

# Student Assembly Meeting AGENDA

September 1, 2022

4:45 - 6:30pm

## MEMORIAL ROOM, WILLARD STRAIGHT HALL

**ZOOM:** <a href="https://cornell.zoom.us/j/94716483660?pwd=Z3RHVEVobUs2OWRBZnBR">https://cornell.zoom.us/j/94716483660?pwd=Z3RHVEVobUs2OWRBZnBR</a> NFpCKzV4Zz09

Meeting ID: 947 1648 3660 | Passcode: 303164

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call
- 2. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogohó:no (Cayuga Nation)
- 3. Late Additions to the Agenda
- 4. Consent Agenda
  - 1. Approval of Minutes
- 5. Open Microphone
- 6. Announcements and Reports
- 7. Initiatives
- 8. Presentations and Forums
  - 1. Bikeshare presentation by Jeff and Margaret
- 9. Business of the Day
- 10. New Business
  - 1. Resolution 1: Amendment to Fall Election 2022
  - 2. Resolution 2: 2022-2023 Student Assembly Operating Budget
  - 3. Resolution 3: Office of Ethics Bylaw Amendment
- 11. 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**

Minutes of the Thursday, August 25, 2022 Meeting 4:45 PM – 6:30 PM IN PERSON | WILLARD STRAIGHT MEMORIAL ROOM

#### I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. V. Valencia called the meeting to order at 4:51 PM (EST).
- b. Roll Call
  - i. Members Present: S. Ali, S. Bhardwaj, D. Cady, K. Chan, E. D'Angelo, P. da Silveira, G. Dong, D. Edelman, J. Kalinski, A. Lampert, J. Lee, L. Lu, B. Luckow, J. Mayen, D. Nachman, N. Son, M. Song, V. Valencia
  - ii. Members Absent: J. Berman, S. Gavin, B. Koth, J. Swenson
  - iii. Also Present: Amisha Chowdhury, Delilah Hernandez, Mitchell Hoy, Shahad Salman, Naveen Sharma

#### II. Land Acknowledgement of the Gayogoho:no (Cayuga Nation)

a. President Valencia delivered the Land Acknowledgement.

#### III. Late Additions to the Agenda

a. V. Valencia proposed that the SAIFC election (Originally item 10- "New Business" be moved forward in the agenda and the Office of the Student Advocate presentation entitled *Basic Needs at Cornell* (originally item 8) be moved back due to the technological issues in the meeting space. Unanimously approved

#### IV. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of May 5th, 2022 Minutes
  - i. Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

#### V. Open Microphone

a. There were no speakers present at open microphone.

#### VI. Announcements and Reports

a. V. Valencia welcomed the Student Assembly members to the 2022-2023 term and presented information regarding the Sunday, August 28, orientation program.

#### VII. New Business

- a. SAIFC Chair Election
  - 1. Call for Nominations
    - i. Mitchell Hoy is nominated.
    - ii. Pedro da Silveira is nominated.

- 2. M. Hoy and P. da Silveira each individually address the Assembly, and are excused from the room as Assembly members formulate questions. M. Hoy returns to the meeting room to address members' questions.
- 3. J. Kalisnki asks M. Hoy to describe a specific infrastructure project M. Hoy has been involved in. M. Hoy states that he was involved with a U.S. Navy ship's Engineering Department on a Sanitation Project while serving as an enlisted sailor.
- 4. M. Song asks M. Hoy to describe one current problem with the SAIFC. M. Hoy states that he will emphasize sanitation projects and hear the concerns of the community.
- 5. S. Bhardwaj asks M. Hoy to describe his plans for community outreach. M. Hoy states that he will prioritize door-to-door canvassing to reach the student community at Cornell.
- 6. M. Hoy is excused and P. da Silveira returns.
- 7. P. da Silveira asks whether an executive session is necessary to elect the SAIFC Chair. C. Taylor states that an executive session is not necessary due to the position not being listed in the SA bylaws.
- 8. J. Kalisnki asks P. da Silveira to describe a specific infrastructure project P. da Silveira has been involved in. P. da Silveira states that he worked with Logan Smith to bring bike-share back to campus.
- 9. M. Song asks P. da Silveira to describe one current problem with the SAIFC. P. da Silveira states that an operational hierarchy will produce more efficient results within the SAIFC.
- 10. S. Bhardwaj asks P. da Silveira to describe his plans for community outreach. P. da Silveira states that he will emphasize funding project teams and disseminating information to project teams. P. da Silveira is excused from the room for membership deliberation.
- 11. Membership deliberates and A. Lampert distributes digital poll for secret ballot. P. da Silveira is elected Chair of SAIFC.
- 12. P. Da Silveira and M. Hoy are informed of result.

