

Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, February 15, 2018 Meeting
4:45pm-6:30pm in Willard Straight Hall: Memorial Room

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call**
- II. Oath of Office**
 - a. Natalia Hernandez – Minority Liaison At-Large Representative
- III. Open Microphone**
- IV. Approval of the Minutes:**
 - a. February 8th Minutes
- V. Announcements & Reports**
 - a. Alexis Pollitto – Academic Policy Committee Chair
 - b. VP Barbaria – Update on GPSA Meeting
 - c. EVP Devatha – Anabel’s Update
 - d. Rep Herz – CDTI Request
- VI. Presentations:**
 - a. Provost and CFO Opening Statement
- VII. Business of the Day:**
 - a. Resolution 28: Puerto Rico Debt and Disclosure
 - b. Resolution 24: Allocating SA Surplus
- VIII. New Business**
 - a. Resolution 29: Community Sponsorship Access
 - b. Resolution 30: FARC Byline

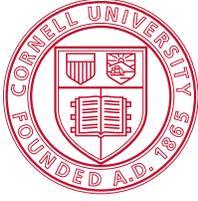
IX. Additional Announcements and Reports

- a. GPSA, FS, EA, UA Liaison Reports
- b. Other Liaison Reports
- c. Representative Reports

X. Adjournment

XI. Executive Session

- a. Election of Vice President of External Affairs
 - i. Potential Election for seat on Infrastructure Fund Commission
- b. Election of Liaison to the Employee Assembly



Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, February 8, 2018 Meeting
4:45pm-6:30pm in Willard Straight Hall: Memorial Room

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. J. Kim called the meeting to order at 4:45 pm.
- b. Roll Call:
 - i. *Present*: D. Barbaria [0], A. Chowdhury [1], O. Corn [0], V. Devatha [1], O. Din [2], O. Egharevba [0], H. Hassan [2.75], R. Herz [5], M. Indimine [1.5], S. Iruvanti [0], G. Kaufman [0], J. Kim [0], S. Lim [0], L. Lipschutz [4.25], D. Nyakaru [0], G. Park [0], M. Peralta-Ochoa [1], E. Shapiro [1], J. Sim [1], I. Wallace [1]
 - ii. T. Ball (*unexcused*) [0.25], R. Cornell (*excused*) [1.5], L. Lipschutz (*excused*) [4.25], S. Park (*excused*) [1.5], S. Romero Zavala (*excused*) [0], C. Schott (*excused*) [1.25], D. Tokunboh (*excused*) [2.5], M. Valadez (*excused*) [1]

II. Presentations

- a. Campus Sustainability Office
 - i. Sustainability Engagement Manager Kimberly Anderson presenting.
 - ii. K. Anderson presented Recyclemania to the Assembly.
 1. Recyclemania is a competition between colleges and universities reducing overall waste and ensuring that waste that is made is sorted and diverted appropriately.
 - iii. V. Devatha asked whether electronics disposal and recovery is only an available option in a time period previously referenced by K. Anderson.
 1. This weekend is March 12th through 16th.
 - iv. K. Anderson responded in the affirmative.
 - v. V. Devatha asked what students who wish to safely and sustainably dispose of electronics should do in the long term in this regard.

- vi. K. Anderson said that recycling electronics is a possibility year-round on campus, including in locations such as the Cornell Store. She also referenced the Campus Sustainability Office's (henceforth CSO)'s intent to spread awareness of battery disposal and plastic recycling locations on campus through the Cornell Maps system.
- vii. V. Devatha asked of his fellow Student Assembly members how many had previously encountered the Cornell Maps system.
 - 1. Some members, though fewer than half, indicated that they had.
- viii. I. Wallace requested that K. Anderson remain in the Memorial Room for a few minutes following her presentation for a conversation regarding a committee that he is a member of.

III. Open Microphone

- a. No speakers at the open microphone.

IV. New Business:

- a. Resolution 28: Puerto Rico Debt and Disclosure
 - i. Rahul Mukherjee said that the Cornell University administration must increase transparency in regard to its partnerships, citing Harvard University, Yale University, and Princeton University as Ivy League institutions that are more transparent with their partnerships. He also said that Cornell should reconsider its partnerships, and that it would be unethical for the University to profit of Puerto Rican debt holdings.
 - ii. V. Devatha asked whether or not another institution would pick up any Puerto Rican debt holdings should Cornell divest, and also asked a question regarding lobbying Congress to make a change in this regard at the federal level.
 - iii. Zachary Schmetterer said that if Cornell were to divest, the debts would go back onto the open market, and that students all over the Ivy League are addressing the issue of Puerto Rican debt holdings. He also said that other organizations employ full-time lobbyists, and that the Student Assembly should first direct their attention to the resolution, and once support builds up further, that attention should be directed toward federal change.
 - iv. V. Devatha inquired as to whether there has been a concerted effort across the Ivy League to address this issue, and whether or not this is the sort of thing that Hedge Clippers is doing.

