

# Cornell University Student Assembly

## **STUDENT ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING**

### **AGENDA**

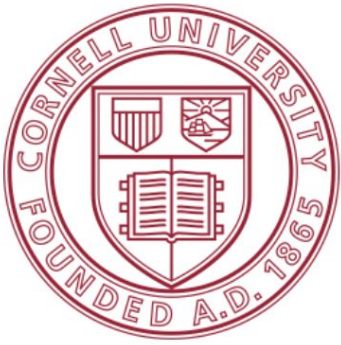
**MAY 11, 2023**

**11:00 AM - 12:15 PM**

[ZOOM](#)

Meeting ID: 304 185 9601 | Passcode: 353325

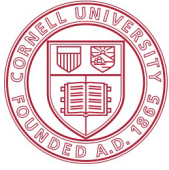
1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohó:nq̓ (Cayuga Nation)
3. Late Additions to the Agenda
4. Consent Agenda
5. Open Microphone
6. Announcements and Reports
7. Initiatives
8. Presentations and Forum
9. Business of the Day
  - a. Resolution 1: Starbucks Off Our Campus
  - b. Resolution 2: Transparency in Cornell's Relationship with Starbucks
10. New Business
11. Adjournment



# Cornell University Student Assembly

## MEMBERS OF THE 2023 – 2024 ASSEMBLY

Cornell University is located on the traditional homelands of the Gayog̃hó:ñq̃ (the Cayuga Nation). The Gayog̃hó:ñq̃ are members of the Haudenosaunee (Hoh-deh-no-shoh-nee Confederacy, an alliance of six sovereign Nations with a historic and contemporary presence on this land. The Confederacy precedes the establishment of Cornell University, New York state, and the United States of America. We acknowledge the painful history of Gayog̃hó:ñq̃ dispossession, and honor the ongoing connection of Gayog̃hó:ñq̃ people, past and present, to these lands and waters.



# Resolution 1: Starbucks Off Our Campus

**Abstract:** This resolution proposed University policy that terminates Cornell University’s relationship with Starbucks Coffee in response to their repeated illegal anti-worker efforts, including the closing of union stores in Ithaca, New York.

**Sponsored by:** Suraj Parikh ‘26, Claire Ting ‘25, Patrick Kuehl ‘24, Karys Everett ‘25, Casey Platkin ‘26

**Reviewed by:** Executive Committee 4-0-1

**Type of Action:** Legislation

**Originally Presented:** 05/10/2023

**Current Status:** Business of the Day

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**Whereas,** Ithaca, New York is the first and only town in America where 100% of Starbucks workers are unionized;

**Whereas,** Starbucks announced on May 5<sup>th</sup> that they would be permanently shutting down all three corporate-owned stores in Ithaca;

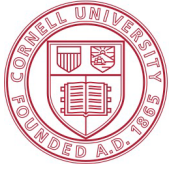
**Whereas,** Starbucks has repeatedly engaged in illegal union-busting tactics across the country, including in Ithaca, where the NLRB found several violations against the company and ordered the reopening of their Collegetown location that was closed in retaliation;

**Whereas,** Starbucks continues to profit from sales of its coffee through Cornell Dining through over eight dining locations;

**Whereas,** Cornell maintains licensing relationships with other coffee companies, and has the demonstrated capacity to serve coffee on campus without working with Starbucks;

**Whereas,** the Charter of the Student Assembly in Article III, Section 1 provides, “the SA will have legislative authority over the policies of the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students, and will have the authority to review the budgets and actions of said departments” which thereby vests it with the authority, provided the asset of the University President is given, to determine policy for the Department of Student and Campus Life and its subordinate entities, including Cornell Dining;

**Now, Be it therefore resolved,** that it shall be the policy of the Department of Student and Campus Life and Cornell Dining to terminate its relationship with Starbucks and withdraw from the ‘We Proudly Serve Starbucks program no later than beginning of the Fall 2023 Semester;



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31 **Be it further resolved**, that for the purposes of this resolution, “Starbucks products” shall be  
32 defined as all products sold under the ‘Starbucks We Proudly Serve’ line;

33 **Be it finally resolved**, the Cornell Student Assembly requires that the University, through the  
34 Department of Student and Campus Life and Cornell Dining, commits to no longer serving  
35 Starbucks products in dining locations, and collaborating with student advocates and Starbucks  
36 Workers United to implement a new, ethical, non-union-busting, campus-wide coffee vendor by  
37 the start of the Fall 2023 semester.