#### VII. Presentations and Forums

- a. D. Cady moves to hear OSA presentation, seconded, unanimously approved.
- b. Office of the Student Advocate members A. Chowdhury, D. Hernandez, and S. Salman present *Basic Needs at Cornell* (this presentation is available to SA Members via Box under August 25, 2022.)
- c. A. Chowdhury defines Basic needs as food security, access to housing, financial literacy initiatives (i.e. tax preparation), access to health insurance, mental health care, and access to employment.
- d. D. Hernandez stated the following information regarding OSA initiatives in 2021-2022:
  - 1. OSA outreach events received 313 attendees, 80.5 % of whom are undergraduates, having the greatest engagement in the SNAP/Medicaid and Title IX workshops.

- 2. Created paid student worker positions through the Center for Transformative Action.
- 3. Created a Cornell SNAP information page and updated other Cornell sites to include SNAP information.
- 4. Connected with other Basic Needs Coalitions across the country such as Temple University, UC Berkeley, and the National basic Needs Coalition.
- e. A. Chowdhury states that OSA received over 550 responses to Basic Needs survey. Over 50% of the students polled identify as first generation and/or low-income.
- f. D. Hernandez states that the most common challenges faced were financial resources, housing assistance, and food resources.
- g. S. Salman states that data shows that many resources are underutilized due to students' unawareness of their existence.
- h. A. Chowdhury states that the largest obstacle to students' access to Cornell food pantry is not knowing its location.
- i. S. Salman presents data on Centralizing Resources. 345 out of 394 respondents answered "Yes" to the question "Would establishing a space on campus encapsulating essential need resources and providing informed support from students in collaboration with field experts be helpful to you?"
- j. A. Chowdhury presents the OSA vision for a Basic Needs Center.
  - 1. A centrally located physical space to address student basic needs.
  - 2. A one-stop-center to help students navigate on and off campus resources.
  - 3. Peer-to-peer support center run by student leaders-paid through federal work study.
  - 4. Similar vision to Wellness Center proposed by SA Wellness Committee to VP Lombardi.
- k. S. Salman presents the OSA asks to Administration:
  - 1. House and Grow Basic Needs efforts under Dean of Students
  - 2. Host Basic Needs Workshops under Dean of Students
  - 3. Provide administrative staff support to student leaders working on basic needs.
  - 4. Create more student worker paid positions through federal work study.
  - 5. Establish a budget for basic need efforts.
- 1. S. Salman presents OSA asks to Student Assembly:
  - 1. Create a basic needs working committee within SA.
  - 2. Fund OSA to continue doing basic needs workshops
  - 3. Pass a resolution to ask for a basic needs center.
  - 4. Expand the emergency fund eligibility criteria to include basic needs emergencies
  - 5. Codify the Sa bylaws to connect basic needs efforts to Student Assembly
- m. V. Valeria thanked OSA for the presentation, expressed appreciation for OSA's efforts, and invited questions.

- n. D. Nachman asked how much OSA funding comes from Student Assembly. D. Hernandez states that OSA received 1,500-2,000 dollars in 2021-22.
- o. S. Bhardwaj asked if a regular meeting date has been established. D. Hernandez stated that the OSA meets every Thursday at 8pm.
- p. S. Ali sked about initiatives to ensure students will be referred to basic needs center. A. Chowdhury stated that OSA plans to develop peer navigators in cooperation with the office of the Dean of Students.
- q. J. Lee asked if OSA staff had heard concerns about potential stigmatization of students experiencing basic needs shortfalls. S. Salman stated that OSA is focusing on normalizing the use of services and presenting resources as positive opportunities for students rather than "last-resort" programs. A. Chowdhury stated that OSDA is aware of potential stigmatization and actively chose to identify the "Basic Needs" center as such for maximum clarity in communicating with the student body.

