

Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, February 20th, 2020 Meeting
4:45-6:30pm in the Memorial Room of Willard Straight Hall

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

II. Announcements & Presentations

- a. VP DNI Benedict:
 - i. Wet'suwet'en Nation/Coastal GasLink Pipeline
 - ii. Diversity Innovation Funding Approval for the Pan-African Students Association
- b. Rep. Egharevba: Increasing SA Transparency Using Electronic Voting

III. Open Microphone

IV. New Business

- a. [S.A Resolution #38: Approving Special Projects Request for Black Students United](#)
- b. [S.A. Resolution #39: Approving Special Projects Request for Smart is Strong Foundation](#)
- c. [S.A. Resolution #40: Reversing the Special Projects Funding Decision for Cornell Fashion Collective](#)
- d. [S.A. Resolution #41: Creating an ad-hoc Committee for Comprehensive Housing Policy Review](#)
- e. [S.A. Resolution #42: Reducing the Number of Petition Signatures Needed for Certain At-Large Positions](#)
- f. [Statement of Solidarity with Not Again SU](#)

V. Business of the Day

- a. [S.A. Resolution #30: Urging Cornell University to Contribute Financial Support for the Summer 2020 Student Contribution Pilot Program](#)
 - i. Panel
- b. [S.A. Resolution #31: Amending the Student Assembly Charter to Create a Ticket System for the President and Executive Vice President Election](#)
- c. [S.A. Resolution #33: Changing The Name of the “LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large” Position to “LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large”](#)

VI. Adjournment



Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	2/17/2020
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #38

Approving Special Projects Request for Black Students United

ABSTRACT: This resolution approves \$5,000 of Special Projects funding to Black Students United to take a trip to DC celebrating Black history month.

Sponsored by: Moriah Adeghe '21

Whereas, according to the Student Assembly Standing Rules, Special Project "Requests \$1500 and over shall be decided upon by a majority vote of the Appropriations Committee and confirmed by a majority vote of the Student Assembly, at large. The SA, at large, is only required to confirm requests of \$1500 or greater. The request should be presented to the Student Assembly in the form of a resolution";

Whereas, the Appropriations Committee, by a majority vote, recommended \$5,000 in Special Projects Funding to BSU for their travel expenses to and from the National Museum for African American History;

Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly approves the \$5,000 Special Projects disbursement to BSU for their project;

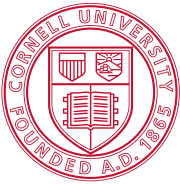
Be it finally resolved, the Student Assembly necessitates that this funding be used to cover the cost of the bus, WiFi, driver tip and parking/tolls.

Respectfully Submitted,

Moriah Adeghe '21

Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee, 8-0-3, 2/17/2020)



Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	2/17/2020
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #39

Approving Special Projects Request for Smart is Strong Foundation

ABSTRACT: This resolution approves \$500 of Special Projects funding to the Smart is Strong Foundation in assisting with the funding for the International Women’s Day Conference.

Sponsored by: Moriah Adeghe ‘21

Whereas, according to the Student Assembly Standing Rules, Special Project “requests over \$400 and under \$1500 by a majority vote. The SA, at large, may reverse an Appropriations Committee decision to fund amounts over \$400 by a two-thirds vote. The request should be presented to the Student Assembly in the form of a resolution.

Whereas, the Appropriations Committee, by a majority vote, recommended \$500 in Special Projects Funding to the Smart is Strong Foundation for their International Women’s Day Conference;

Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly necessitates that this funding be used to cover the cost of room reservations and custodial fees, decorations and promotional materials;

Be it finally resolved, the Student Assembly encourages all undergraduate students to attend the International Women’s Day Conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Moriah Adeghe ‘21

Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee, 9-0-2, 2/17/2020)



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	02/20/2020
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #40

Reversing the Special Projects Funding Decision for Cornell Fashion Collective

ABSTRACT: This resolution reverses the Special projects Funding of \$2,000 for Cornell Fashion Collective because they are already receiving funds for the same project from SAIFC.

Sponsored by: Moriah Adeghe '21

Whereas, the Student Assembly voted to fund the Cornell Fashion Collective in the amount of \$2,000 by a vote of 22-0-1 in SA R28;

Whereas, the SAIFC also voted to fund the same organization for the same project, in the same amount;

Whereas, the SAIFC is the more appropriate funding source for this vent/project;

Whereas, the Student Assembly Special Projects Fund will not fund this event;

Be it further resolved, the SAIFC with cover the cost of the ramps and changing rooms needed to 20 promote inclusivity during the fashion show;

Be it finally resolved, both the SAIFC and the SA Appropriations Committee fully support this event and encourage all SA members to help promote and attend the fashion show.

