

# Cornell University Student Assembly

## Student Assembly Meeting

### AGENDA

September 7, 2023

4:45 - 6:30 p.m.

Memorial Room, Willard Straight Hall/Zoom

[ZOOM](#)

Meeting ID: 927 5625 4940 | Passcode: 411537

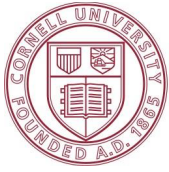
1. Call to Order
2. Reading of the Land Acknowledgment
3. Open Microphone
4. Approval of the [Minutes](#)
5. Consent Calendar
6. Announcements
7. Reports
  1. Executive Board
  2. Committee Chairs
  3. Offices
  4. Liaisons
8. Presentations
9. Old Business Calendar
10. Resolutions Calendar
  1. [Resolution 16](#): Student Assembly Allyship to the Cornell LGBTQ+ Community 1
  2. Resolution 17: Student Assembly Allyship to the Cornell LGBTQ+ Community 2
  3. Resolution 18: Student Assembly Advising Board
  4. [Resolution 19](#): Rollover Funds

11. Appointments and Vacancies Calendar

1. Appointment of Deputy Parliamentarian
2. External Liaison and Committee Appointments

12. Adjournment

If you are in need of special accommodations, contact the Office of the Assemblies at (607) 255-3715 or Student Disability Services at (607) 254-4545 prior to the meeting.



# Resolution 16: *Allyship to the Cornell LGBTQ+ Community*

**Abstract:** Per the current Charter regulations on Byline applications, all organizations applying for SAF funding must disclose a full list of member names in order to submit a valid Byline application. This rule, though facially neutral, has harmful unintended consequences that impact the LGBTQ+ community at Cornell. This resolution explains the implications of the rule on HAVEN: The LGBTQ+ Student Union, and lists the accommodation that HAVEN requires, including standards that HAVEN will be held in lieu of submitting member names.

**Sponsored by:** Karys Everett '25 Claire Ting '25 Aissatou Barry '24

**Reviewed by:** DEI Committee, 09/06/2023, 8-0-1

**Type of Action:** Internal Policy

**Originally Presented:** 09/06/2003

**Current Status:** Business of the Day

---

**Whereas,** HAVEN: The LGBTQ+ Student Union is a **byline-funded** organization that serves as an advocate for LGBTQ+ students, a vehicle of outreach for the queer community on campus, and an administrative umbrella and source of funding for most undergraduate LGBTQ+ organizations on campus. **It is the largest and only Byline organization that directly empowers the entire LGBTQ+ community.**

**Whereas,** HAVEN is not only important but an essential part of protecting students on our campus that through the years has made continuous efforts to advocate for students, bring people together, and enrich our campus community.

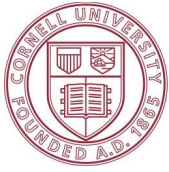
**Whereas,** According to the "SAF Application Requirement" HAVEN is classified as a Supplementary Funding Board and is required to complete Sections 6-14. This classification requires Haven to provide the names of all current members.<sup>1</sup>

**Whereas,** HAVEN is sympathetic to the challenges the Student Assembly is facing regarding the recent change in Admin Access for students on Campus Groups, and recognizes that without an active roster that could be accessed at any point, it is difficult to verify the validity of membership rosters and understands that the VP of Finance is working tirelessly to re-obtaining admin access.

<sup>1</sup>Line 47 Section E of *Resolution 9 Amending the Student Assembly Charter*

<sup>2</sup>Outing, definition: Exposing someone's lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender or gender non-binary identity to others without their permission. <https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms>

<sup>3</sup>Human Rights Campaign, Glossary of Terms. <https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms>



## Cornell University Student Assembly

30 **Whereas**, HAVEN's mission centers around empowering the LGBTQ+ community on campus,  
31 allowing students to freely and safely express their Queer identity without fear of discrimination  
32 for their gender identity and/or sexuality.

33 **Whereas**, Providing a full membership list detailing HAVEN members' full legal names would  
34 mean compromising sensitive information regarding students' identities. This not only violates  
35 LGBTQ+ students' privacy, but also makes them vulnerable to bad actors, identity-based  
36 discrimination, and unintended outing.<sup>2</sup>

37 **Whereas**, HAVEN is unable to effectively protect and empower its community members if this  
38 information is compromised. Per current regulations, HAVEN lacks the autonomy to dictate  
39 where the information goes, as well as **who** is receiving this sensitive information.

40 **Whereas**, Even if it could be guaranteed to be seen by *only* one person, that does not remedy the  
41 fact that all the members will be outed without consent, effectively damaging the foundation of  
42 safety HAVEN has spent years cultivating.

