

Cornell University **Student Assembly**

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, January 31, 2019 Meeting
4:45pm-7:00pm in Memorial Room, Willard Straight Hall

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

II. Approval of the Minutes

- a. 11-29-18
- b. 1-24-19

III. Open Microphone

IV. Presentations

- a. Barbara Romano: 25Live

V. Announcements and Reports

VI. Business of the Day

- a. Resolution 23: Providing Cornellians with Disabilities Better Representation by Establishing an Organizational Liaison to the Student Assembly

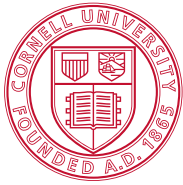
VII. New Business

- a. Resolution 24: Updating the Non-Discrimination Clause
- b. Resolution 25: Expressing Student Assembly Support for Climate Change Literacy in Solidarity with the University and Employee Assemblies

VIII. Executive Session

- a. Appointments

IX. Adjournment



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(01/24/2019)
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #23

Providing Cornellians with Disabilities Better Representation by Establishing an Organizational Liaison to the Student Assembly

ABSTRACT: This resolution aims to provide better representation for Cornellians with disabilities in university governance by establishing an organizational liaison to the Student Assembly.

Sponsored by: Jaewon Sim '21, John Dominguez '20

Whereas, during a Fall, 2018 conversation with the Cornell Union for Disability Awareness (CUDA) leadership, the organization identified issues that negatively affect the day-to-day lives of students with disabilities such as but not limited to the accessibility of certain buildings, wheelchair use, career-oriented services, or that of academic resources posted on online learning management systems,

Whereas, Cornell-provided support for students with disabilities also makes career search difficult due to reasons such as but not limited to the lack of knowledge about business opportunities, medical school admissions processes specific to students with disabilities, and career development processes,

Whereas, while Cornell has established Student Disability Services (SDS), the office is intended to provide mainly accommodations for students with disabilities including services such as but not limited to “provision of auxiliary aids, assistive technology, and reasonable accommodations for all qualified students with documented disabilities,” not to promote disability as a positive cultural identity, nor can the office go beyond the role of overseeing campus-only logistics,

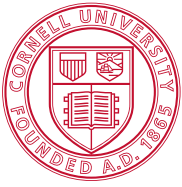
Whereas, Cornell has not yet established a resource center for students with disabilities, leaving them with no adequate organization for addressing the aforementioned issues of disability as a cultural identity, and the continuity in advocacy for such students when members of CUDA graduate or leave the Union for other reasons,

Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly establishes an ex-officio position titled the “Students with Disabilities Representative” through the amendment of the Student Assembly Bylaws to add the following as Article I, Section 3, Clause D (after line 26):

D. The Student Assembly will grant one organizational liaison from the Cornell Union for Disability Awareness an ex-officio position titled “Students with Disabilities Representative”.

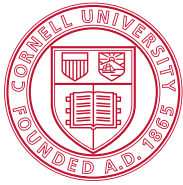
Respectfully Submitted,

Conan Gillis '21
Co-President, Cornell Union for Disability Awareness



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 45 Tai Penn '19
46 *Co-President, Cornell Union for Disability Awareness*
47
48 Nadia Bon '19
49 *Executive Board Member, Cornell Union for Disability Awareness*
50
51 Rachel Whalen '19
52 *Executive Board Member, Cornell Union for Disability Awareness*
53
54 Jaewon Sim '21
55 *Vice President of Internal Operations, Student Assembly*
56 *College of Arts and Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*
57
58 John Dominguez '20
59 *School of Industrial and Labor Relations Representative, Student Assembly*
60
61 Varun Devatha '19
62 *President, Student Assembly*
63
64 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 5-0-0, 01/22/2019)*



Originally Presented on:	1/31/2019
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #24
Updating the Non-Discrimination Clause

ABSTRACT: This amendment to the Student Assembly Charter, Appendix B would update the Non-Discrimination Clause for selection of membership and funding of other organizations. This amendment would incorporate aspects of New York State Human Rights Law into the current definition.

Sponsored by: Joe Anderson '20

Whereas, Appendix B, Section 3, Sub-Section L, is the Non-discrimination clause that all organizations receiving Student Activity Fee money must comply to;

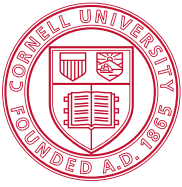
Whereas, the Non-discrimination clause protects students from discrimination in the following protected classes: actual or perceived age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any combination of these factors

Whereas, this definition is not in line with New York State Human Rights law;

Be it therefore resolved, lines Appendix B, Section 3, Sub-Section L now reads as follows:

Non-discrimination: All organizations receiving Student Activity Fee funds directly or that receive such funds indirectly from a by-line funded organization shall not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived age, race, religion, creed, color, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, or any combination of these factors when determining its membership and when determining the equal rights of all general members and executive board members, respectively, which shall include, but are not limited to, voting for, seeking, and holding positions within the organization. Additionally, all organizations receiving funding from the Student Activity Fee and that serve as a funding source for other organizations on campus shall not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived age, race, religion, creed, color, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, or any combination of these factors when awarding funding.

