours from Saturday only to Saturday and Sunday.

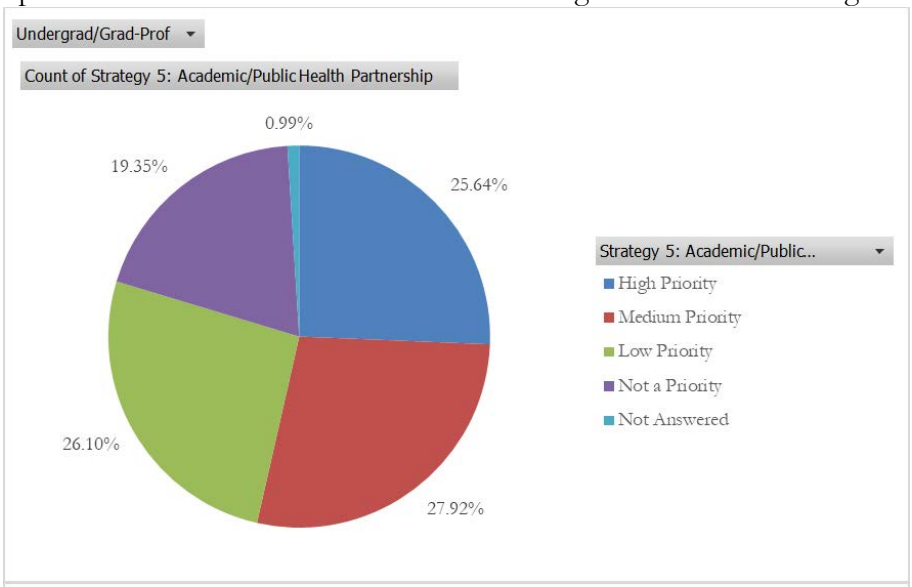


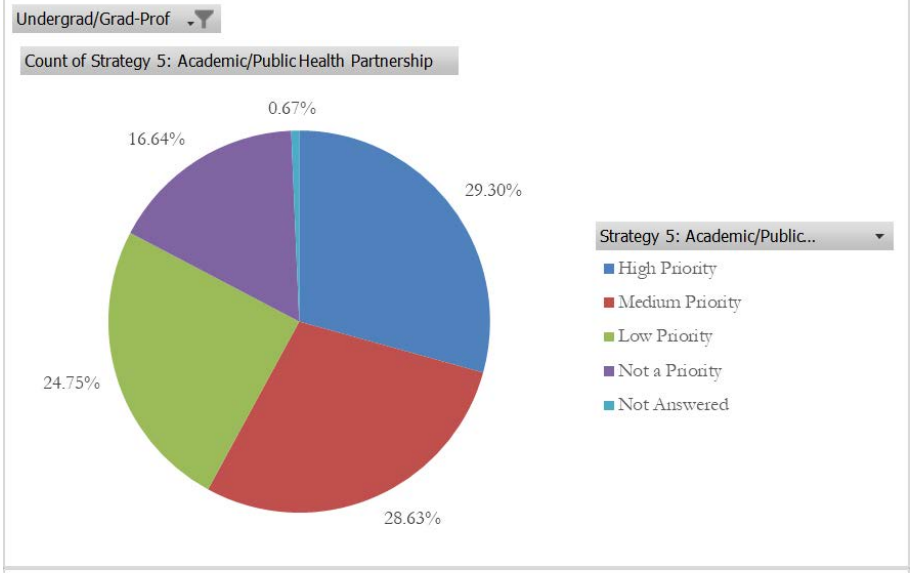


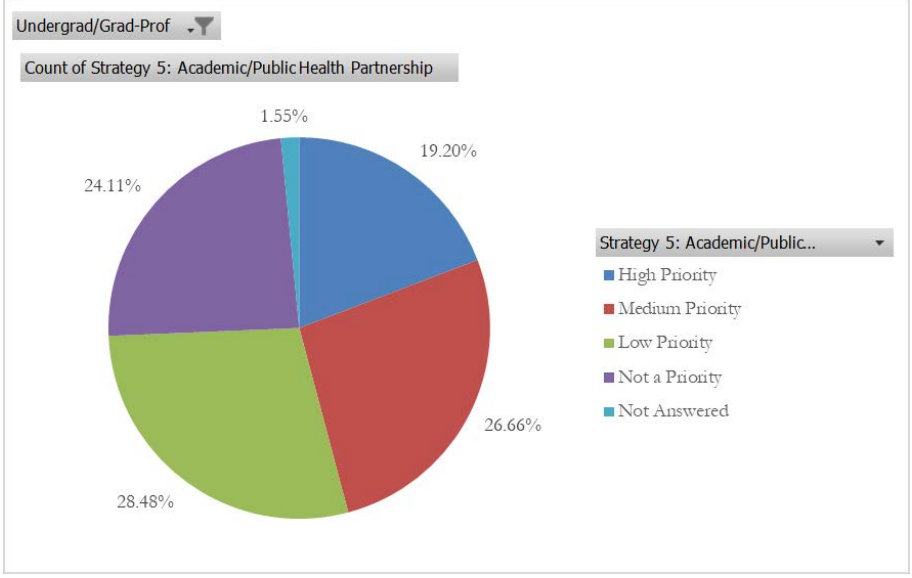


Strategy 5: Create an academic/public health partnership: $15-20