#### VIII. Adjournment

a. V. Valencia adjourned the meeting at 6:17 PM

Respectfully Submitted, *Erik Kalweit* Acting Clerk of the Student Assembly



Originally Presented on:	(09/01/2022)
Type of Action:	Resolution
Status/Result:	New Business

1	S.A. Resolution #1
2	Amendments to Election Rules for Fall 2022
3	
4	ABSTRACT: This resolution updates the Student Assembly Election Rules for the Fall 2022
5	Election.
6	
7 8	Sponsored by: Isaac D. Chasen '23, Director of Elections
9	Whereas, the Student Assembly Bylaws (§IV, 3, F, line 409) task the Elections Committee with
10	coordinating and implementing the regular and special elections of the Student Assembly,
11	and
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13 14	Whereas, to appropriately coordinate and implement the Student Assembly Elections, the Election
15	Rules must be regularly updated, and
16	Whereas, the Campus Code of Conduct has recently been reformed to incorporate less judicial
17	procedures in the new Student Code of Conduct and in doing so removed the Judicial Codes
18	Counselor, and
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20 21	<b>Whereas</b> , the removal of the Judicial Codes Counselor necessitates adjusted procedures with regard to challenge hearings, and
22	to chancing hearings, and
23	Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly approves the Fall 2022 Student Assembly Election
24	Rules attached as Appendix A to this resolution.
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28	Respectfully Submitted,
29	Isaac D. Chasen '23
30	Director of Elections, Student Assembly
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A. Election Calendar

B. Elections Committee

C. Independence of the Elections Committee

## 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, Monday, May 7, 2018, Thursday, November 29, 2018, Wednesday, September 2, 2020, Thursday, March 11, 2021, Thursday, March 3, 2022, Thursday, September 1, 2022.

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9. Confidentiality

## **Article I: Election Guidelines**

- 42 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 43 44 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 45
- document. Election rules are subject to the approval of voting members of the Student Assembly each 46
- 47 semester

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#### A. Voter Eligibility 48

- 49 To vote in an election for a seat in the Student Assembly (SA) or for the directly elected seats on the
- 50 University Assembly (UA), a person must:
- 51 1. Be a full-time, matriculated undergraduate student enrolled in a degree-granting unit of the 52 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.** Definitions

- 59 The following words throughout the Election Rules are defined as such:
  - 1. Candidate: is any person who has successfully completed the outlined steps to become a candidate, as described in these Election Rules.
  - 2. Classroom: is any space in which a professor, teaching assistant, or any other instructor holds prescribed class time. "Classroom" includes in-person, hybrid, and online courses.
  - 3. Cyber Bullying: is the act of bullying in any online space. These election rules follow the same definition of bullying as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and applicable university policies or governmental laws.



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- 4. Individual or self-promoting publicity: is any outreach events, office hours, postings, or public facing events, whether in-person or virtual, in which interaction with, or promotion of, the candidate is a substantial reason for the act.
  - 5. Petitioner: is any person seeking signatures to become a candidate.
  - 6. Social Media: is any online service that allows users to share, create, or post content for social-networking purposes. Social media services include, but are not limited to: Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, Reddit, MySpace, Pinterest, YouTube, and CampusGroups.
    - a. Email, GroupMe, WhatsApp, Signal, and text messaging are not social media.

## C. Candidate Information

#### 1. Eligibility and Requirements

- To be a candidate, a person must, <u>prior to the petitioning deadline</u> 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.
    - a. 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.
  - 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:
    - a. 300 for President and Executive Vice President
    - b. 75 for Womxn's Issues Representative At-Large, Minority Liaison At-Large, First Generation Student Representative At-Large, and International Students Liaison At-Large, LGBTQIA+ Students Liaison At-Large, Students With Disabilities Representative,
    - c. 150 for all other at-large seats
    - d. 100 for Arts and Sciences seats
    - e. 25 for Transfer seat
    - f. 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 never held or currently hold the role of Chair of the Research and Accountability Committee.
  - 6. 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, <u>prior to the commencement of voting</u> as specified in the elections calendar:



- 1. 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 then notify any necessary candidates who failed 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

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- In order to demonstrate that they will be a respectable representative of the student body at large, and/or
- of the community they vie to represent, candidates are required to collect a certain number of petition
- signatures. The required number of petition signers is designated above. In accordance with university
- policies in place at the time, and at the direction of the Elections Committee, petition forms will either
- be "in-person" paper forms (available from the SA Elections website), or "virtual/remote" online forms
- 127 (available by link from the SA elections website. 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 D(1) of these elections rules, the following restrictions are in place to
- ensure fairness during the petitioning period. Candidates may not:
- 131 1. Announce their candidacy on social media platforms under any circumstances
- 2. Announce their candidacy in front of a classroom, during class hours, or in interference of the learning environment in order to collect signatures
- 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

- 138 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.