- v. Z. Schmetterer said that Hedge Clippers is a research institution that seeks knowledge on the operation of hedge funds. He also said that this and other organizations addressing this issue are cited in the resolution's evidence packet, in a letter addressed to President Martha Pollack in October of 2017
 - 1. This letter can be found starting on page 27 of the evidence packet of Resolution 28.
- vi. J. Anderson commended the work that Christopher Arcé in particular put into this resolution, and motioned to amend the resolution such that C. Arcé's name would be at the top.
 - 1. Amended unanimously.
- vii. T. Ball asked Z. Schmetterer whether or not there is any way to view open-market data (aside from Cornell giving full transparency) to see if Cornell has divested from Puerto Rican debt holdings. He also asked whether or not Hedge Clippers had yet received a response from the administration regarding the aforementioned October letter.
- viii. Z. Schmetterer said that he did not recall hearing of a formal response, and that one would be appreciated. He also said that because of the confidentiality policy, it is likely that student will never be able to access information regarding the specific holdings.
- ix. T. Ball said that in the past, the Student Assembly has passed resolutions asking the University to divest from non-sustainable forms of energy, and whether or not there was anything that the Assembly should add to the resolution as to get a response from the University.
- x. Gina Giambattista made a statement regarding community input on divestment from fossil fuels, and said that while Cornell did not divest, the Board of Trustees did debate and make amendments to their policies due to the community-wide input and support for such an endeavor.
- xi. V. Devatha asked G. Giambattista whether or not the resolution needs to be passed unanimously in order for it to be brought before the Board of Trustees.
- xii. G. Giambattista said that this was not necessary, and that the fossil fuels resolution became an amplified, community-wide issue.
- xiii. J. Kim talked about President Pollack's response to SA Resolution 14, and that while Cornell takes that issue seriously, that certain stipulations in the resolution would violate their confidentiality

agreement. He further explained that Baupost may also have a confidentiality agreement with Cornell.

1. The Baupost Group is a hedge fund with investments in Puerto Rican debt holdings, the president of which is Seth Klarman '79.
- xiv. D. Barbaria asked whether or not Joel Malina, who the organizers of the resolution had spoken to previously, gave any indication of a university response.
- xv. Z. Schmetterer said that he is awaiting a response, and that J. Malina expressed interest in a meeting next week.
- xvi. C. Schott recommended that the proponents of this resolution set up structures that would continually press the administration on this issue, since Cornell still has not divested in the past, even when the voice of the entire campus was raised. He also asked whether or not the proponents had communicated with other universities.
- xvii. R. Mukherjee said that he is part of an organization that meets with representatives of other Ivy League institutions and that this organization is meeting at Cornell this year. He voiced his intent to have conversations about outreach efforts, and that more updates in this regard will come in the future.
- xviii. A member said that the Student Assembly must vote on this resolution, and that the issue at hand is of neocolonialism as well as finances.
- xix. S. Iruvanti asked what the Student Assembly could do to further address this issue once the resolution is passed.
- xx. Z. Schmetterer advised that the Assembly reach out to organizations on byline funding, and to try to get more assemblies to look at this resolution and pass similar ones.
- xxi. C. Schott asked that people particularly interested in this cause continue to put pressure on the administration in this regard as time goes on.
- xxii. S. Iruvanti asked the executive board whether or not the Assembly could work with Dustin Liu to bring this resolution to the attention of the Board of Trustees once it is passed.
 1. Dustin Liu is a student-elected trustee.
- xxiii. J. Kim responded in the affirmative.
- xxiv. S. Iruvanti said that it could be beneficial for this to go through other assemblies as well, in the name of expediency.
- xxv. Z. Schmetterer said that even though people are passionate about this issue, it might be best for this resolution to be tabled such

that someone from another organization speak in regard to the resolution.