Respectfully Submitted,

Moriah Adeghe '21

Vice President of Finance, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-0, 02/18/2020)



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	02/20/2020
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #41

Creating an ad-hoc Committee for Comprehensive Housing Policy Review

ABSTRACT: This resolution creates an ad-hoc committee of the Student Assembly to work with the Residential Student Congress and the Department of Student and Campus Life on housing policy.

Sponsored by: Catherine Huang '21 Noah Watson '22

Whereas, the mission of the Office of Assemblies states that “Shared governance enables members of the community to have access to information, involvement in matters of concern to them, and the authority to examine these issues and make recommendations to the appropriate administrative officers and the President;”

Whereas, on-campus housing policies affect all undergraduate students, yet fail to include student voices when institutionalized;

Whereas, in conversations that pertain to policies affecting all undergraduate students, students should be represented, by students;

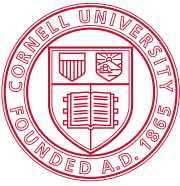
Whereas, Article III, Section I, lines 18-19 of the Cornell University Student Assembly Charter read: “The SA will have legislative authority over the policies of the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students, and will have the authority to review the budgets and actions of said departments,”

Whereas, on-campus housing and its policies fall under the Department of Campus Life;

Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly will create an ad-hoc committee that is comprised of two co-chairs and six members—two of which will be from the Student Assembly, two of which will be from the community, and two of which will be from the Residential Student Congress;

Be it further resolved, this committee will be known as the Housing Policy Review ad-hoc committee;

Be it further resolved, the charge of this ad-hoc committee will be to establish a logistical framework from which the Student Assembly can institutionalize a comprehensive Housing Policy Review Committee;



Cornell University Student Assembly

Be it further resolved, this ad-hoc committee will function for the remainder of this academic year, developing a Housing Policy Review Committee that consults all stakeholders: students, faculty, and the administration;

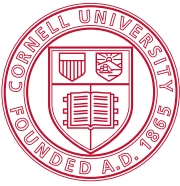
Be it finally resolved, the final deliverables will be presented to the Student Assembly in the form of a resolution by the end of the academic year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine Huang '21
Executive Vice President, Student Assembly

Noah Watson '22
Transfer Representative, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-0, 02/18/2020)



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	02/20/2020
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #42

Reducing the Number of Petition Signatures Needed for Certain At-Large Positions

ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to amend the Student Assembly Election Rules and reduce the number of petition signatures needed to become a candidate for at-large identity-based positions.

Sponsored by: Noah Watson '22, Moriah Adeghe '21, Gavin Martin '20

Whereas, the Cornell Student Assembly should be constantly striving to be a more diverse and inclusive governing body that constantly makes necessary changes to its governing documents that reflect the necessary efforts that are being made;

Whereas, students petitioning for the position(s) of:

1. Womxn's Issues Representative At-Large
2. Minority Liaison At-Large
3. LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large
4. First Generation Student Representative At-Large
5. International Students Liaison At-Large

Are by nature members of marginalized communities;

Whereas, it can be traumatizing for marginalized students running for such at-large positions to share their stories while petitioning;

Whereas, current election rules require 150 petition signatures to become a candidate for such positions, second only to the President and Executive Vice President positions;

Whereas, the current petitioning process for the aforementioned positions create an unnecessarily high barrier to entry for students seeking such roles;

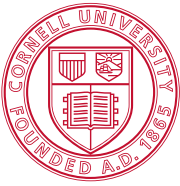
Whereas, reducing the petitioning burden for the aforementioned positions will promote inclusivity and create a pathway for more students to become involved with shared governance at Cornell;

Be it therefore resolved, the number of petition signatures needed to become a candidate for the positions of: Womxn's Issues Representative At-Large, Minority Liaison At-Large, LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large, First Generation Student Representative At-Large, and International Students Liaison At-Large be reduced from 150 signatures to 75 signatures;

Be it finally resolved, Article I, Section B, Subsection I of the Student Assembly Election Rules be amended as follows, effective immediately:

1. Eligibility and Requirements

To be a candidate, a person must, prior to the petitioning deadline specified in the election calendar:



Cornell University Student Assembly

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.¹
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, LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large, First Generation Student Representative At-Large, and International Students Liaison At-Large
 - 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