#### **144 4. Pictures**

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- 145 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, or have their photo taken by a staff member in the Office of the Assemblies.

#### 148 **5. 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
- 154 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.

#### 156 **D. Election Guidelines**

#### 1. Early Campaigning Prohibition

- 158 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must not participate in the following campaign
- activities until campaigning **officially begins**:
- 1. Distribution of online campaign materials to the public.
  - 2. Making speeches or statements to student organizations.
- 3. Promoting their candidacy through email, social networking tools, or other digital media
- 163 The Elections Committee may challenge or disqualify a candidate if a violation is found to compromise
- the fairness of the election.

#### 165 2. Restrictions for Current SA Members

- 166 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 Student Code of Conduct

- 172 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must be aware of and comply with all applicable
- policies and provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, including but not limited to:
- 174 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 Student Code of Conduct.
    - a. Please note that it is against the University Postering and Chalking Policy to chalk on any vertical surface, regardless of the location.
  - 7. Intimidation tactics and cyber-bullying online is strictly prohibited.
- 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
- 188 Elections may also refer any reported violations to the Office of Student Conduct and Community
- Standards (OSCCS) or any other appropriate office, which may impose disciplinary remedies and
- 190 penalties according to its own rules and procedures.

#### 191 4. Campus Mail

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

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#### 5. Electronic Communications and Social Media

- 195 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:
- Cannot receive campaign support through a Cornell Administered list-serv. E.g. The Cornell
   Athletics Department
  - 2. Must comply with Cornell University IT policies

#### 6. Campaign Finance

- 200 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
- 203 have spent \$0 on their campaign.
  - 1. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not exceed the \$25 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 goods 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



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214	individual/donor is typically compensated. Volunteer time donated by full-time students
215	who are not professionals (have received payment for service) in the area of their
216	volunteer effort, 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 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) or any other promotional materials approved by the Director of Elections that are not a violation of these election rules.
- 3. Candidates may use any platforms at their disposable, granted they are free. If these platforms require purchasing, candidates are required to report this in their expense report form.

#### 7. Endorsements

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- 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.
  - 3. If a member of the Elections Committee sits on the Executive Board or governing body of an organization, that organization is prohibited from endorsing candidates.
- All registered students, except candidates, are encouraged to individually endorse candidates once the campaign period officially begins.

#### 239 8. Campaign Ethics

- 240 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.

## E. Restrictions on Ticketing and Slates

- 248 1. General Rules
- 249 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

- 260 Candidates in any race, besides those running for the position of President or 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
- 263 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.

### 267 **3. Plagiarism**

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

## 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. Candidates running for President and Executive Vice President who do not win their race will automatically be entered into two races for two Undesignated At Large seats, separate from the Undesignated At Large race. The candidates in each race, one for Presidential candidates and a separate one for Executive Vice Presidential candidates, will run for one available seat per race. In the event that there are no other candidates for a particular race, regardless of reason as to why, the seat shall go to the next highest voted candidate in the original Undesignated At Large race. No voting shall occur for these two races and the votes shall be tallied from the original counts for President and Executive Vice President.

## **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<sup>3</sup>.
  - 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. The Director of Elections shall publish a list of Assembly seats to be filled, in accordance with Student Assembly Charter.
- 3. During a Challenge Review Meeting, the interpretation of the Elections Rules will lie with the sitting Elections Committee.
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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.
- 6. The Director of Elections shall give a final report on the results of the election when there are no remaining unresolved matters.

## 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</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.



321 3. Members of the Elections Committee cannot personally endorse any candidates. However, members of the Committee may still privately vote in the elections themselves.

## D. Voting and Tabulation

- 1. The order in which names appear on the ballot shall be randomly selected.
- 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 and all challenges have been fully resolved.
  - 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 Director of Elections or the Elections Committee has validated the election results.
  - 5. A printout of election results for qualifying candidates shall be posted on line on the relevant webpages of the election. Disqualified candidates will not have their vote tallies made available.

## 334 E. Challenges

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#### 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.

#### 340 **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.
- 345 3. No challenges will be accepted after these deadlines.
- Once submitted, a challenge becomes part of the formal record, and may not be withdrawn for any reason or by any person.