- i. Notwithstanding these requirements, a club sport may make requirements based on competitive athletic skill which may result in a club sport of one or predominantly one gender. Organizations may also make requirements based on vocal range or quality which may result in a chorus or choruses of one or predominantly one gender. Organizations that participate in activities with governmental age restrictions may also make appropriate requirements on the basis of age.
- ii. Organizations may also enforce uniform standards of belief or conduct as a prerequisite for obtaining some or all rights of general members and executive board members, respectively, so long as said standards are protected by the 1st Amendment of the United States Constitution in the context of a public university and do not impede enforcement of Appendix B, Section II, subsection E.



Cornell University Student Assembly

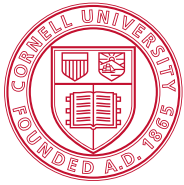
- iii. Each organization receiving Student Activity Fee funds directly from the Student Assembly shall include a "Non-discrimination Clause" section in its bylaws, constitution or other governing

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Anderson '20

Executive Vice President, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee 14-0-1, 1-28-29)



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(1/31/2019)
Type of Action:	Sense Of the Body
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #25

Expressing Student Assembly Support for Climate Change Literacy in Solidarity with the University and Employee Assemblies

ABSTRACT: This resolution -- in solidarity with the University and Employee Assemblies, which have adopted similar resolutions -- expresses the Student Assembly's support on promoting climate change literacy among undergraduate students and requests that the SA be a central component of furthering Cornell's commitment to environmental responsibility and sustainability.

Sponsors: Grace Hannah Park '19, Jaewon Sim '21

Whereas, climate change is a global issue with negative impacts -- evidence for which are supported by science and cross-disciplinary studies -- requiring extraordinary mitigation and adaptation in order to limit further damage,

Whereas, the Cornell University Senior Leaders Climate Action Group's September 2016 analysis of solutions to achieve a carbon neutral campus by 2035 has identified "ensur[ing] that all students, and ideally all members of the campus community, have a basic literacy in climate change, including an understanding of their influence on climate and climate's influence on them and society" as one of the "Solutions for Today",

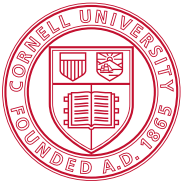
Whereas, the aforementioned working group further emphasized the importance of promoting climate change literacy by stating that an "educated community will implement campus conservation programs and innovate new solutions",

Whereas, the Employee Assembly (EA) adopted -- and President Martha Pollack acknowledged -- EA Resolution #11: Promoting Staff Participation in Cornell Campus Climate Change Literacy Goals on April 4th, 2018,

Whereas, the University Assembly (UA) recognized the importance of the aforementioned resolution by adopting UA Resolution #17: In Support of Cornell Employee Assembly Resolution #11: Promoting Staff Participation in Cornell Campus Climate Change Literacy Goals,

Whereas, according to EA Resolution #11, a climate-literate person is a person who understands the essential principles of Earth's climate system, knows how to assess scientifically-credible information about climate, communicates about climate and climate change in a meaningful way, and is able to make informed and responsible decisions with regard to actions that may affect climate and,

Whereas, environmental and climate literacy plays a crucial part in envisioning and building a sustainable future and will act as an engine for creating green citizens and advancing green technologies and renewable energy and current and future undergraduate students at Cornell will graduate and move out into the world to become leaders and be provided with opportunities to make environmentally conscious and responsible decisions for their respective organizations,



Cornell University Student Assembly

Be it therefore resolved, that along with the UA, the Student Assembly strongly supports the aforementioned EA Resolution 11,

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly supports the university's initiatives and efforts to increase climate change literacy among students and the broader Cornell community,

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly encourages undergraduates to engage in existing curricular activities that promote climate change literacy and sustainability, such as but not limited to courses within the Climate Change, and Environmental and Sustainability Sciences minors,

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly reaffirms its support for student-led organizations that host extracurricular activities that focus on improving climate change literacy, and sustainability literacy,

Be it finally resolved, that the Student Assembly respectfully asks the university president to be involved in any further university-led discussions and committees on climate change literacy and that undergraduate input is incorporated into any related policy-making processes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitchell Lee '19
Co-Facilitator, Cornell Environmental Collaborative (ECO)

Grace Hannah Park '19
Chair, Student Assembly Environmental Committee
College of Architecture, Art, and Planning Representative, Student Assembly

Jaewon Sim '21
Vice President of Internal Operations, Student Assembly
College of Arts and Sciences Representative, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Environmental Committee, 6-0-1, 1/29/2019)