

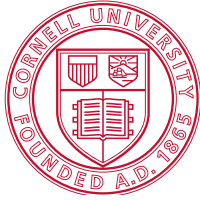


## Cornell University Student Assembly

### **Cornell University Student Assembly**

Agenda of the Thursday, September 27, 2018 Meeting  
4:45pm-6:30pm in Willard Straight Hall Memorial Room

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call**
- II. Approval of the Minutes**
  - a. September 20, 2018
- III. Open Microphone**
- IV. Announcements and Reports**
  - a. SAIFC Chair Wallace
- V. Business of the Day**
  - a. Resolution 7: Denouncing University Guideline Related to Event Security
    - i. Appendix
- VI. New Business**
  - a. Resolution 9: Creating an ad-hoc Oversight Committee on CUTonight
- VII. Executive Session**
  - a. Appointments to University Committees
- VIII. Adjournment**



## Cornell University Student Assembly

### Cornell University Student Assembly

Minutes of the Thursday, September 20, 2018 Meeting  
4:49pm-5:18pm in Willard Straight Hall Memorial Room

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

- a. V. Devatha called the meeting to order at 4:49 pm.
- b. Roll Call:
  - i. *Present*: J. Anderson [0], D. Barbaria [0], V. Devatha [0], O. Din [1.5], J. Dominguez [0], O. Egharevba [1], A. Hailu [0], S. Harshvardhan [0], N. Hernandez [0], A. Jain [0], K. Kebbeh [1], S. Lim [0], N. Matolka [0], D. Nyakaru [0], G. Park [0], M. Peralta-Ochoa [1.25], E. Shapiro [0], M. Shovik [0], J. Sim [0], F. Uribe-Rheinbolt [0], I. Wallace [0], B. Weintraub [0]
  - ii. *Absent*: S. Iruvanti [0]

#### II. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Motion to approve the September 13<sup>th</sup> minutes – approved.

#### III. Open Microphone

- a. No speakers at the open microphone.

#### IV. Business of the Day

- a. Resolution 7: Denouncing University Guideline Related to Event Security
  - i. J. Anderson moved to table Resolution 7 indefinitely.
  - ii. O. Din indicated that he only intended for the resolution to be tabled until next week.
  - iii. J. Anderson amended his motion to reflect O. Din's wishes.
  - iv. O. Din said that he wanted to table the resolution such that he could come back later with better language for it.
  - v. Motion to table Resolution 7 – tabled 19-0-1.

#### V. New Business

- a. Resolution 8: Approving Special Projects Request for Chinese Students Association
  - i. D. Barbaria asked to speak indefinitely since there is a lot to be explained.
  - ii. V. Devatha granted him this permission.
  - iii. D. Barbaria explained the origins of the Special Projects Fund and how it works.
  - iv. D. Barbaria said that the Chinese Students Association (henceforth CSA) has a gap in funding due to CUTonight having been put on hold last semester, and that the Student Assembly funded this event because it is a good event that requires a large amount of money. He added that this event was done by

multiple organizations, and not just the CSA, for many years, and consistently got \$5000 of funding from CUTonight. He also said that this was not a non-contentious issue in the Appropriations Committee (henceforth AppsCom), and that some in the committee believed that the CSA should have had a better contingency plan since they knew that CUTonight would not be an option. He added that this is background information to say that AppsCom has recommended this funding.