#### 348 **3. Format of Challenges**

- Challenges must be in writing, submitted on the signed Challenge Form, and accompanied by the
- 350 following supporting documentation:
- 351 1. Challenger's name
- 352 2. Candidate's name
- 353 3. Date of challenge
- 4. Reason for challenge and supporting evidence



- 355 Challenges that fail to provide all required documentation will not be reviewed by the Elections
- 356 Committee.

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- **4. Notification of Election Challenges**
- 358 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 request to review challenges to which they are a party in the Office of the
- 362 Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, who will share the challenges in a confidential setting. The challenged
- candidate may then 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. The Committee, less
- 367 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. The Director of
- 369 Elections reserves the right to recuse any member of the Committee in the event of a conflict of interest.
- 370 Members may either recuse themselves prior to challenge hearings or at the discretion of the Director of
- 371 Elections. For each challenge, the Committee will determine:
  - 1. Whether each alleged violation can be substantiated, beyond a reasonable doubt. This vote will be taken for each violation individually, and a majority of the members present 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, beyond a reasonable doubt, require the disqualification of a candidate, with at least two-thirds of the members present of the Elections Committee in the affirmative, may disqualify the candidate. The Elections Committee reserves the right to impose lesser sanctions on a candidate as it sees fit.

#### 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).
- 389 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 <a href="mailto:assembly@cornell.edu">assembly@cornell.edu</a>, and the Director of Elections within twenty-four hours of receiving the disqualification email from 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 the challenge procedure outlined in the Elections Rules Failure to submit all necessary documentation within twenty-four hours will restrict the seeking for reconsideration and the Elections Committee's decision will be final.
- 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. Email voting may be used by Committee members.

#### 9. Confidentiality

- 1. Members of the Elections 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.
- A review of the Challenges may take place in coordination with the Office of the Assemblies,
   109 Day Hall, by any member of the Cornell community. Challenges may not be photocopied,
   screen-shared, photographed, digitally recorded or removed from the Office of Assemblies.



## Resolution 2: Approving the 2022-2023 Student

## 2 Assembly Budget

- 3 Abstract: This resolution approves the Student Assembly Operating Budget for the 2022-2023
- 4 Academic Year.

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- 5 Sponsored by: Valeria Valencia '23, Amari Lampert '24, Pedro Da Silveira '25, Kelly Chan '24,
- 6 Michelle Song '25
- 7 Reviewed by: Executive Committee 08/29/2022, 4-0-1
- 8 *Type of Action:* Recommendation
- 9 *Originally Presented:* 08/29/2022
- 10 Current Status: New Business
- Whereas, "Sub-Section A: Category Spending" of "Section 8: Spending Guidelines" of the
- 12 Student Assembly Standing Rules lines 273-274 read as follows:
- ii. Rule 2: The Student Assembly budget must be reviewed and approved by the SA by
- the conclusion of the second meeting of the academic year.
- 15 **Be it therefore resolved,** that the Student Assembly approves and adopts the attached Operating
- Budget and reserve allocations for the 2022-2023 Academic Year as outlined in Appendix A;
- 17 Respectfully Submitted,
- 18 Valeria Valencia '23
- 19 President, Student Assembly
- 20 Amari Lampert '24
- 21 Executive Vice President, Student Assembly
- 22 Pedro Da Silveira '25
- 23 Vice President of Internal Operations, Student Assembly
- 24 Kelly Chan '24
- 25 Vice President of External Affairs, Student Assembly
- 26 Michelle Song '25
- 27 *Vice President of D&I, Student Assembly*