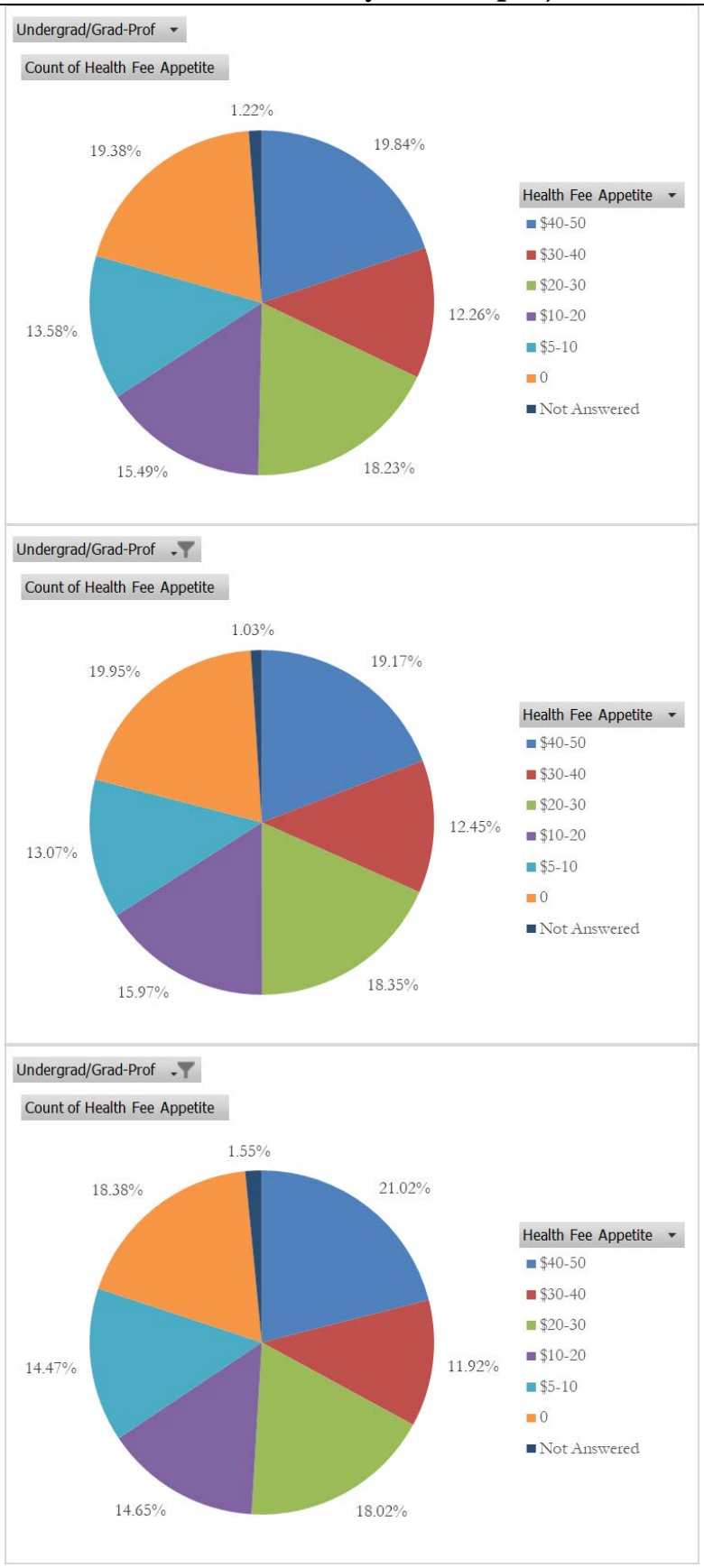
Faculty, academic advisors and public health professionals would collaborate to develop and implement teaching and advising practices that promote student mental health and well-being and enhance learning.