- v. D. Nyakaru asked what sources of funding were recommended if the committee was working under the assumption that CSA should have relied on funding other than CUTonight.
- vi. D. Barbaria said that AppsCom believed that CSA should have responded by downsizing or charging some amount of money. He added that there are a few things that can happen in regard to CUTonight, and that they are hoping to get the organization active very soon. He also said that he believes that the decision to put CUTonight on hold was made without thinking about how many organizations rely on CUTonight for funding, and that changes will be made, but that it is not yet known what those changes will look like. He added that if these changes do not work, then the SA will have the authority to declare that CUTonight is in violation of its byline funding, and in such a situation all the money that they have access to would be transferred to the Special Projects Fund. He also said that the SA does not currently have the capacity to be solely responsible for the funds that CUTonight has access to.
- vii. V. Devatha said that the e-board of CUTonight has shifted since the concerns of last year.
- viii. J. Dominguez said that the CSA said that they expected an attendance of 2000 at this event, and that everyone pays the Student Activity Fee (henceforth SAF) to fund events like this, and that he thinks it is imperative that the assembly try and make this event happen. He added that AppsCom did recommend that the CSA charge \$1 or \$2 at their events for food, and that AppsCom thinks it is reasonable for their original request of \$5000 to have been reduced to \$4000.
- ix. D. Barbaria said that the aforementioned recommendation was sent to the CSA when they were notified that they would be funded \$4000 instead of \$5000.
- x. B. Weintraub asked if the SA would be able to absorb a certain amount of CUTonight's funding for this coming semester, so as to replenish some money from the Special Projects Fund. He also said that he understands that \$1 or \$2 is not a prohibitive amount to charge, but that he would not want fewer people to come to the event as a result of that.
- xi. D. Barbaria said that the assembly cannot unilaterally pass a resolution to reclaim money, but in the discussions that have already been had with CUTonight, it was considered and supported. He also said that the request for the CSA to charge was purely a recommendation.
- xii. M. Shovik asked what the consequences for this event would be if this resolution did not pass.
- xiii. D. Barbaria said that he did not think that there would be implications for the event itself, but it would affect the organizers, since they would be on the line for thousands of dollars more than expected.

- xiv. O. Egharevba said that he was wondering about the progress concerning CUTonight.
- xv. D. Barbaria said that little progress had been made since the end of last semester, that the new commissioners are ready to start working, and that the SA will have to help CUTonight's new advisor in some capacity. He added that he believes that there can be a process in place by the end of next week.
- xvi. I. Wallace asked if D. Barbaria thinks it is possible for the SA to take over.
- xvii. D. Barbaria said that it would not be beyond the assembly, but that it would not be ideal. He added that if this were to be done, the first priority should be to review applications from organizations consistently funded by CUTonight, but it would not be good for the SA in the long term, and that they would be hurting many people by absorbing this function.
- xviii. Ashwin Viswanathan asked a question.
- xix. D. Barbaria said that if the SA decides that CUTonight functionally doesn't exist this year, then all their money would end up in Special Projects Funding.
- xx. There was a motion to move this resolution to Business of the Day – approved.
- xxi. J. Dominguez said that he wanted to gauge D. Barbaria's opinion on something, and asked if an amendment should be included that would dissuade other organizations from coming to the SA because they might see what happened in this exceptional circumstance with the CSA.
- xxii. D. Barbaria said that he doesn't think that it is a bad idea, but that it is also not necessary, since this resolution does not set any precedent.
- xxiii. There was a motion to vote.
  - 1. D. Barbaria dissented, and asked if the speakers' list had been exhausted.
  - 2. V. Devatha replied in the affirmative.
  - 3. D. Barbaria withdrew his dissent.
- xxiv. Motion to vote on Resolution 8 – approved 21-0-1.

## **VI. Adjournment**

- a. V. Devatha adjourned the meeting at 5:18 pm.

## **VII. Executive Session**

Respectfully Submitted,  
*John Hannan*  
Clerk of the Assembly



Originally Presented on:	9/13/2018
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #7

Denouncing University Guidelines Related to Event Security

ABSTRACT: This resolution denounces the new university guidelines that requires events to be pre-approved by CUPD, and forces student organizations to pay for security fees.

**Sponsored by: Omar Din '19, Khaddy Kebbeh '19, Mahfuza Shovik '19, Akanksha Jain '20, Joe Anderson '20, and Nick Matolka '21**

**Whereas,** Cornell University enables students from all backgrounds and status, and across political, racial, religious, and gender spectrums to attend and seek an education.

**Whereas,** student organizations have been able to flourish at Cornell due to their ability to execute their missions without obstruction, leading to a more welcoming environment and support for students across campus.

**Whereas,** student organizations are funded primarily through the student activity fee, controlled by the Student Assembly, through the byline organization the Student Activities Funding Commission (SAFC).

**Whereas,** the university recently changed their policy on event registration requiring all clubs to now have their events go through university approval 4 weeks in advance to determine if they are controversial or not.

