

Cornell University Student Assembly

Student Assembly Special Meeting

AGENDA

July 16, 2023

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Zoom Only

[ZOOM](#)

Meeting ID: 927 5625 4940 | Passcode: 411537

1. Call to Order
2. Reading of the Land Acknowledgment
3. Approval of the [Minutes](#)
4. Consent Calendar
5. Reports of Officers, Committees and Liaisons
6. Announcements
7. Presentations
 1. Committees 101
8. Open Microphone
9. Old Business Calendar
10. Resolutions Calendar
 1. [Resolution 6](#): Creating an Internal Operations Committee
 2. [Resolution 7](#): Student Assembly Transparency Initiative (SATI)
 - 1 — Promoting Community Engagement With The Student Assembly
 3. [Resolution 8](#): A Letter to NYSDOH Regarding SHP+
11. Appointments and Vacancies Calendar
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.



Cornell University Student Assembly

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Minutes of the July 2, 2023, Meeting

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Zoom

I. Call to Order

- a. President P. Kuehl called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

II. Roll Call

- a. *Members Present [14]: M. Bakri, L. Balestrieri, A. Barry, R. DeLorenzo, K. Everett, P. Kuehl, C. Lederman, E. Ononye, S. Parikh, C. Platkin, N. Son, A. Talone, C. Ting, A. Vinson*
- b. *Members Excused: L. Barrett, N. Hite, O. Moini, D. Nachman, B. Terhaar, J. Wang*
- c. *Also present: A. Bangura, N. Maggard, I. Rezaka, A. Richmond, R. Verma, J. Wallen*

III. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohónq̓ (Cayuga Nation)

- a. P. Kuehl states the land acknowledgment

IV. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. None

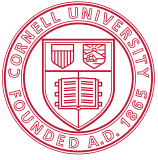
V. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the May 25, 2023 meeting minutes
 - i. C. Ting motions to approve the meeting minutes; approved by unanimous consent

VI. Announcements and Reports

- a. Timeline for Submitting Resolutions for Summer Meetings
 - i. C. Ting emphasizes that resolutions should be considered a process rather than a project and resolutions should be presented to the EVP by Thursday at noon.
- b. Call for Questions for Formal Onboarding
 - i. C. Ting asks members to submit ideas onboarding via a Google form.
- c. C. Lederman gives an update on committees and member expectations
- d. S. Parikh gives an update on Communications Committee plans
- e. R. DeLorenzo gives an update on Appropriations Committee plans for the upcoming cycle

VII. Initiatives



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- a. VP DEI – Admissions and Affirmative Action at Cornell
 - i. A. Barry explains Diversity Committee plans for admissions after the Supreme Court decision regarding affirmative action

VIII. Presentation and Forums

- a. None

IX. Business of the Day

- a. Vote of Confirmation for New Interim Representatives
 - i. P. Kuehl announces appointment of interim representatives, A. Richmond for ... and I. Rezaka for ...
 - ii. C. Ting motions to approve appointments; approved by unanimous consent
 - iii. P. Kuehl swears in the new members
- b. Resolution 5: Permanently Suspending the Special Rules of Order
 - i. N. Maggard presents Resolution 54: Permanently Suspending the Special Rules of Order
 - ii. C. Lederman motions that the previous question be ordered and the resolution be adopted; approved by unanimous consent

X. Adjournment

- a. C. Lederman motions to adjourn, approved by unanimous consent
 - i. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Withers
Director of the Office of the Assemblies

Student Assembly Resolution Cover Sheet

Term: 2023-2024

Res. No.: 6

Res. Name: To Create an Internal Operations Committee

Abstract: This resolution amends the Bylaws to create a committee to manage internal operations.

Sponsored by: Clyde Lederman

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, July 11, 2023, 5-0-1

Type of Action: Internal Policy

Originally Presented: July 11, 2023

Current Status: Introduced, referred to the Executive Committee, and placed on the Resolutions Calendar for July 16th meeting.