- xxvi. J. Kim said that he would send emails following this meeting to Joel Malina, President Pollack, and the provost to ask administration representatives to speak in regard to this resolution at the next Student Assembly meeting.
- xxvii. A community member asked to what extent the Student Assembly could investigate Cornell's endowment holdings, and recommended that the Assembly investigate other potentially unethical holdings the University might have.
- xxviii. G. Kaufman stated the importance of the amount of money that Cornell may have invested in Baupost, saying that Baupost brings Cornell a higher-than-average rate of return on investment, and that if this investment were to be moved to something else, then the resulting impact on the annual operating budget could be worth millions of dollars lost. He clarified that he intends to vote on this issue and that the finances do not outweigh the morality, but that if Cornell invests in something with a lower rate of return, then many good programs will go unfunded.
- xxix. Z. Schmetterer said that Harvard is Baupost's biggest investor, and that their investment is worth \$40 million, and that Cornell's is therefore likely to be in the range of \$1 million to \$10 million. He said that if Cornell divests and ends up investing in an organization with a lower rate of return, there won't be much effect on the endowment.
- xxx. G. Kaufman said that since typical hedge fund investments are \$20 million, Cornell would lose at least \$2 million of endowment, since 10% is the average rate of return. He also remarked that the actual investment is likely to be more, since Seth Klarman recently donated a building to Cornell.
 - 1. The building referenced is Klarman Hall on Cornell's Central Campus.
- xxxi. Z. Schmetterer said that they do not know how much was invested, and that he is awaiting the results of the due diligence investigation, and that he is confident that they can move forward on this issue regardless.
- xxxii. A community member expressed his full support for the resolution.
- xxxiii. O. Din voiced his support for the resolution.
- xxxiv. Natalia Hernandez '21 voiced her support for the resolution.

- xxxv. J. Kim closed discussion and automatically moved the resolution to next week's Business of the Day, and that by that time he will hopefully have heard from an administrator to talk and answer questions.
- xxxvi. **Tabled** with a majority.

V. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. Motion to approve the minutes of the February 1st Student Assembly meeting – **approved** 21-0-0

VI. **Announcements and Reports**

- a. Dining Committee Liaison
 - i. O. Egharevba said that the Dining Committee had its first meeting on Tuesday, and that a focus group came to the meeting and spoke in regard to long term plans, especially in reference to the University Housing Master Plan and the necessary changes in dining as a result. He also mentioned his support for late-night dining, a proposal brought up in the Committee meeting.
- b. Health and Wellness Committee
 - i. O. Corn said that the Health and Wellness Committee has not yet met this semester, but at their last meeting in Fall 2017, the Committee was focused on the upcoming tobacco referendum.
 - 1. This referendum, if successful, will launch a two-year initiative for the Ithaca campus of Cornell University to become tobacco-free.
- c. Environmental Committee
 - i. T. Ball said that he was unable to attend the most recent meeting of the Committee, but that last semester, the Committee was working on three "green" initiatives.
 - 1. Keeping track of how many plastic bottles are used on campus.
 - 2. Imposing a tax on plastic water bottles sold on campus.
 - 3. Turning off the lights that are often left on in academic buildings at night.
 - ii. V. Devatha asked if the Committee was working with Take Back the Tap.
 - iii. T. Ball responded in the negative, saying that the initiative is similar, but that its main goal is to tax plastic water bottles and use the resulting revenue to subsidize the cost of reusable water bottles on campus.

- iv. G. Kaufman stated his doubts regarding the efficacy and use of a tax on water bottles, saying that it would make water more expensive for people.
 - v. V. Devatha advised T. Ball to take messages such as that from G. Kaufman back to the Environmental Committee, since he is the “bridge” between it and the Student Assembly. He also said for T. Ball not to take G. Kaufman’s comments as a personal attack.
 - vi. D. Barbaria told G. Kaufman to go to the Committee meeting and reach out to the chair if he has objections.
- d. City and Local Affairs Committee
- i. The Student Assembly currently has no representation on this committee at this time; V. Devatha said that any interest should be vocalized.
- e. Academic Policy Committee
- i. C. Schott was unable to attend the meeting, but will be at this weekend’s meeting. He also referenced two policies still on the table from last semester.
 - 1. The display of class means on transcripts.
 - 2. New policies regarding finals.
 - ii. O. Egharevba mentioned a poll designed to measure students’ opinions regarding course pre-enrollment, so as to improve the system. He also voiced his personal dislike for the system as it stands.
 - iii. E. Shapiro was unable to attend the meeting.
- f. Financial Aid Review Committee
- i. M. Valadez said that the Committee is continuing its discussion regarding its potential return to byline funding, as well as the potential use of endowment funds to create a third branch of the Financial Aid Review Committee that would grant short-term loans to low-income students, particularly to aid in down payments for off-campus housing. She also said that the Student Experience Grant goes live in one month, and requested assistance in advertising this.
- g. Appropriations Committee
- i. G. Kaufman said that the Committee is currently reviewing the results of byline voting from Fall 2017, and that they have not yet met this semester due to a lack of tasks to accomplish. He also referenced Slope Day, and that the Slope Day Programming Board (henceforth SDPB) requested \$20,000 of funding for Slope Day 2018.