43 **Whereas**, Outing someone can have serious repercussions on employment, economic stability,  
44 **personal safety** or religious or family situations.<sup>3</sup>

45 **Whereas**, The immediate impacts of this are far-reaching; Queer students would no longer view  
46 HAVEN as a safe community to be a part of. If HAVEN is not able to unequivocally stand its  
47 ground to protect its community, and allow its members to freely and safely express their queer  
48 identity, the Cornell LGBTQ+ Community at large would be left without the support,  
49 connection, and advocacy that HAVEN traditionally provides.

50 **Whereas**, It is up to the students to decide when, how, and with whom they decide to share their  
51 identities; HAVEN cannot take away their autonomy and freedom of choice by disclosing that  
52 information on their behalf. Doing so would contradict the very mission of what HAVEN stands  
53 for.

54 **Be it therefore resolved**, That the Student Assembly stand in allyship, and vote to allow an  
55 exemption for HAVEN from this requirement of naming all current members in the organization  
56 due to its conflict with the organization's mission.

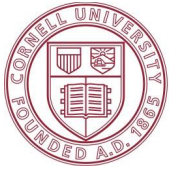
57 **Be it further resolved**, That in lieu of detailing member names, HAVEN: The LGBTQ+ Student  
58 Union provides data on the quantity of current members in the organization, as well as the  
59 number of student attendees at HAVEN-hosted events to demonstrate its impact, utility, and  
60 student engagement at Cornell.

61 **Be it further resolved**, That the Director of HAVEN verify the aforementioned information  
62 regarding the quantity of student engagement for Byline application purposes

<sup>1</sup>Line 47 Section E of *Resolution 9 Amending the Student Assembly Charter*

<sup>2</sup>Outing, definition: Exposing someone's lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender or gender non-binary identity to others without their permission. <https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms>

<sup>3</sup>Human Rights Campaign, Glossary of Terms. <https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms>



## Cornell University Student Assembly

63 **Be it finally resolved,** That HAVEN understands and agrees with the SAF mission to ensure  
64 equal treatment for any byline applicant regardless of mission. However, HAVEN is a unique  
65 circumstance in which the basis for students membership is rooted in an identity that is not, and  
66 could not be known, without the student sharing as such, should exempt HAVEN from having to  
67 share that information on their behalf.

68 **Respectfully Submitted,**

69

70 Karys Everett '25

71 *LGBTQIA+ Liaison at Large, Student Assembly*

72

73 Claire Ting '25

74 *Executive Vice President, Student Assembly*

75

76 Aissatou Barry '24

77 *Vice President of DEI, Student Assembly*

78

79 Nic Oke '26

80 *Co-President, Haven: LGBTQ+ Student Union*

81

82 Piper Kohlenberger '25

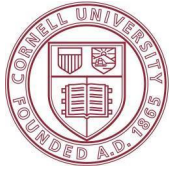
83 *Co-President, Haven: LGBTQ+ Student Union*

84

<sup>1</sup>Line 47 Section E of *Resolution 9 Amending the Student Assembly Charter*

<sup>2</sup>Outing, definition: Exposing someone's lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender or gender non-binary identity to others without their permission. <https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms>

<sup>3</sup>Human Rights Campaign, Glossary of Terms. <https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms>



## Resolution 17: Student Assembly Advisory Board

**Abstract:**

**Sponsored by:** Patrick Kuehl '24

**Reviewed by:** Executive Committee, DD/MM/YYYY

**Type of Action:** Internal Policy

**Originally Presented:** 08/07/2023

**Current Status:** Referred to Committee

---

**Whereas,** The Article IV section 4 of the Charter of the Student Assembly states:

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

**Whereas,** the Student Assembly does not have an advisor appointed from the President's administration.

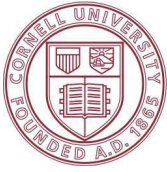
**Whereas,** the Student Assembly needs institutional advising for its Executive Board and voting membership.

**Be it therefore resolved,** the Assembly, with the consent of the University President, hereby adopts the attached document as the true and correct copy of the Charter of the Student Assembly.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Patrick Kuehl '24

*President, Student Assembly*



## Cornell University Student Assembly

### *Student Assembly Charter*

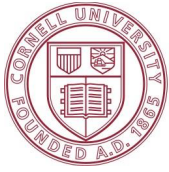
#### **Article III, Section 4: Advisory Board**

- A. There shall be a committee to advise the Student Assembly known as the “Student Assembly Advisory Board.
- B. The members of the Advisory Board shall be appointed and removed by a majority vote of the Assembly, except where otherwise provided in this section.
- C. The following shall be members of the Advisory Board — six alumni of Cornell University who have served as either a member of the Student Assembly or Student-Elected Trustee; the Speaker of the Faculty Senate; the Vice President for Student & Campus Life; the Dean of Students; and two current members of the Student Assembly.
- D. The term of members of the Advisory Committee shall expire upon the resignation or removal of the member, or, in the case of the members representing the Student Assembly, upon the expiration of their membership on the Assembly.