S. Res. 6

A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT ASSEMBLY To Create an Internal Operations Committee

Be it enacted by the Cornell University Student Assembly, duly assembled, that—

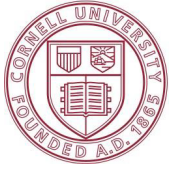
1. The following text shall be inserted in the Bylaws of the Assembly as Article IV, Section 3, Sub-Section H:

(1) There shall be a Committee on Internal Operations. The committee shall have jurisdiction over resolutions concerning policy in the following areas: the governing documents of the Assembly, rules and procedures, attendance and voting policies, and the operation and maintenance of committees. The committee shall be responsible for organizing all orientations and retreats, overseeing the operation of committees of the Assembly, advising on procedures related to the conveyance of resolutions, and adopting a manual of style.

(2) The Vice-President for Internal Operations shall serve as chair of the committee. In addition to the chair, there shall be between four and eight members of the committee, one of whom shall be Parliamentarian. Each officer of the Assembly shall be permitted to vote on all matters considered by the committee, regardless of their membership.

2. This provision of this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

○



Resolution 7: Student Assembly Transparency Initiative One (S.A.T.I)

Promoting Community Engagement With The Student Assembly

Abstract: This resolution promotes community engagement through organizational collaboration on future resolutions passed by the Student Assembly.

Sponsored by: Suraj Parikh '26

Reviewed by: Executive Committee 4-0-2, 07/10/2023

Type of Action: Internal Policy

Originally Presented: 07/16/2023

Current Status: New Business

Whereas, the Charter of the Student Assembly in Article II charges the Student Assembly with the responsibility to “examine any matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the student community and to make proposals concerning those issues to the appropriate officers or decision-making bodies of the University;”

Whereas, collaboration with the broader student body, including with community members and student organizations, is critical to supporting the passage and implementation of SA resolutions;

Whereas, members of the SA ought to work towards the University’s successful implementation of their resolutions, including through mobilizing supportive community members;

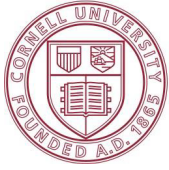
Be it therefore resolved, all future SA resolutions, save for Internal Policy Resolutions, must have a listed Community Sponsor.

Be it further resolved, that the Standing Rules of the Cornell University Student Assembly be amended to include the following:

RULE 13 – *Community Engagement*

A. No Assembly resolution, except considered internal policy as defined in Article III, Section 2 of the Cornell University Student Assembly Charter, shall be in order for consideration at a regular meeting of the Assembly without the sponsorship of at least one Community Sponsor.

B. For the purposes of this rule, a Community Sponsor shall be defined as a campus or community organization with a mission or activities relevant to the sponsored



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- 30 resolution and/or a legitimate interest in the passage of the resolution, along with
31 an individual representing the organization.
32 C. Two-thirds of members present may suspend this rule for the consideration of a
33 particular resolution; however, such a suspension shall remain in force only at the
34 same meeting at which the suspension is adopted.
35 D. A resolution passed unanimously by a vote of the Executive Committee may be
36 exempted from this rule.

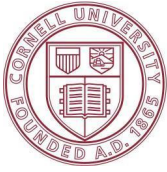
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38 **Respectfully Submitted,**

39 Suraj Parikh '26

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

41 *Minority Students at Large Liaison, Student Assembly*



Resolution 08: A Letter to the NYSDOH Regarding SHP Plus

Abstract: For the last ten years the NYSDOH has supported students attending New York's only land grant institution by providing the funding for SHP Plus, a no cost insurance plan for medicaid eligible students that has the same benefits that students are used to but has portability all over the world. The Student Assembly Executive Board, in conjunction with the office of Student Health Benefits as well as other administrators, wrote the following resolution and letter to express their disapproval about the discontinuation of this program.

Sponsored by: Patrick Kuehl '24

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 07/10/2023

Type of Action: Legislation

Originally Presented:

Current Status:

Whereas, the Student Assembly works to advocate for all students and therefore the sponsors of this resolution feel that it is important the assembly advocates for the well being and beneficial programs of all students regardless of the funding source.