**Whereas,** this represent a gross impediment to student's abilities to host events in both the time needed to submit the registration and the content that students are allowed to present;

**Whereas,** the University now requires student groups to pay for any security fees for any event deemed "controversial" in nature.

**Whereas,** these fees ranged from \$660 to \$3848, according to an early piece of information<sup>1</sup>

**Whereas,** these fees have been changed now to ranging from \$560 to \$3648, according to the now updated Campus and Community Engagement website<sup>2</sup>

**Whereas,** events are given this designation solely at the discretion of the university, through a committee of which none of the members are students.

**Whereas,** the definition of "controversial" is undefined and left ambiguous to interpretation.

**Whereas,** political events are inherently controversial, giving the University the ability to silence student voices on the basis of political viewpoints.

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix A

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix B



## Cornell University Student Assembly

**Whereas**, the changes occurred during the summer break but were not publicized to student groups until a week before the SAFC deadline.

**Whereas**, this change places undue financial burdens on student organizations.

**Whereas**, this change also gives the university the ability to put up roadblocks to students' free speech based mainly on the content of the event.

**Whereas**, per Article 3 Section 1 of the Charter of the Student Assembly, the Student Assembly "The SA will have legislative authority over the policies of the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students, and will have the authority to review the budgets and actions of said departments;"

**Be it therefore resolved**, no event should be cancelled by the university due to the inability to receive CUPD approval;

**Be it therefore resolved**, the Student Assembly firmly denounces this change and stands in solidarity with students and student groups across campus who are against it;

**Be it further resolved**, the Student Assembly requests that the university remove this policy immediately and ensure that students groups are not given any additional financial burdens due to the nature or content of their events.

**Be it further resolved**, that Appendix B, Section 3, be amended on line 650 to say:

*M. **CUPD Fees:** No SAF money shall be used to pay for any CUPD security fees based on controversiality of events, unless a student organization specifically requests CUPD protection for their event and gets approval by a majority vote of the Student Assembly.*

**Be it finally resolved**, that any such policies in the future related to the funding of every student group, involve students from the beginning, that student input from a diverse group of students is given priority, and that the rollout of any similar policy is done with enough time to give student groups the ability to prepare adequately.

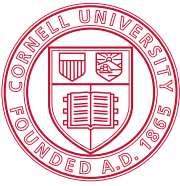
**Respectfully Submitted,**

Omar Din '19  
*College of Human Ecology Rep, Student Assembly*

Khaddy Kebbeh '19  
*Board Member, Muslim Educational & Cultural Association*  
*College of Arts & Sciences Rep, Student Assembly*

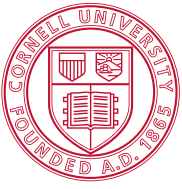
Mahfuza Shovik '19  
*College of Engineering Representative, Student Assembly*

Akanksha Jain '20



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88	<i>International Students Liaison, Student assembly</i>
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90	Joe Anderson '20
91	<i>Executive Vice President, Student Assembly</i>
92	<i>President, Haven: Cornell's LGBTQ Student Union</i>
93	
94	Uchral Tergel '19
95	<i>Co-Chair, Student Activities Funding Commission</i>
96	
97	Michael Jeong '19
98	<i>Co-Chair, Student Activities Funding Commission</i>
99	
100	John Dominguez, '20
101	<i>School of Industrial and Labor Relations Representative, Student Assembly</i>
102	
103	Osai Egharevba '21
104	<i>College of Engineering Representative, Student Assembly</i>
105	
106	Debbie Nyakaru '20
107	<i>First Generation College Student Representative at Large, Student Assembly</i>
108	
109	Cristian Gonzalez '20
110	<i>Vice President of Member &amp; Alumni Development, IFC</i>
111	
112	Adam Khatib '20
113	<i>President, Islamic Alliance for Justice</i>
114	
115	Christopher Hanna December '18
116	<i>Organizer, Tompkins County Workers' Center</i>
117	
118	Natalia Hernandez '21
119	<i>Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion, Student Assembly</i>
120	
121	Shivani Parikh '19
122	<i>Residential Student Congress Liaison, Student Assembly</i>
123	<i>President, South Asian Council</i>
124	
125	Cecilia Faringer-Perez '18
126	<i>Secretary, Amnesty International</i>
127	
128	Anuush Vejalla
129	<i>Financial Director, South Asian Council</i>
130	<i>Chaplaincy Chair, Hindu Students Council</i>
131	
132	Tireniolu Onabajo '19
133	<i>Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly</i>