### *Student Assembly Bylaws*

#### **Section 3: Organizational Liaisons**

- A. The SA shall grant one member chosen from each constituency of the Greek Tri-Councils. This will grant an ex-officio position to one member of the Multicultural Greek and Fraternal Council, Panhellenic Association, and InterFraternity Council.
- B. The SA will grant one executive member from Residential Student Congress an ex-officio position as an organizational liaison.
- C. The SA will grant one member from Cornell Undergraduate Veteran Association an ex-officio position as an organizational liaison. This liaison must represent the interests of the United States and its allies.
- D. The SA will grant one liaison, an undergraduate with an interest in computing and technology an ex-officio position titled IT Governance Liaison.
- E. The SA will grant one member from the Student Assembly Advisory Board an ex-officio position as an organizational liaison.



# Resolution 18: To Create a Process for the Reallocation of Rollover Funds

**Abstract:** This resolution amends the Charter of the Student assembly to create a process for the reallocation of the rollover funds of byline organizations.

**Sponsored by:** Patrick Kuehl '24

**Reviewed by:** Internal Operations, 08/30/2023, 2-0-0

**Type of Action:** Legislation

**Originally Presented:** 08/31/2023

**Current Status:** Introduced

---

**Whereas,** the Student Assembly is charged in Article II of the Charter with “the responsibility to examine any matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the student community”;

**Whereas,** the Charter of the Student Assembly provides, “the Student Assembly through the delegated authority of the President and the Board of Trustees, is charged with the allocation of the Student Activity Fee”;

**Whereas,** the Assembly as the elected representative body of undergraduate students maintains a fiduciary responsibility to appropriate funds in best interest of the undergraduate student body, and to ensure its appropriations reflect the interests and needs of the undergraduate student body;

**Whereas,** the excessive accumulation of unobligated funds in the reserve accounts of byline organizations raised through the Student Activity Fee represents an ineffective allocation of funds, and a financial disservice to undergraduate students;

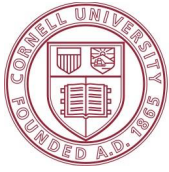
**Whereas,** it is sense of the Assembly that a reappropriation of funds by means of levying a fine or fee against Student Activity Fee funded organizations represents an oblique method for reappropriating reserve funds, and prefers a transparent process for the reallocation of unobligated funds;

**Now, be it therefore resolved,** that the following text be inserted as Section 13, Appendix A of the Charter of the Student Assembly —

***Section 13: Rollover Funds***

*A. It shall be the prerogative of the Student Assembly, as a matter of internal policy, to transfer or reappropriate funds held in a Student Activity Fee funded organization or committee’s reserve account, provided that the amount transferred or reappropriated does not reduce the*





Cornell University  
Student Assembly

34 *balance in any such reserve account below 30% of the relevant organization or committee's*  
35 *annual Student Activity Fee appropriation.*

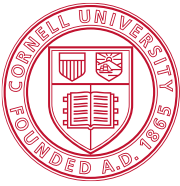
36  
37 *B. Twenty-one days prior to the proposed transfer or reallocation pursuant to Paragraph A of*  
38 *this Section, the Assembly shall notify the treasurer and advisor of the relevant organization*  
39 *or committee in writing of the proposed transfer or reallocation specifying the amount of the*  
40 *transfer or reallocation; if the organization or committee should object, it shall then notify the*  
41 *Assembly no later than seven days following issuance of the notify, at which point the President*  
42 *of the Assembly shall schedule a time a time for the Assembly to hear and decide an appeal*  
43 *from the organization or committee.*

44  
45 **Be it further resolved,** that immediately upon approval by the University President, this resolution  
46 shall enter into force.

47  
48 **Respectfully Submitted,**

49 Patrick Kuehl '24

50 *President, Student Assembly*



**Cornell University**  
**Student Assembly**

Originally Presented on:	(9/14/2023)
Type of Action:	Resolution
Status/Result:	New Business

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31

S.A. Resolution #19  
Amendments to Election Rules for Fall 2023

**ABSTRACT:** This resolution updates the Student Assembly Election Rules for the Fall 2023 Elections.

**Sponsored by:** Rahul Verma '24, Director of Elections

**Reviewed by:** Elections Committee, 09/10/2023

**Type of Action:** New Business

**Originally Presented:** 09/14/2023

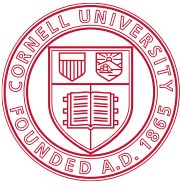
**Whereas,** the Student Assembly Bylaws (§IV, 3, F, line 167) task the Elections Committee with coordinating and implementing the regular and special elections of the Student Assembly, and

**Whereas,** to appropriately coordinate and implement the Student Assembly Elections, the Election Rules must be regularly updated, and

**Be it therefore resolved,** the Student Assembly approves the Fall 2023 Student Assembly Election Rules attached as Appendix A to this resolution.