- ii. R. Herz said that the Student Assembly's Slope Day liaison is not recognized by the SDPB, and that \$10,000 of the money that the SDPB has requested would go to the purchase of water bottles for attendees.
 - 1. This cost was formerly subsidized by Cornell Dining, but the organization no longer has the money to do this.
 - iii. V. Devatha mentioned that the Student Assembly does not have the money to fulfill this request.
 - iv. G. Kaufman asked if the Assembly could appoint R. Herz as the Slope Day liaison.
 - v. T. Ball said that he is the liaison, but that communication between the SDPB and the Student Assembly has been minimal on the part of the former.
 - h. Infrastructure Fund Committee
 - i. I. Wallace referenced a resolution regarding gender-neutral bathrooms, as well as public support for the creation of a crosswalk near Risley Hall.
 - i. Communications Committee
 - i. S. Lim said that the Committee has a new website and are taking new photos of Student Assembly members.
 - ii. J. Sim said that all members should have been added to the website by now.
 - iii. V. Devatha said that chairs of committees will be reached out to by a member of the Communications Committee in the near future.
 - j. Elections Committee
 - i. Travis Cabbell said that there are two candidates for Minority Liaison At-Large, and that campaigning could begin at 7:45 pm that night. He also said that Student Assembly members are able to endorse candidates, and that the Committee is working toward spring elections, which will happen in early March.
 - k. Diversity and Inclusion Committee
 - i. M. Valadez referenced the prospect of having a diversity and inclusion conference, which would bring in emerging leaders of byline organizations to share diversity initiatives they have come up with. She mentioned that the projected time period for the conference is fast approaching, and asked that anyone who knows of organizations with good diversity and inclusion initiatives to contact her.
 - 1. The projected time period for the conference is the end of February.

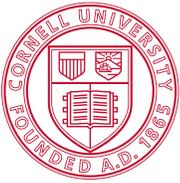
- l. Net-Print Task Force Committee
 - i. J. Sim said that the task force will be meeting for the first time on Tuesday, and that there are seven members so far. He also said that the Residential Student Congress will be joining the meeting.
- m. Culturefest
 - i. J. Kim asked that anyone interested in getting involved with Culturefest to reach out to him or M. Valadez.

VII. Adjournment

- a. J. Kim adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm.

VIII. Executive Session

Respectfully Submitted,
John Hannan,
Clerk of the Assembly



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(02/08/2018)
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #28

Mandating Cornell's Commitment to the Economic Justice of Puerto Rico and the Operational Transparency of its Investments

ABSTRACT: This resolution recommends that Cornell University investigate its holdings and divest from any and all Puerto Rican debt obligations. Additionally, Cornell should create a fair investment policy in regard to government debt as well as disclose its investment partnerships in yearly tax filings.

Sponsored by: Zachary Schmetterer '18

Whereas, a letter signed by 28 organizations was sent to President Pollack on October 16, 2017 regarding the university's endowment holdings in Seth Klarman's Baupost Group, which owns \$911.6 million worth of Puerto Rican debt bonds;

Whereas, in said letter, Hedge Clippers and its partner organizations outlined that Baupost purchased large portions of Puerto Rico's debt at a steep discount and demands that the island enact "extreme austerity measures" in order to repay its creditors in full;

Whereas, the Intercept and CNBC found that Baupost purchased \$469 million senior and \$442 junior COFINA bonds through shell company Decagon Holdings LLC to shield the hedge fund from public scrutiny;

Whereas, Cornell University has not publicly disclosed its holdings in the Baupost Group, and the Office of the University Treasurer "is bound by confidentiality agreements with its investment managers that prevent Cornell from publicly disclosing a manager's investment strategy or investment holdings" as of December 22, 2017;

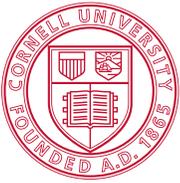
Whereas, the University Tax Office fails to disclose any of Cornell's investment partnerships relating to "investment income information provided by the endowment's investment managers" on its Form 990 and Form 990-T;