	Amount	Item/Project Title	Category	Notes	Relevant Link
OSA Projects:	100	Printing flyers, OSA business cards, recruitment pos	Recruitment	Printing \$0.13 per page (spend \$80 last year)	https://it.cornell.edu/cu-print/cu-print-fees-and-billi
	200	OSA stickers & pens	Recruitment	Requested to Gina and Eric last year	
	192	Wix account for OSA website	Outreach/PR	\$16 per month (combo plan for personal use)	https://manage.wix.com/store/plans?siteGuid=8fd
	500	Professional Headshot Photoshoot (fall)	Programming	Successful OSA event last year (how ppl learned about OSA s	https://www.bitangaproductions.com
	500	Professional Headshot Photoshoot (spring)	Programming	Successful OSA event last year (how ppl learned about OSA s	https://www.bitangaproductions.com
	150	Title IX info session	Informational Workshop	\$150 for food (incentive to recruit students to attend workshop	and learn about valuable resources that are curre
	150	Cornell Resources 101 workshop	Informational Workshop	\$150 for food (incentive to recruit students to attend workshop	and learn about valuable resources that are curre
	150	International students Resources workshop	Informational Workshop	\$150 for food (incentive to recruit students to attend workshop	and learn about valuable resources that are curre
Basic Needs Projects:					
(in collaboration with basic needs coalition)	250	SNAP/Medicaid workshop (fall)	Informational Workshop	Successful OSA event last year, used \$250 last year for food (i	mportant to provide food at a workshop aimed to r
	250	SNAP/Medicaid workshop (fall)	Informational Workshop	Successful OSA event last year, used \$250 last year for food (i	mportant to provide food at a workshop aimed to r
	250	Tax Filing Workshop (spring)	Informational Workshop	Successful OSA event last year, money for guest speaker (staf	f from Tompkins County non-profit), parking reimb
	250	SNAP/Medicaid workshop (spring)	Informational Workshop	Successful OSA event last year, used \$250 last year for food (i	mportant to provide food at a workshop aimed to r
	250	SNAP/Medicaid workshop (spring)	Informational Workshop	Successful OSA event last year, used \$250 last year for food (i	mportant to provide food at a workshop aimed to r
	250	Financial Resources info session (emergency grants	s Informational Workshop	\$250 for food (important to provide food at a workshop aimed	to reduce financial insecurity)
	250	Job employment workshop	Informational Workshop	\$250 for food (important to provide food at a workshop aimed	to reduce financial insecurity)
	250	Financial literacy workshops (collaboration with alte	r Informational Workshop	\$250 for food (important to provide food at a workshop aimed	to reduce financial insecurity)
	250	Tenants rights, off-campus housing workshop (sprin	ç Informational Workshop	\$250 for food (important to provide food at a workshop aimed	to reduce housing insecurity)
	500	pop up event for fall (giving out free resources to st	Direct Support to students	\$500 to purchase items to directly distribute to students in nee	d of emergency resources
	500	pop up event for spring (giving out free resources to	Direct Support to students	\$500 to purchase items to directly distribute to students in nee	d of emergency resources
	500	gift cards (giving out to students reaching out for en	r Direct Support to students	\$500 to purchase gift cards to directly distribute to students in	need of emergency resources
	500	gift cards (giving out to students reaching out for en	r Direct Support to students	\$500 to purchase gift cards to directly distribute to students in	need of emergency resources
	150	social event to build coalition with organizers (fall)	Social	allocated to build community with organizers for social events	such as bowling, ice skating, picnic, etc
	150	social event to build coalition with organizers (spring	Social	allocated to build community with organizers for social events	such as bowling, ice skating, picnic, etc
Total:	6492		_		



## Resolution #3: Office of Ethics Bylaw

Amendment This was to be if a local control of the control of the

- 3 Abstract: This resolution amends and ratifies the Student Assembly Bylaws. These amendments to
- 4 the Bylaws create an ex-officio position for the Chairperson of the Office of Ethics, permits
- 5 member of the Office of Ethics to remain during executive session, and establish the format of the
- 6 Office of Ethics.

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- 7 **Sponsored by:** Michelle Song '25
- 8 **Reviewed by:** Office of Ethics, 09/01/2022
- 9 *Type of Action:* Internal Policy
- 10 *Originally Presented:* 5/5/2022
- 11 *Current Status:* New Business
- Whereas, the Office of Ethics was established through Student Assembly Resolution 22 as an
- external executive office to hold the Student Assembly accountable, maintain a high moral standard,
- and provide necessary ethical guidance and procedure to the Student Assembly;
- Whereas, the membership of the Office of Ethics has actively researched, analyzed, coordinated,
- argued, and discussed ethical philosophies and applications;
- Whereas, the members of the Office of Ethics have unanimously agreed that the undergraduate
- 18 Cornell community, as well as the Student Assembly, is in need of a structured system imbued with
- 19 the authority to ensure accountability, ethical conduct, justice, and growth;
- 20 Whereas, the current language utilized in "Section 2: Ex-officio Executive Committee Positions" of
- 21 "Article I: Ex-Officio Members," "Section 5: Executive Session" of "Article IV: Meetings," and
- "Section 5: External Committees" of "Article VI: Committees" lines 10-19, 233-238, 562-617
- 23 prevent the Office of Ethics from becoming this type of system;
- Be it therefore resolved, that "Section 2: Ex-officio Executive Committee Positions" of "Article I:
- 25 Ex-Officio Members," "Section 5: Executive Session" of "Article IV: Meetings," and "Section 5:
- 26 External Committees" of "Article VI: Committees" lines 10-19, 233-238, 562-617 of the Student
- 27 Assembly Bylaws be amended as follows:



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#### ARTICLE I: Ex-Officio Members

#### Section 2: Ex-Officio Executive Committee Positions

- A. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell community to serve as the Executive Archivist.
- B. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell community to serve as the Parliamentarian.
- 34 C. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve as Director of Elections.
- D. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve as the Student Advocate.
- E. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve as the Director of Student Government Relations.
- F. The SA must grant an ex-officio position to any member elected by the Office of Ethics to serve as the Chairperson.

### 42 ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

#### 43 Section 2: Executive Session

- With the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members in attendance, the SA or any of its
- 45 committees may go into executive session during a regularly scheduled meeting only to discuss
- 46 confidential matters as defined by this Charter. No policy determinations will be made in executive
- 47 session. The Student Assembly may also hold executive sessions for internal elections and planning
- 48 purposes. Executive session shall be closed to non-voting, non-executive members of the assembly
- 49 except the Chairperson of the Office of Ethics and all present members of the Office of Ethics.
- 50 Community members may be invited by the assembly to participate in an executive session. Secret
- 51 ballot votes shall be reserved for executive sessions.

### ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES



## Section 5: EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

54	C.	Of	fice of E	Ethics	
55		a.	Name <del>,</del>	<del>Mission, a</del>	nd Affiliation
56			i.	Name - T	he name of the office shall be the Office of Ethics.
57		b.	Mission	n:	
58			i.	Mission -	The mission of the Office of Ethics shall be to pursue any necessary
59				ethics cor	ncerns of SA members and directly elected undergraduate
60				representa	atives to the UA.
61			ii.	The Office	ce of Ethics will investigate perceived ethical violations and draft reports
62					for guidance and potential repercussions.
63			iii.		te of Ethics will be available for consulting and support on SA ethical
64					both SA members and the student body.
65		c.	Affiliati		•
66			i.	<b>Affiliation</b>	The Office will review evaluate all concerns submitted by
67				<del>communi</del>	ty members the student body that involve are against any SA members,
68					nittees, SA elections, or directly elected undergraduate representatives of
69				the UA.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
70			ii.	The Office	ce of Ethics shall be affiliated as an external executive office of the
71				Cornell St	tudent Assembly.
72					ce of Ethics shall work jointly with the Elections Committee to review
73					itial election violations or concerns.
74		d.	Roles a	nd Respor	nsibilities
75				-	n shall consist of five members of the Office of Ethics.
76				-	on Director of the Office of Ethics:
77				-	The Chairperson Director will chair all Office of Ethics meetings.
78					The Chairperson Director shall only vote in the event of a tie.
79					The Chairperson shall have a term limit of one academic year.
80				4.	The Chairperson shall correspond directly with the Student Assembly
81					on matters of ethics and ethical decorum in its meetings and all
82					proceedings.
83					a) In the event of absence, the Chairperson may select any member
84					of the Office of Ethics to serve as an ex-officio member of the
85					Executive Committee of the SA.
86			 111.	Review al	l alleged ethical violations submitted to the Office via:
87					Qualtrics,
88					Email,
89					Personal contact with a committee member of the Office of Ethics.