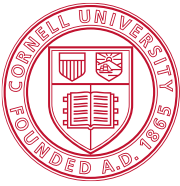
**Respectfully Submitted,**

Rahul Verma '24  
*Director of Elections, Student Assembly*



32 **Appendix A: Student Assembly Election**  
33 **Rules**

34 *Adopted on Thursday, December 3, 2009. Amended on Friday, December 3, 2010, Friday,*  
35 *December 2, 2011, Thursday, November 29, 2012, Friday, December 6, 2013, Thursday, May 1,*  
36 *2014, Thursday, November 20, 2014, Thursday, March 26, 2015, Thursday, December 3, 2015,*  
37 *Thursday, May 5, 2016, Thursday, December 1, 2016, Tuesday, August 29, 2017, Friday,*  
38 *December 1, 2017, Monday, May 7, 2018, Thursday, November 29, 2018, Wednesday,*  
39 *September 2, 2020, Thursday, March 11, 2021, Thursday, March 3, 2022, Tuesday March 14,*  
40 *2023, **September 14, 2023***



41

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

42 **ARTICLE I. Election Guidelines**

43 A. Voter Eligibility

44 B. Definitions

45 C. Candidate Information

46 1. Eligibility and Requirements

47 2. Petitioning

48 3. Written Statements

49 4. Pictures

50 5. Candidate Forum

51 D. Election Guidelines

52 1. Early Campaigning

53 2. Restrictions for Current Student Assembly Members

54 3. Compliance with University Policies and Student Code of Conduct

55 4. Campus Mail

56 5. Electronic Communications and Social Media

57 6. Campaign Finance

58 7. Endorsements

59 8. Campaign Ethics

60 E. Restrictions on Ticketing and Slates

61 1. General Rules

62 2. Special circumstances for the President and Executive Vice President elections

63 3. Plagiarism

64 **ARTICLE II. Direct Election of President and Executive Vice President**

65 A. Designation and Eligibility

66 **ARTICLE III. Election Procedures**

67 A. Election Calendar

68 B. Elections Committee

69 C. Independence of the Elections Committee

70 D. Voting and Tabulation

71 E. Challenges

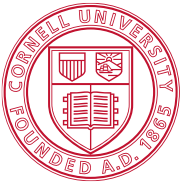
72 1. Eligibility to Challenge

73 2. Challenge Deadlines



# Cornell University Student Assembly

74	3. Format of Challenges
75	4. Notification of Challenge
76	5. Response to Challenge
77	6. Challenge Review Meeting
78	7. Written Report
79	8. Reconsideration
80	9. Confidentiality
81	



82

## Article I: Election Guidelines

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

### 89 A. Voter Eligibility

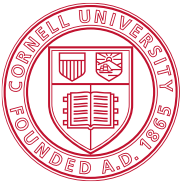
90 To vote in an election for a seat in the Student Assembly (SA) or for the directly elected seats on  
91 the University Assembly (UA), a person must:

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

### 99 B. Definitions

100 The following words throughout the Election Rules are defined as such:

- 101 1. Candidate: is any person who has successfully completed the outlined steps to become a  
102 candidate, as described in these Election Rules.
- 103 2. Classroom: is any space in which a professor, teaching assistant, or any other instructor  
104 holds prescribed class time. “Classroom” includes in-person, hybrid, and online courses.
- 105 3. Cyber Bullying: is the act of bullying in any online space. These election rules follow the  
106 same definition of bullying as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and applicable  
107 university policies or governmental laws.
- 108 4. Individual or self-promoting publicity: is any outreach events, office hours, postings, or  
109 public facing events, whether in-person or virtual, in which interaction with, or  
110 promotion of, the candidate is a substantial reason for the act.
- 111 5. Petitioner: is any person seeking signatures to become a candidate.



# Cornell University Student Assembly

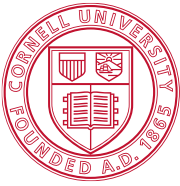
- 112 6. Social Media: is any online service that allows users to share, create, or post content for  
113 social-networking purposes. Social media services include, but are not limited to:  
114 Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, LinkedIn, X (Formerly known as Twitter), Facebook,  
115 Tumblr, Reddit, MySpace, Pinterest, YouTube, GroupMe, Sidechat, and CampusGroups.  
116 a. Email, GroupMe, WhatsApp, Signal, and text messaging are not social media.  
117

## 118 C. Candidate Information

### 119 1. Eligibility and Requirements

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

- 122 1. Be eligible to vote in the election for the seat and plan to remain seated so for the full  
123 term for which they are seeking election.  
124 a. Candidates should not plan to pursue study abroad programs or internships  
125 that would require them to leave the Ithaca campus for any semester during  
126 their tenure.  
127 2. Submit a completed candidate registration form and any associated materials required  
128 in that form. You may not register for more than one position on the candidate  
129 registration form.  
130 3. Submit petitions endorsed by the required number of people who are eligible to vote  
131 in the election for that specific position, which is the lesser of 10% of those eligible to  
132 vote for that specific position or:  
133 a. 250 for President and Executive Vice President  
134 b. 50 for Womxn's Issues Representative At-Large, Minority Liaison At-Large,  
135 First Generation Student Representative At-Large, and International Students  
136 Liaison At-Large, LGBTQIA+ Students Liaison At-Large, Students With  
137 Disabilities Representative  
138 c. 100 for all other at-large seats  
139 d. For all college-specific seats, petitioners must gather 25 seats per  
140 representative on the Student Assembly (i.e. 25 for 3 Arts and Sciences seats  
141 means 75 petitions)  
142 e. 25 for Freshman and Transfer seats  
143 f. 75 for all other seats  
144 4. Not already hold a directly-elected voting position on the SA and/or UA for the term  
145 for which they are seeking election.  
146 5. Have never held or currently hold the role of Chair of the Office of Ethics.