Whereas, Cornell's disclosure policies represent a significant departure from that of peer institutions such as Harvard, Yale, and Princeton; for instance, Princeton's 2015 Form 990 clearly lists the University's partnerships and investments in funds managed by the Baupost Group;

Whereas, Cornell has previously shown its commitment to the welfare of Puerto Rico and its people with its offer of a free semester of study to 62 students from Universidad de Puerto Rico;

Be it therefore resolved, that Cornell University makes a strong commitment to economic justice and operational transparency as well as execute the following remedies;

Be it further resolved, that Cornell University conduct a due diligence investigation of its holdings with the Baupost Group and divest from any and all Puerto Rican debt obligations;



Cornell University Student Assembly

45 **Be it further resolved**, the Office of University Investments evaluate the holdings with other investment
46 partnerships for Puerto Rican debt and likewise divest from such investments;

47
48 **Be it further resolved**, the Office of University Investments create a new policy preventing affiliated
49 investment partnerships from coercing the repayment on government debt above the market terms offered
50 to all investors;

51
52 **Be it finally resolved**, Cornell University's Office of the University Treasurer, University Tax Office, and
53 all other relevant entities explicitly list investment partnerships in their yearly tax filings in terms of both
54 the initial investment amount, the fund's name, and affiliation.

55
56 **Respectfully Submitted,**

57
58 Zachary Schmetterer '18
59 *Parliamentarian, Student Assembly*
60 *Ex-President Cornell Roosevelt Institute*

61
62 Rahul Mukherjee '20
63 *President, Cornell Impact Investing*

64
65 Christopher Arcé '19
66 *Co-President, Puerto Rican Students Association*
67 *Vice-President, Cornell Welcomes Refugees*
68 *Executive Board, Christian Union*

69
70 Aman Banerji
71 *Senior Program Associate, Roosevelt Institute*

72
73 Elizabeth Parisian
74 *Hedge Clippers*

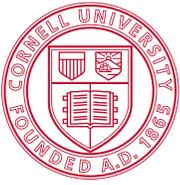
75
76 Ademali Sengali
77 *Columbia University, Roosevelt Institute*

78
79 Michael Charles '16
80 *Former President, American Indian Science and Engineering Society*

81
82 Shivani Parikh '19
83 *President, South Asian Council*
84 *Presidential Task Force, Campus Response Sub-Committee Member*

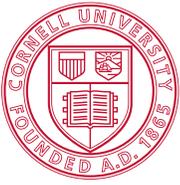
85
86 Anne Riley '18
87 *Treasurer, Cornell Welcomes Refugees*
88 *Chief Administrative Officer, Kappa Alpha Theta, Iota*
89 *Director of Recruitment, Cornell International Business Association*

90



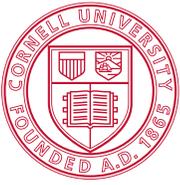
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- 91 Adriana Herrera '20
92 *Chair, MEChA de Cornell*
93 *President, Sabor Latino Dance Ensemble*
94
95 Zachary Aleksandur de Stefan '18
96 *Co-Facilitator, Amnesty International at Cornell University*
97
98 Paul Russell '19
99 *President, Interfraternity Council*
100
101 Jeremy Gartland '18
102 *Executive Board, Christian Union*
103
104 Andrew Peterson '18
105 *Co-president, Cornell Coffee Club*
106
107 Robert Hendricks '17 JD '19
108 *President, Christian Legal Society*
109
110 Tarannum Sahar '20
111 *President, Cornell Welcomes Refugees*
112 *Vice President, Bengali Students Association*
113
114 Micah Wallingford '20
115 *Brotherhood Chairman, Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity*
116
117 Nayara Luna Guzmán '19
118 *Student Staff, Latina/o Studies Program*
119
120 Michael Sarkis '20
121 *Vice President of Programming, Interfraternity Council*
122
123 Venus Dulani '19
124 *Co-President, Big Red Bikes*
125 *Advocacy, International Students Union*
126
127 Natalie Brown '18
128 *President, Cornell University Democrats*
129
130 Winnie Ho '19
131 *Cornell Tradition Fellow*
132
133 Jenise Carter '19
134
135 Piragash Swargaloganathan '19