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39 **Respectfully Submitted,**

40 Suraj Parikh ‘26

41 *Vice-President of External Affairs, Student Assembly*

42 *Minority Students at Large Liaison, Student Assembly*

43  
44 Claire Ting, ‘25

45 *Executive Vice-President, Student Assembly*

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47 Patrick Kuehl, ‘24

48 *Vice-President of Internal Operations, Student Assembly*

49 *Undesignated Representative at Large, Student Assembly*

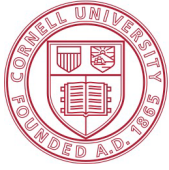
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51 Karys Everett, ‘25

52 *LGBTQIA+ Students at Large Liaison, Student Assembly*

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54 Casey Platkin, ‘26

55 *School of Industrial and Labor Relations Representative, Student Assembly*

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# Resolution 2: Transparency in Cornell's Relationship With Starbucks

**Abstract:** This resolution releases information regarding Cornell University's relationship with Starbucks.

**Sponsored by:** Suraj Parikh '26, Claire Ting '25, Patrick Kuehl '24, Karys Everett '25, Casey Platkin '26

**Reviewed by:** Executive Committee 4-0-1

**Type of Action:** Investigation

**Originally Presented:** 05/10/2023

**Current Status:** Business of the Day

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**Whereas,** Ithaca, New York is the first and only town in America where 100% of Starbucks workers are unionized;

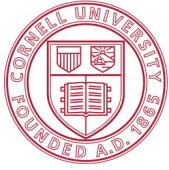
**Whereas,** Starbucks announced on May 5<sup>th</sup> that they would be permanently shutting down all three corporate-owned stores in Ithaca;

**Whereas,** Starbucks has repeatedly engaged in illegal union-busting tactics across the country, including in Ithaca, where the NLRB found several violations against the company and ordered the reopening of their Collegetown location that was closed in retaliation;

**Whereas,** Starbucks continues to profit from sales of its coffee through Cornell Dining through over eight dining locations;

**Whereas,** the Charter of the Student Assembly in Article III, Section 1 provides, "the SA will have legislative authority over the policies of the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students, and will have the authority to *review the budgets* [emphasis added] and actions of said departments" which thereby vests it with the authority, provided the asset of the University President is given, to determine policy for the Department of Student and Campus Life and its subordinate entities, including Cornell Dining;

**Whereas,** the Charter of the Student Assembly in Article III, Section 1 provides, "The SA shall by majority vote have the authority to require at any time information directly from a department or a specific individual within that department concerning the budget, policies, or actions of said department. The request for this information shall be made in the form of legislation at a SA meeting."



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31 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Cornell Student Assembly requires that the University, through the  
32 Department of Student and Campus Life and Cornell Dining, publicly releases the full terms of  
33 all ongoing contracts and agreements between Cornell University and Starbucks Coffee  
34 Company by May 31, 2023;

35 **Be it further resolved**, the Cornell Student Assembly requires that the University, through the  
36 Department of Student and Campus Life and Cornell Dining, publicly releases any financial  
37 records related to Cornell's contract with Starbucks, including but not limited to information  
38 about revenue created by Starbucks products and profits by Cornell or Starbucks from the latter's  
39 operations at Cornell.

40  
41 **Respectfully Submitted,**

42 Suraj Parikh '26

43 *Vice-President of External Affairs*, Student Assembly

44 *Minority Students at Large Liaison*, Student Assembly

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46 Claire Ting, '25

47 *Executive Vice-President*, Student Assembly

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49 Patrick Kuehl, '24

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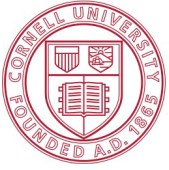
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53 Karys Everett, '25

54 *LGBTQIA+ Students at Large Liaison*, Student Assembly

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56 Casey Platkin, '26

57 *School of Industrial and Labor Relations Representative*, Student Assembly

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