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 147           6. Have not resigned for a reason other than a Health Leave of Absence or been  
148 removed from the SA or from a directly elected UA seat during the Student Assembly  
149 term prior to the academic year of the term for the seat being elected.

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

- 152           1. Apply online to serve on at least one committee of the SA  
153           2. Contact the Director of Elections and the chair of the respective committee with a copy of  
154 their application

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

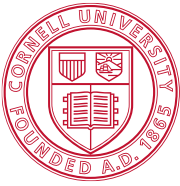
- 157           1. A sampling method may be used as long as at least 10% of required signatures are  
158 validated for all petitions and all required signatures are attempted to be validated for any  
159 petition found to be ineligible.  
160           2. All petitions will be available for viewing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

### 169 **2. Petitioning**

170 In order to demonstrate that they will be a respectable representative of the student body at large,  
171 and/or of the community they vie to represent, candidates are required to collect a certain number  
172 of petition signatures. The required number of petition signers is designated above. In  
173 accordance with university policies in place at the time, and at the direction of the Elections  
174 Committee, petition forms will available as **paper forms (available in the Office of Assemblies,  
175 109 Day Hall)**. Candidates are expected to maintain the highest standards of integrity when  
176 collecting petition signatures. In addition to the Early Campaigning rules detailed in Article 1,  
177 Section C(1) of these elections rules, the following restrictions are in place to ensure fairness  
178 during the petitioning period. Candidates may not:

- 179           1. Announce their candidacy on social media platforms under any circumstances





# Cornell University Student Assembly

180 2. Announce their candidacy in front of a classroom, during class hours, or in interference  
181 of the learning environment in order to collect signatures

182 ~~Supporters of potential candidates may collect petition signatures in accordance with the above~~  
183 ~~rules. The names and netID of both the potential candidate and the individual who collected the~~  
184 ~~signatures must be noted on the petition form.~~ Petitioners must collect signatures without the aid  
185 of supporters. Additional attestation of college affiliation may also be requested from supporters.

## 186 3. Written Statements

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

## 195 4. Pictures

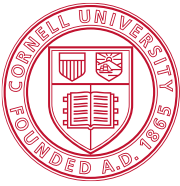
196 Photos will be displayed in informational materials published by the Elections Committee.  
197 Candidates may submit a photograph of themselves that conforms to the specifications noted in  
198 the online candidate registration form, or have their photo taken by a staff member in the Office  
199 of the Assemblies.

## 200 5. Candidate Forum

201 All candidates are encouraged to participate in the Candidates' Forums held by the Elections  
202 Committee during the campaign period. The Elections Committee will be responsible for  
203 planning, coordinating, and marketing these forums. At the forum, candidates are encouraged to  
204 discuss their experience, platforms, and more. Candidates are also encouraged to use the forum  
205 as an opportunity specifically to discuss why they are more qualified for the contested position  
206 than their opponent(s). The Director of Elections shall reach out to student organizations that  
207 receive funding from the Student Assembly, encouraging them to use the candidate forum as an  
208 opportunity to consider candidates for endorsements.

## 209 D. Election Guidelines

### 210 1. Early Campaigning Prohibition



## Cornell University Student Assembly

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

- 213 1. Distribution of online campaign materials to the public.
- 214 2. Making speeches or statements to student organizations.
- 215 3. Promoting their candidacy through email, social networking tools, or other digital media

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

### 218 **2. Restrictions for Current SA Members**

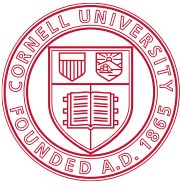
219 Current SA members seeking reelection:

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

### 225 **3. Compliance with University Policies and Student Code of Conduct**

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

- 228 1. Use of Cornell Name, Logo & Artwork policy
- 229 2. Event Registration policies
- 230 3. Facilities reservation policies, including Willard Straight Hall area reservation policies
- 231 4. University Postering & Chalking policies
- 232 5. Residential & New Students Programs' policy for postering in residence halls
- 233 6. Dining hall policies, including a prohibition of distributing printed campaign materials in  
234 dining halls without permission from authorized staff, and as designated in the Student  
235 Code of Conduct.
  - 236 a. Please note that it is against the University Postering and Chalking Policy to chalk  
237 on any vertical surface, regardless of the location.
- 238 7. Intimidation tactics (**including physical and verbal**) and cyber-bullying online (**on any  
239 platform**) is strictly prohibited.
  - 240 a. **Any forms of online cyber-bullying or intimidation tactics should be reported to  
241 the Director of Elections as soon as possible.**



## Cornell University Student Assembly

242 A violation of any University policy is a violation of these rules and therefore grounds for a  
243 challenge if it compromises the fairness of the election. It is the candidate's responsibility to read  
244 the referenced documents and be familiar with the rules and regulations established within them.  
245 The Director of Elections may also refer any reported violations to the Office of Student Conduct  
246 and Community Standards (OSCCS) or any other appropriate office, which may impose  
247 disciplinary remedies and penalties according to its own rules and procedures.