90	iv. Open investigations on perceived ethical violations
91	1. The Office of Ethics can open its own investigation on an ethical
92	matter by a simple majority vote.
93	v. Voting Members of the Office of Ethics:
94	1. The Office of Ethics shall consist of seven voting members.
95	2. All voting members shall serve for the duration of one academic year
96	unless their term is renewed by the incoming Director of the Office of
97	Ethics of their undergraduate academic career.
98	3. Office of Ethics Voting members can be removed before their term
99	expires by a unanimous vote of the entire voting membership of the
100	Office of Ethics.
101	a) The subject of the removal vote must abstain from voting.
102	4. All voting members shall be non-Student Assembly and non-
103	University Assembly members of the Cornell undergraduate student
104	population.
105	5. Voting members may not seek SA or UA office through their for the
106	academic year following their term of service in the Office of Ethics.
107	vi. Update the Student Assembly of its proceedings and its mission on an annual
108	basis at a hearing conducted during one of the first three general assembly
109	meetings of the academic year. This will be formally referred to as the "Office of
110	Ethics' annual report."
111	vii. The Office of Ethics will be commissioned with interpreting and applying the
112	guidelines set forth in the SA Code of Ethics.
113	1. The Office of Ethics will solely be tasked with the ability to revise the
114	Code of Ethics.
115	e. Recruitment of the Office of Ethics Members
116	i. The first seven voting members shall be appointed individually by any SA
117	member and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting
118	membership of the Student Assembly.
119	1. Except for nominations following a failed community vote, all
120	nominations for the Office of Ethics must be unanimously voted on by
121	the Office of Ethics prior to the vote by SA.
122	2. A week-long period in between nominations and appointments shall be
123	dedicated to giving SA voting members the opportunity to speak one-
124	on-one with each nominee.

125	ii. The first slate of voting members must select the Director of the Office of
126	Ethics internally by a simple majority of the Office before the end of the
127	<del>semester.</del>
128	iii. At the beginning Before the conclusion of each academic year, the outgoing
129	voting membership of the Office of Ethics must select the Chairperson Director
130	of the Office of Ethics internally by a simple majority vote of the entire voting
131	membership of the Office.
132	iv. The Director of the Office of Ethics shall decide upon the voting membership
133	of the incoming Office before the conclusion of each academic year.
134	f. Vote of Confidence
135	i. The Student Assembly will assess the work of the Office of the Office of Ethics
136	during the previous academic year and must conduct a vote of confidence on an
137	annual basis during or following by one any of the first three general assembly
138	meetings of each SA term.
139	1. Following the Office of Ethics' annual report, as defined in Article VI,
140	Section 5, Subsection C, Clause D, Paragraph VI, a simple majority
141	vote of the SA will sustain a Vote of Confidence in the Office of
142	Ethics to operate in the present academic year.
143	2. In the event of a failed Vote of Confidence, the SA may commence a
144	Vote of No Confidence by simple majority vote on the grounds that
145	the Office has failed to uphold and execute its mission, as defined in
146	Article VI, Section 5, Subsection C, Clause B.
147	a) The Chairperson of the Office of Ethics and all present member
148	of the Office may directly address the concerns brought against
149	the Office prior to the vote of the SA to commence a Vote of N
150	Confidence.
151	b) If the motion to commence a Vote of No Confidence fails, the
152	SA must return to a Vote of Confidence as defined in Article VI,
153	Section 5, Subsection C, Clause F, Paragraph I.
154	3. A Vote of No Confidence shall be considered sustained in the event
155	that two-thirds $(2/3)$ of the voting members of the SA votes in favor.
156	a) If the Vote of No Confidence is not sustained, the Assembly
157	must return to a Vote of Confidence as defined in Article VI,
158	Section 5, Subsection C, Clause F, Paragraph I.
159	ii. In the event of a sustained Vote of No Confidence, a community vote of the
160	entire undergraduate population shall be taken in order to remove all Office of
161	Ethics members by two-thirds (2/3) majority.



iii. In the event of a failed community vote, all Office of Ethics members would
continue to serve.
iv. In addition to the annual vote of confidence, an additional vote of confidence
can be called at any point during the academic year.
g. Office of Ethics Bylaws
i. All bylaw proposals to Article VI, Section 5, Subsection C, must be approved b
the Office of Ethics by a two-thirds (2/3) majority before coming to the SA.
ii. Changes to the Office of Ethics bylaws may only occur during the first three SA
meetings.
h. 'The Student Assembly Code of Ethics
i. Before the conclusion of the 2021-2022 academic year, the Office of Ethics wil
be charged with creating a Student Assembly Code of Ethics that must be
approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the
Student Assembly.
ii. The SA Code of Ethics should include, but is not limited to, including:
1. An expansion of the language outlined in the Student Assembly
Standing Rules, Section 2: Ethical Standards and Attendance Policy,
Section A;
2. An overview of possible ethical conduct offenses;
3. The process of determining a violation of ethics;
4. The process of recommending the appropriate disciplinary action to a
third party.
iii. The Office of Ethics will be charged with interpreting and applying the
guidelines set forth in the SA Code of Ethics.
Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Song '25
Representative at Large, Student Assembly