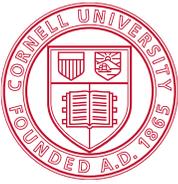
Cornell University Student Assembly

- 136 *Member SJP*
137
138 Kimberly St Fleur '21
139 *Cornell Tradition Fellow*
140 *Member, Christian Union*
141
142 Faith Slaughter '20
143 *Treasurer, The Black Women's Support Network*
144
145 Dennis Delasi Nyanyo '18
146 *Vice President of Funding, International Student Union*
147 *Co-President, Ghanaians at Cornell*
148
149 Lavanya Aprameya '19
150 *President, Haven: Cornell's LGBTQ Student Union*
151
152 Omar Din '19
153 *Board Member, Muslim Educational & Cultural Association*
154 *Human Ecology Rep, Student Assembly*
155
156 Christopher Schott '18
157 *Executive Board, International Students Union*
158 *International Students Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
159
160 Mark Svenjak '18
161 *President, American Hotel & Lodging Association*
162 Drew Lord '18
163 *President, Interfraternity Council*
164
165 Ian Wallace '20
166 *LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
167 *Board Member, Cornell Welcomes Refugees*
168
169 Kyjana Barnett '18
170 *President, Cornell Students for Animal Rights*
171
172 Alex Santoriello '19
173 *House Manager, Sigma Pi Fraternity*
174
175 Daniela Manzano '19
176 *Executive Chairperson, Cornell University Program Board*
177 *Director of Corporate Relations, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers*
178
179 Elton Munoz '19
180 *Community Service Associate, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers*
181



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 182 Cristian Alonso '18
183 *Treasurer, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers*
184
185 Maame Akosua Ohemeng-Tinyase '20
186 *Director of Internal and External Affairs , Ghanaians@Cornell*
187 *Secretary, Baraka Kwa Wimbo*
188
189 Tasnuva Ferdous Ming Khan '18
190 *President, Bengali Students Association*
191
192 Anuush Vejalla '20
193 *Vice President, South Asian Council*
194 *Secretary, Hindi Student Council*
195
196 Syed Samin '19
197 *President, Muslim Educational and Cultural Association*
198
199 Abraham Araya '19
200 *President, Multicultural Greek Letter Council*
201
202 Evan Shapiro '19
203 *College of Arts and Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*
204 *Productions Chairperson, Cornell University Program Board*
205
206 Aaron Gottesfeld '19
207 *Executive Vice President, Roosevelt Institute*
208
209 Stephannie Chen '19
210 *President, Roosevelt Institute*
211
212
213 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-0, 02/07/2018)*



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/16/2017
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

1 S.A. Resolution #24
2 Allocating Part of the Student Assembly Surplus

3
4 ABSTRACT: This resolution intends to follow through on allocating funding to support
5 underserved communities that was originally proposed in AY 2015-2016 S.A. Resolution 40.

6
7 **Sponsored by: Jaëlle Sanon '19, Dale Barbaria '19**

8
9 **Whereas**, the Student Assembly passed Resolution 40 on March 23, 2016;

10
11 **Whereas**, Interim President Hunter Rawlings asked that the Student Assembly “be sure to work directly
12 with the appropriate offices for implementing the various programs and initiatives referenced in
13 the resolution.”

14
15 **Whereas**, the Student Assembly did not work to allocate the funding specified in that resolution and
16 that \$15,000 has not been spent;

17
18 **Whereas**, the exact program intended by the resolution, involving the hiring of fellows through the
19 Department of Campus Life to support underserved communities, no longer needs financial
20 support from the Student Assembly;

21
22 **Whereas**, there are still many underfunded groups on campus that deal with the “variety of issues areas
23 that are currently not addressed including, but not limited to, students with disabilities, veterans,
24 first generation students, etc.” as referenced by Resolution 40;

25
26 **Whereas**, for many of these groups, the creation of fully independent resource centers does not seem
27 likely in the immediate future;

28
29 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the Student Assembly allocate \$15,000 of its surplus to support
30 underserved student groups that address issue areas on campus including, but not limited to,
31 support for students with disabilities, veterans, first generation students, etc.

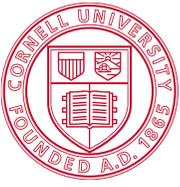
32
33 **Be it further resolved**, that the Vice President for Student and Campus Life should oversee the
34 application process for this program, modeling the application and selection in a fashion similar
35 to the Bartels Co-Sponsorship program;

36
37 **Be it further resolved**, that the Vice President for Student and Campus Life should select four separate
38 student organizations to receive support from this program, with each student organization
39 receiving \$3,750;

40
41 **Be it finally resolved**, that all four student organizations should be selected and provided their
42 allocation by the end of the Spring 2018 semester.