### 248 **4. Campus Mail**

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

### 251 **5. Electronic Communications and Social Media**

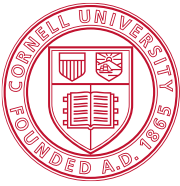
252 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:

- 253 1. Cannot receive campaign support through a Cornell Administered list-serv. E.g. The  
254 Cornell Athletics Department
- 255 2. Must comply with Cornell University IT policies

### 256 **6. Campaign Finance**

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

- 261 1. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not exceed the **\$40** limit for out-of-  
262 pocket expenses and fair market value of donations of materials, professional services,  
263 and/or money
  - 264 a. Fair market value is the value at which something is to be obtained normally if  
265 documentation of its dollar value is not provided.
  - 266 b. If there is a supporting receipt for goods used in a candidate's campaign, then the  
267 value of that good is the dollar value on the supporting receipt as long as the  
268 transaction was conducted at arm's length.
  - 269 c. For donated materials, professional services, or other goods for which no official  
270 receipt is provided, candidates must seek the most plausible assessment of the fair  
271 market value of the good. Professional services will be defined as any work for  
272 which the given individual/donor is typically compensated. Volunteer time  
273 donated by full-time students, who are not professionals (have received payment



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 274 for service) in the area of their volunteer effort, will not be considered  
275 professional services.
- 276 d. Paid advertisements and related costs on social networking sites or other websites  
277 must also be accounted for at fair market value.
- 278 2. Candidates will be eligible for up to \$40 in reimbursements to cover out-of-pocket  
279 expenses from the campaigning period that can be used towards the following expenses:  
280 website expenses (web hosting, domain names, and online advertising) or any other  
281 promotional materials approved by the Director of Elections that are not a violation of  
282 these election rules.
- 283 a. Candidates shall provide an estimate of costs prior to the campaigning period for  
284 review of the Office of Elections including expected expenses and quantities. The  
285 Office of Elections will notify a candidate if their estimate contains significant  
286 changes from manufacturer's expected retail price (MSRP).
- 287 3. Candidates may use any platforms at their disposal, granted they are free. If these  
288 platforms require purchasing, candidates are required to report this in their expense report  
289 form.  
290

### 291 **7. Endorsements**

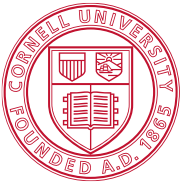
292 All registered student organizations receiving funds from the Student Assembly are encouraged  
293 to endorse candidates. If an organization chooses to endorse a candidate, it is expected to abide  
294 by the guidelines below.

- 295 1. Student Activities Funding Commission (SAFC) funded and Student Activity Fee (SAF)  
296 byline funded organizations may endorse candidates. All groups must act in a way that is  
297 fair and balanced when deciding on the endorsement of candidates.
- 298 2. The Elections Committee may recommend that the SA impose fines on or revoke  
299 allocated funds from organizations failing to comply.
- 300 3. If a member of the Elections Committee sits on the Executive Board or governing body  
301 of an organization, that organization is prohibited from endorsing candidates.

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

### 304 **8. Campaign Ethics**

305 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:



# Cornell University

## Student Assembly

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

### 313 **E. Restrictions on Ticketing and Slates**

#### 314 **1. General Rules**

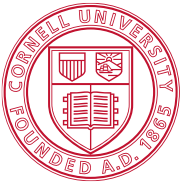
315 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not:

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

#### 327 **2. Special circumstance for the President and Executive Vice President elections**

328 Candidates in any race, besides those running for the position of President or Executive Vice  
329 President, will be given the freedom to distribute promotional material, send electronic  
330 communications, campaign on behalf of, and speak for candidates in the President or Executive  
331 Vice President races. Candidates who choose to do so are considered supporters and are held  
332 accountable to all clauses in these rules that pertain to candidates and their supporters. The  
333 President and Executive Vice President candidates are strictly prohibited from coordinating  
334 activities. Candidates are strictly prohibited from performing the actions above for candidates not  
335 in the President or Executive Vice President races.

#### 336 **3. Plagiarism**



337 Candidates may not disseminate written statements, promotional materials, or electronic  
338 communications that are plagiarized or substantially copied from any such items created or  
339 distributed by any current or former candidate. Materials distributed by the Director of Elections,  
340 Elections Committee, and the Office of the Assemblies may be used as templates.