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135 Nick Matolka '21  
136 *College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*  
137  
138 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-0, 09/11/2018)*



## Appendix A

Baseline Fees for Security by Cornell Police for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019  
(NOTE: These figures will be adjusted each year)

Size of Venue	TYPE O: No Security (e.g., meeting or class)	TYPE A: Minimal Security (e.g., a cappella group or late-night event)	TYPE B: Elevated Security (e.g., famous entertainer)	TYPE C: High-Level Security (e.g., VIP with high protection needs)
1. 1200 or larger (e.g. Bailey)	\$0	\$610	\$1444	\$3,848
2. 600 - 1200 (e.g. Statler or Call)	\$0	\$530	\$940	\$3,848
3. 599 or less (e.g. Lewis or Rockefeller)	\$0	\$290	\$660	\$2,248
4. 49 or less (e.g. International Room or 626 Thurston Avenue)	\$0	\$290	N/A Cannot have this type of event in a small setting	N/A Cannot have this type of event in a small setting

## Appendix B

**Baseline fees for security by Cornell Police for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019**

Size of Venue	TYPE O:  No Security <i>(e.g., meeting or class)</i>	TYPE A:  Minimal Security <i>(e.g., a cappella group or small late-night event)</i>	TYPE B:  Elevated Security <i>(e.g., famous entertainer or larger late-night event)</i>	TYPE C:  High-Level Security <i>(e.g., VIP with high protection needs)</i>
1. 1200 or larger <i>(e.g. Bailey)</i>	\$0	\$560	\$1,344	\$3,648
2. 600 - 1200 <i>(e.g. Statler or Call Auditorium)</i>	\$0	\$480	\$840	\$3,648
3. 599 or less <i>(e.g. Lewis, Rockefeller, WSH Memorial Room)</i>	\$0	\$240	\$560	\$2,048
4. 49 or less <i>(e.g. International Room or 626 Thurston Avenue)</i>	\$0	\$240	N/A  Cannot have this type of event in a small setting	N/A  Cannot have this type of event in a small setting

**Note** - These figures will be adjusted each year in July. These fees are based on the minimum of 3 hours; longer events will have additional fees.



# Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	9/27/18
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

## S.A. Resolution #9 Creating an ad-hoc Oversight Committee on CUTonight

ABSTRACT: This resolution creates an ad-hoc committee of the Student Assembly to oversee the reformation of CUTonight.

**Sponsored by: Joe Anderson '20, Dale Barbaria '19 and Varun Devatha '19**

**Whereas**, CUTonight, an Activity Fee Byline funded organization, experienced issues during the Spring of 2018 semester;

**Whereas**, the previous CUTonight Advisor decided the organization should temporarily cease functions at the beginning of the Fall 2018 semester;

**Whereas**, several organizations expressed concern about accessing necessary funding from CUTonight;

**Whereas**, several students and campus administrators expressed desire to reform CUTonight with new membership and a new Advisor;

**Be it therefore resolved**, the Student Assembly will create an ad-hoc task force that is comprised of 1 chair, who is an SA voting member, and 4 members who are also SA voting members;

**Be it further resolved**, the charge of the ad-hoc committee will be oversight of CUTonight, assisting in re-writing and reforming the constitutions and funding guidelines of CUTonight and supporting recruitment and selection of new commissioners for the organization;

**Be it further resolved**, the this ad-hoc committee will function for the remainder of this academic year, overseeing all CUTonight funding cycles for the 2018-2019 academic year;

**Be it further resolved**, this committee will be known as the CUTonight Oversight Committee;

**Be it finally resolved**, that the chair of the ad-hoc committee will report out to the Student Assembly biweekly.

Joseph Anderson '20  
*Executive Vice President, Student Assembly*

Dale Barbaria '19  
*Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly*

Varun Devatha '19  
*President, Student Assembly*



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45 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 5-0-0, 09/25/2018)*