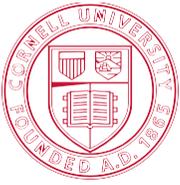
43
44 **Respectfully Submitted,**

45



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 46 Jaëlle Sanon '19
- 47 *First Generation Student Liaison At-Large Representative, Student Assembly*
- 48
- 49 Dale Barbaria '19
- 50 *College of Engineering Representative, Student Assembly*
- 51
- 52 *Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee, 11-0-1, 11/13/2017*



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	3/24/2016
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #40 Usage of the Student Assembly Surplus

ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to spend the Student Assembly’s surplus on the creation of Diversity Fellows, replenishing the Students Helping Students Fund, additional resources for Social Consultants, and increasing the Diversity Innovation Fund.

Sponsored by: Matthew Stefanko ‘16

Whereas, all byline funded organizations are expected to have a thorough plan for spending their surplus and the Student Assembly currently operates a surplus of \$39,000;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly allocates \$15,000 to establish a pilot program for a Student and Campus Life Fellowship Program for the next two years. During the next four semesters, one fellow per semester will:

- Support the currently underserved resource centers through additional support and the allocation of one graduate student per semester to a variety of issues areas that are currently not addressed including, but not limited to, students with disabilities, veterans, first generation students, etc.
- Be provided a \$3,000 stipend per semester with an additional \$750 dedicated to various programming initiatives that they deem relevant to the project or projects that they are assigned
- Work on projects determined and developed through a comprehensive planning and search process using input from students, student organizations, and the resource centers themselves, such as the planning of major conferences, the development of new initiatives or programs offered by the resource center, the support of students through office hours or attendance of events, and many more. The Student Assembly would maintain multiple positions on the selection and allocation committees to ensure fluidity;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly allocates \$2,500 per year over the next three years toward a fund for initiatives planned by the Cornell Social Consultants (CSC), who will work to promote constructive practices in their communities to help to create a more positive sexual climate on campus;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly allocates \$9,000 towards the Students Helping Students Fund which provides students with grants in the case of family emergency or unexpected crises;

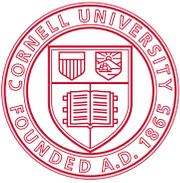
Be it finally resolved, that the Student Assembly allocates \$7,500 to the Diversity Innovation Fund which promotes sustainable approaches and services that aim to make Cornell University a more accessible and/or inclusive campus;

Respectfully Submitted,

Emma Johnston
Executive Vice President, Student Assembly

Matthew Stefanko
Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee, 3/21/2016, 10-0-0)



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(02/15/2018)
Type of Action:	Bylaws Amendment
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #29

Amending Community Sponsorship Access in the Student Assembly Bylaws

ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to amend the bylaws in order to make it easier for members of the student body to submit resolutions to the student assembly.

Sponsored by: Omar Din '19, Dale Barbaria '19

Whereas, the Student Assembly was founded to effect more extensive involvement in campus governance and work on matters which involve the interests of or concern the welfare of the student community.

Whereas, the focus of the Student Assembly should be on the Cornell undergraduate body, and not on the elected members of the Student Assembly.

Whereas, the Student Assembly charter grants all members of the Cornell undergraduate student body ex-officio membership to the student assembly in order to ensure and encourage their participation, and rights thereof, in shared governance.

Whereas, the participation of its members, the equality of its community, and the transparency of its governing body are all hallmarks of and necessary conditions for any democratic society.

Whereas, Article VII, section 1, lines 443-446 of the Student Assembly Bylaws reads as follows:

The SA and its committees shall respect and protect the rights of individual members of the Cornell community. All members of the community have the right to add a resolution to the Student Assembly Agenda after procuring the written signature of at least a majority of seated SA members, and presenting the signatures to the SA President or their designee for verification, at least 48 hours before the meeting at which the resolution is to be introduced.

Whereas, resolutions function as the main avenue through which the student assembly functions.

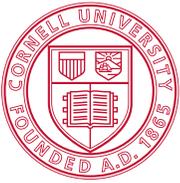
Whereas, the reason students would seek to bring resolutions straight to the assembly floor without assembly member co-sponsors is because they are unable to or otherwise unwilling to find any.

Whereas, if that is the case, it is an unrealistic and undemocratic expectation for them to have to procure a majority of Student Assembly members' approval.