341 **Article II: Direct Election of President and Executive Vice**  
342 **President**

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

- 344 1. Two of the six Undesignated At-Large Representative seats are for the directly elected  
345 seats of President and Executive Vice-President.
- 346 2. Candidates running for President and Executive Vice President who do not win their race  
347 will automatically be entered into two races for two Undesignated At Large seats,  
348 separate from the Undesignated At Large race. The candidates in each race, one for  
349 Presidential candidates and a separate one for Executive Vice Presidential candidates,  
350 will run for one available seat per race. In the event that there are no other candidates for  
351 a particular race, regardless of reason as to why, the seat shall go to the next highest  
352 voted candidate in the original Undesignated At Large race. No voting shall occur for  
353 these two races and the votes shall be tallied from the original counts for President and  
354 Executive Vice President.

355 **Article III: Election Procedures**

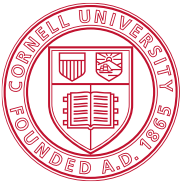
356 **A. The Election Calendar**

- 357 1. The Director of Elections, in consultation with the Office of the Assemblies, will draft the  
358 election calendar prior to the semester of the election, and will be approved by the  
359 Elections Committee at a meeting in the prior semester if possible<sup>1</sup>.
- 360 2. Consideration shall be given to any religious holidays that may fall during the election  
361 period, guaranteeing that the right to free religious observance is afforded to all potential  
362 candidates.

363 **B. The Elections Committee**

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.



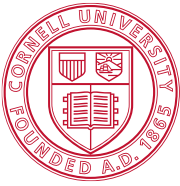
## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 364 1. The Director of Elections shall serve as chair and a designated representative of the  
365 Office of the Assemblies shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of this  
366 Committee.
- 367 2. The Director of Elections shall publish a list of Assembly seats to be filled, in accordance  
368 with Student Assembly Charter.
- 369 3. During a Challenge Review Meeting, the interpretation of the Elections Rules will lie  
370 with the sitting Elections Committee in conjunction with the Student Assembly Office of  
371 Ethics.
- 372 4. Elections Committee members are expected to abide by the highest standards of personal  
373 conduct and integrity. Students are mandated to excuse themselves from serving on the  
374 Elections Committee if they plan to take part in a campaign. Therefore, members should  
375 not be involved in the campaigning process. All conflicts should be considered and  
376 resolved before the election cycle begins. Elections Committee members may not sit on  
377 the Executive Board of an organization that endorses candidates in an SA election. If an  
378 Elections Committee member sits on the Executive Board of an organization or sat on  
379 that Executive Board at any time during the same semester of a particular SA election,  
380 that organization may not endorse candidates in that SA election, or that Elections  
381 Committee member must resign from the Elections Committee.
- 382 5. The Elections Committee should be prepared to meet immediately following the  
383 challenge deadline to rule on all pertinent challenges. The Elections Committee shall use  
384 Robert's Rules of Order to consider challenges, in addition to the election rules. In the  
385 event of conflict, these election rules supersede Robert's Rules of Order. The Elections  
386 Committee has no power to overrule the election rules under any circumstances.
- 387 6. The Director of Elections shall give a final report on the results of the election when there  
388 are no remaining unresolved matters.

### 389 **C. Independence of the Elections Committee**

- 390 1. While members of the Elections Committee are expected to abide by the highest  
391 standards of integrity, they also enjoy independence from undue interference. Hence,  
392 students may not falsely accuse, harass, threaten or coerce any member of the Elections  
393 Committee for actions taken in their official capacity.
- 394 2. Subject to the determination of the Elections Committee, any violation of this section can  
395 result in temporary or permanent disqualification from contesting elections to the SA or  
396 UA.
- 397 3. Members of the Elections Committee cannot personally endorse any candidates.  
398 However, members of the Committee may still privately vote in the elections themselves.

### 399 **D. Voting and Tabulation**



# Cornell University Student Assembly

- 400 1. The order in which names appear on the ballot shall be randomly selected.  
401 2. Uncontested candidates will not be listed for a vote on the ballot and will be deemed  
402 victorious pending the resolution of challenges.  
403 3. Results for challenged races will be posted after the Elections Committee has ruled on  
404 those challenges and all challenges have been fully resolved.  
405 4. The Elections Committee will not have access to the results prior to and during challenge  
406 deliberations. The Office of Assemblies will release election results after the Director of  
407 Elections or the Elections Committee has validated the election results.  
408 5. A printout of election results for qualifying candidates shall be posted on line on the  
409 relevant webpages of the election. Disqualified candidates will not have their vote tallies  
410 made available.