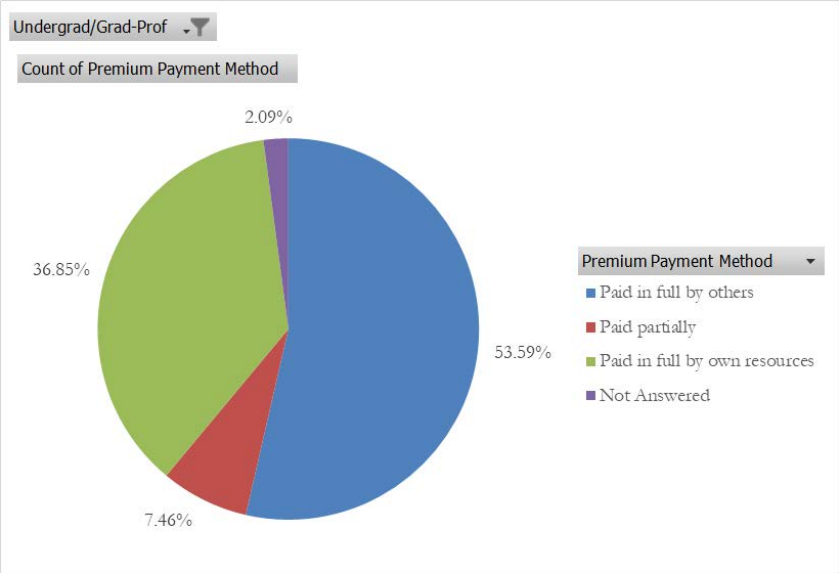


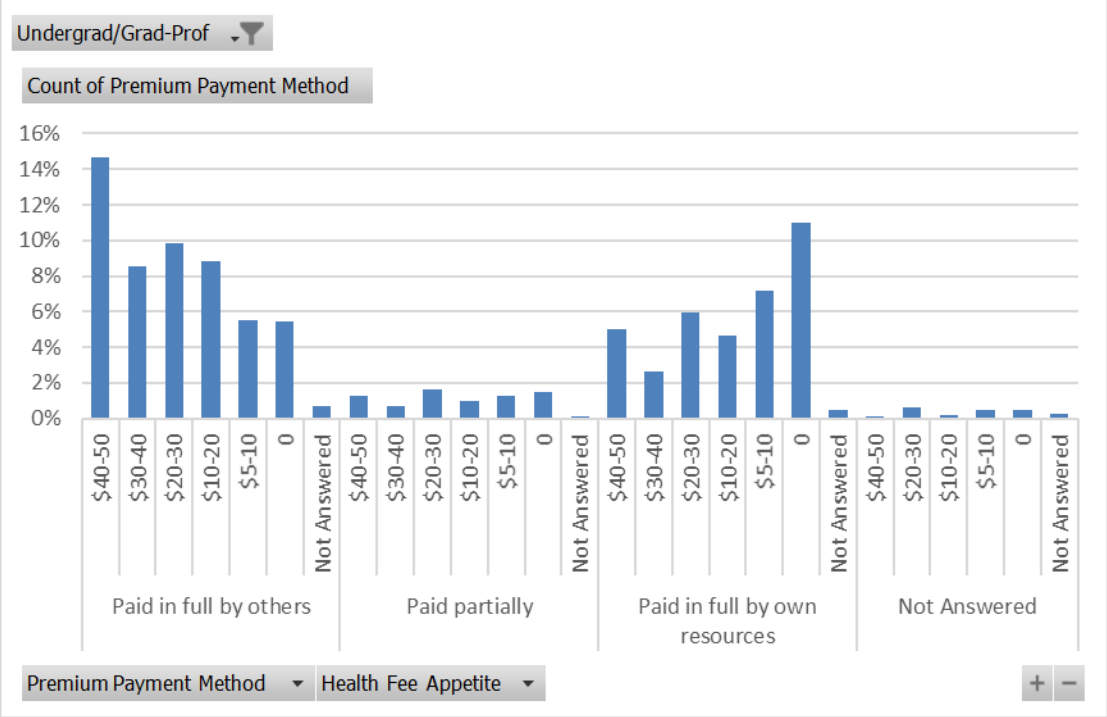


Willingness to increase Student Health Fee beyond the projected 10% to address strategies



Graduate & Professional Students Payment Structure





While 53.59% of graduate/professional students have their Student Health Plan premium covered by other resources, it is interesting to note how similar overall graduate/professional and undergraduate response to a potential premium increase was. This could be explained by the socioeconomic spectrum of undergraduates, with financial aid offsetting Student Health Fee costs for many students. Further analysis is required.