Whereas, even if a resolution in such instance is unlikely to pass, it still deserves to be discussed if members of the Cornell undergraduate body deem it relevant, and as a democratic body the Student Assembly has a duty to do so.

Be it therefore resolved, that article VII, section 1, lines 443-446 of the Student Assembly bylaws be amended to instead say:

The SA and its committees shall respect and protect the rights of individual members of the Cornell community. All members of the community, [who do not otherwise have an appointed or elected position on](#)



Cornell University Student Assembly

47 the student assembly, have the right to add a resolution to the Student Assembly Agenda as a sponsor
48 (without the requirement of having a member of the assembly being a sponsor) after gaining the approval of
49 a Student Assembly committee through a majority vote or ~~the approval~~ after procuring the written signature
50 of at least a majority of seated SA members and presenting it to the SA President or their designee for
51 verification at least 48 hours before the meeting at which the resolution is to be introduced. Resolutions that
52 appear on the agenda using either of these methods may not have more than 3 sponsors who are not Student
53 Assembly members or Student Assembly committee chairs.

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55 **Respectfully Submitted,**

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57 Omar Din '19

58 *Human Ecology Rep, Student Assembly*

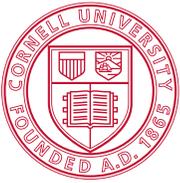
59

60 Dale Barbaria '19

61 *Vice President for Internal Operations, Student Assembly*

62

63 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-0, 02/13/2018)*



Originally Presented on:	(02/15/2018)
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #30

Reinstating the Financial Aid Review Committee as a Byline-Funded Organization for the 2020-2022 Cycle

ABSTRACT: This resolution reinstates the Financial Aid Review Committee (FARC) as a byline-funded organization for the 2020-2022 byline cycle.

Sponsored by: Mayra Valadez '18

Whereas, the Joint Assemblies Financial Aid Review Committee (JAFARC) was created in 1985 to “assist registered Cornell undergraduate students in financial need”

Whereas, JAFARC voluntarily forwent byline funding in the Fall of 2009 “in the interest of being good stewards to the university” due to the financial burden placed on students and their families during the financial crisis

Whereas, the decision to forgo funding was made with the understanding that the Appropriations Committee consider FARC “as a continuing applicant should [they] need to request funding in a future cycle, thus not requiring the 1500 signatures that is required of new applicants”

Whereas, FARC established the Summer Experience Grant (SEG) in 2014 to “provide students with the opportunity to obtain career-related experience in the summer that is unpaid or minimally paid.” (SA AY 14-15 Resolution 69)

Whereas, FARC awarded \$13,990.06 via the Student Helping Students fund (SHS) and \$48,535.00 via SEG in FY17

Whereas, total money awarded via SHS and SEG exceeded total income in FY17 of \$56,577.23

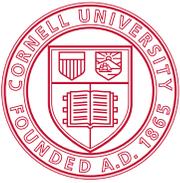
Whereas, FARC and the Student Assembly voted to allocate \$320,000 for the development of Anabel’s Grocery in SA AY 2015-2016 via [Resolution 22](#) using endowment funds, which significantly impacted total annual returns since

Whereas, FARC has seen a significant increase in applications to the SEG since its expansion to all 7 colleges in FY16 and anticipates the number to grow in the coming years

Be it finally resolved, the Student Assembly recommends that the Appropriations committee consider FARC as a continuing applicant for the 2020-2022 byline cycles, thus not requiring the 1500 signatures of a new organization applying for funding and includes language to this effect in their Appendix B amendments this semester

Respectfully Submitted,

Mayra Valadez '18
VP of Diversity & Inclusion, Student Assembly
Chair, Financial Aid Review Committee



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 48 Christopher Schott '18
49 *International Students Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
50 *Member, Financial Aid Review Committee*
51 *Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly*
52
53 Dongyeon (Margaret) Lee '20
54 *Member, Financial Aid Review Committee*
55
56 Ching Liu Huang '20
57 *Member, Financial Aid Review Committee*
58 *Member, Diversity Committee*
59 *Member, Communications Committee*
60 *Member, City & Local Affairs Committee*
61
62 Andy Zhou '20
63 *Member, Financial Aid Review Committee*
64
65 Jonvi Rollins '20
66 *Member, Diversity & Inclusion Student Assembly*
67 *Member, Financial Aid Review Student Assembly*
68
69 *(Reviewed by: Financial Aid Review Committee, 8-0-0, 02/09/2018)*