## 411 **E. Challenges**

### 412 **1. Eligibility to Challenge**

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

### 418 **2. Challenge Deadlines**

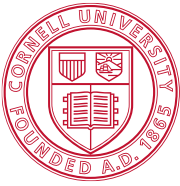
- 419 1. Election challenges must be submitted by the election challenge deadline specified in the  
420 elections calendar.  
421 2. The Director of Elections or the Elections Committee by a majority vote can submit a  
422 challenge at any time before the declaration of results.  
423 3. No challenges will be accepted after these deadlines.  
424 4. Once submitted, a challenge becomes part of the formal record, and may not be  
425 withdrawn for any reason or by any person.

### 426 **3. Format of Challenges**

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

- 429 1. Challenger's name  
430 2. Candidate's name  
431 3. Date of challenge





## Cornell University Student Assembly

432 4. Reason for challenge and supporting evidence

433 Challenges that fail to provide all required documentation will not be reviewed by the Elections  
434 Committee.

### 435 **4. Notification of Election Challenges**

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

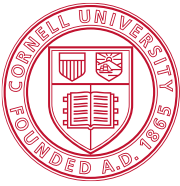
### 439 **5. Response to Election Challenges**

440 A challenged candidate may request to review challenges to which they are a party in the Office  
441 of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, who will share the challenges in a confidential setting. The  
442 challenged candidate may then address written statements in response to the Committee. The  
443 challenged candidate may request a hearing ~~in person~~ with the Committee.

### 444 **6. Challenge Review Meeting**

445 The Committee, ~~along with the Student Assembly Office of Ethics,~~ will schedule a meeting to  
446 review challenges in Executive Session. The Committee, less temporarily recused members, will  
447 provide an opportunity for the challenged candidate to respond in person if requested by the  
448 challenged candidate or a member of the Committee. The Director of Elections reserves the right  
449 to recuse any member of the Committee in the event of a conflict of interest. Members may  
450 either recuse themselves prior to challenge hearings or at the discretion of the Director of  
451 Elections. For each challenge, the Committee will determine:

- 452 1. Whether each alleged violation can be substantiated, beyond a reasonable doubt. This  
453 vote will be taken for each violation individually, and a majority of the members present  
454 of the Elections Committee is required to declare that a preponderance of evidence  
455 substantiates each violation;
- 456 2. Which, if any, substantiated violations or combination thereof compromised the fairness  
457 of the election and constituted a material advantage to the extent the challenged candidate  
458 should be disqualified. If the Committee finds either that a single substantiated violation  
459 or that a combination of substantiated violations should, beyond a reasonable doubt,  
460 require the disqualification of a candidate, with at least two-thirds of the members present  
461 of the Elections Committee in the affirmative, may disqualify the candidate. The  
462 Elections Committee reserves the right to impose lesser sanctions on a candidate as it  
463 sees fit.



## Cornell University Student Assembly

### 464 7. Written Report

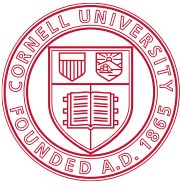
- 465 1. For each rule violation, the Director of Elections or a member of the Elections Committee  
466 as delegated by the Director will create a written report thoroughly detailing the  
467 challenge(s), listing the tallies of all votes taken by the Committee including the  
468 bifurcated voting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

### 476 8. Reconsideration

- 477 1. If the Committee ~~and members of the Student Assembly Office of Ethics~~ determines a  
478 candidate should be disqualified, the candidate may request reconsideration within  
479 twenty-four hours of receiving the written report. To be reconsidered, the candidate  
480 seeking such reconsideration must submit a request in writing to the Office of the  
481 Assemblies, via email to [assembly@cornell.edu](mailto:assembly@cornell.edu), and ~~the Director of the Office of Ethics~~  
482 within twenty-four hours of receiving the disqualification email from the Director of  
483 Elections. The statement should address the specific findings in the written report to be  
484 reconsidered and should detail the specific points where the Elections Committee failed  
485 to correctly enforce the challenge procedure outlined in the Elections Rules Failure to  
486 submit all necessary documentation within twenty-four hours will restrict the seeking for  
487 reconsideration and the ~~Office of Ethics's~~ decision will be final.
- 488 2. ~~The Committee, in conjunction with~~ the Office of Ethics, will convene in response to  
489 such a request. ~~The Committee Office of Ethics~~, after evaluating each request for  
490 reconsideration, will take a vote requiring a simple majority to determine if the previous  
491 decision to disqualify should be overturned. Email voting may be used by ~~Committee~~  
492 members ~~of the Office of Ethics~~.

### 494 9. Confidentiality

- 495 1. Members of the Elections Committee and parties to a challenge may not share the  
496 contents of challenges, evidence, or decisions submitted to or received from the  
497 Committee, except when explicitly permitted by these rules or by the Director of



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 498 Elections. When publicly releasing confidential information, the Director of Elections  
499 must redact the names of all individuals who are not the challenged candidate.
- 500 2. A review of the Challenges may take place in coordination with the Office of the  
501 Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, by any member of the Cornell community. Challenges may  
502 not be photocopied, screen-shared, photographed, digitally recorded or removed from the  
503 Office of Assemblies.