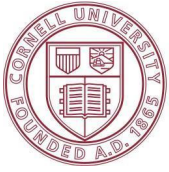
Whereas, the SHP Plus plan was unlike any other student health insurance plan in the country according to the office of student health benefits and it allowed low income students additional mobility when thinking about their futures.

Whereas, the sponsors of this resolution have solicited feedback and collaboration from the Office of Student Health Benefits, the office of Student and Campus Life, and the Office of Government Relations.

Be it therefore resolved, the members who vote in affirmative of this resolution sign the attached letter to the New York State Department of Health.

Be it further resolved, the Student Assembly will solicit signatures from the greater Cornell Community in affirmation of this letter for two weeks after its passing.

Be it finally resolved, the Student Assembly will send this letter following the two week signature collection period to the NYSDOH.

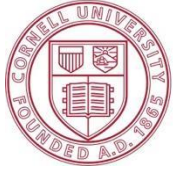


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Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Kuehl '24

President, Student Assembly



Cornell University
Student Assembly

The Cornell University Student Assembly
144 Feeney Ave, Suite 109
Ithaca, NY 14853

July 16, 2023

Commissioner James V. McDonald
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower
Empire State Plaza,
Albany, NY 12237

Dear Commissioner McDonald,

The Cornell University Student Assembly and the undersigned students are incredibly disappointed in the NYS Department of Health's decision to discontinue support for the Student Health Plan Plus (SHP Plus) at the State's only Land Grant institution. As a pilot program unique to Cornell University, the NYSDOH had an opportunity to be a national leader in providing accessible healthcare coverage for low-income students seeking higher education. **Instead, we have regressed and reinstated a barrier to health equity that had previously been addressed by SHP Plus.**

First generation and low-income students continuously face economic adversity while pursuing higher education, and the rising cost of healthcare is no exception. For nearly a decade, SHP Plus has allowed these students to access consistent healthcare both in and outside of New York State. This portability, uniquely granted by the SHP Plus plan over student's previous medicaid plans, has allowed countless students to pursue previously inaccessible professional development opportunities across the country without anxiety from a lack of coverage. Students with an inability to pay for private insurance or the school's in-house Student Health Plan will have to revert to a Medicaid Managed Care plan (MMC) which has a smaller regional network and may even be county specific. This severely limits students' options in terms of the opportunities they are able to pursue and the professionals they are able to see.

While we understand that this decision was made in conjunction with other budgetary considerations, we urge the Department of Health to once again support economic equity for low-income students.

To cover all students who had planned to enroll in SHP Plus at Cornell University for the 2023-2024 academic year it would cost less than \$2,200,000. This is approximately 0.00001% of the NYSDOH total budget; a small price to pay for the physical, emotional, and academic well-being of our students.

All New York State students, not just those at Cornell University, deserve opportunities for upward economic mobility without anxiety for their health and well-being. In addition to restoring the funding for the SHP Plus plan at Cornell University, we would encourage the Department of Health to investigate the resources necessary to institute a similar program at every state funded school in New York.

New York State has historically been a national leader for progress. As such, we should be moving towards more accessible higher education and healthcare. The discontinuation of funding for SHP Plus is an active move in the opposite direction. Students should not have to choose between access to healthcare and their futures. We urge the NYSDOH to reinstate a funding plan that provides the same medical portability and healthcare accessibility as SHP Plus. The Cornell community at large is ready to help tackle these challenges and looks forward to the possibility of future collaboration.

Respectfully,

Patrick Kuehl (He/Him)
President, Cornell University Student Assembly

Claire Ting (She/They)
Executive Vice President, Cornell University Student Assembly

George Rocco DeLorenzo
Vice President for Finance, Cornell University Student Assembly

Suraj Parikh (He/Him)
Vice President for External Affairs, Cornell University Student Assembly

Aissatou Barry (She/Her)
Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Cornell University Student Assembly

Clyde Lederman (He/Him)

Vice President of Internal Operations, Cornell University Student Assembly