Respectfully Submitted,

Noah Watson '22

Transfer Representative, Student Assembly

Moriah Adeghe '21

Vice President of Finance, Student Assembly

Gavin Martin '20

Vice President of Research & Accountability, Student Assembly

Uche Chukwukere '21

Undesignated Representative At-Large, Student Assembly

Tomás Reuning '21

LGBTQIA+ Representative At-Large, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 4-0-0, 02/18/2020)



Cornell University Student Assembly

February 19, 2020

Students of color have been targets of systemic oppression in institutions of higher education for decades. The events that have recently transpired at Syracuse University display that although progress has been made, students of color still face racism and bigotry today. From other students, and from the institution of higher education that they attend. After the blatant acts of racism that targeted Black, Asian, and Jewish students in the Syracuse University community, the University completely failed to respond effectively. It was only through the activism and protests of the affected communities and their supporters that Syracuse University enacted any major policy change in a timely fashion at all. Now, as those communities continue to advocate for their own protection, and demand that the parties responsible for the racist events of November 2019 be held accountable, they find themselves under threat of suspension and removal from SU.

Although Chancellor Kent Syverud has stated that the suspensions will be lifted, the agency, autonomy, and safety of students of color at Syracuse University is currently being threatened by the lack of institutional support that has been provided since the events of November. The fact that 30 students were temporarily suspended for occupying a building past closing hours while advocating for the protection and safety of all students is unacceptable. This response by Syracuse University is indicative of a pattern of repeated failures to prioritize the safety and well-being of students. This was highlighted as Public Safety Officers employed by the University blockaded the building, and prevented any access from the outside, isolating the students who remained inside as their cause continued to be ignored. As access to the building from the outside was cut off, food wasn't allowed in either, and for a time, protestors were unsure of when their next meal would be.

The rapid escalation of tactics employed by Syracuse University displayed how the University values policy more than the welfare of students. We, the members of Cornell's undergraduate Student Assembly, denounce these actions and stand in solidarity with the students of Syracuse who have been affected by the recent events. Only when racism, bigotry, sexism, settler-colonialism, and white supremacy are completely eradicated from the student body, and the administration can these institutions truly be spaces for all students. Until that moment, these institutions that we are a part of will still exist as vehicles of oppression.

The Student Assembly calls on leadership at Cornell, at Syracuse, in New York State and on the Federal Government level to acknowledge and investigate these hate crimes and allocate all resources possible to support the communities affected. We look forward to seeing justice delivered.

In solidarity,
The Cornell Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly | www.CornellSA.com
Stay Informed. Get Involved. Make a Difference.



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(2/13/2020)
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #30 Urging Cornell University to Contribute Financial Support for the Summer 2020 Student Contribution Pilot Program

ABSTRACT: This resolution urges Cornell University's administration and The Board of Trustees to contribute financial support towards the student contribution pilot program such that they waive the student contribution fee for low-income students pursuing non-paid summer opportunities over the summer.

Sponsored by: Kataryna Restrepo '21, Cat Huang '21, Yana Kalmyka '21

Whereas, the Student Contribution fee is the total amount that students are expected to pay from the Summer Savings Expectation and Student Contribution from Assets. The Summer Savings Expectation is the amount Cornell expects students to contribute towards academic expenses from earnings from the Summer while the Student Contribution from Assets takes into consideration assets owned by the student that adds on in addition to the Summer Savings Expectation. The Summer Savings expectation is the only component of your tuition that is not covered by financial aid;

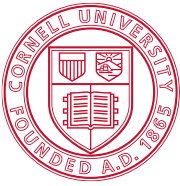
Whereas, the Student Contribution increases every academic year under the assumption that a student earns more each year. The fee ranges from 2,700 dollars freshman year to as much as 3,700 dollars senior years. This is particularly burdensome for low-income students, whom do not earn the thousands of dollars that said fee requires over the summer; especially when considering how low-income students are expected to help support their families over the summer financially;

Whereas, Cornell University claims to be dedicated to "Any Person, Any Study" and must uphold the tenets of its motto;

Whereas, Cornell University must create affordability strategies for low-income students and increase income diversity across its student body as well as equalizing opportunities for students to pursue;

Whereas, the People's Organizing Collective started the Abolish the Student Contribution Campaign in Fall 2018 where they dropped a petition addressed to President Pollack and the Interim Chief Financial Aid Officer, Colleen Wright, and Interim VP of Enrollment, Jason Locke with over 240 signatures. The People's Organizing has since then engaged in a photo campaign "I already contribute by..." in which students were encouraged to write down what they are already involved in on campus to demonstrate the ways in which low income students already contribute i.e., leading some of Cornell's 1,000 plus student organizations on campus, conducting research, working on campus, planning events for the whole community, and upholding Cornell's academic excellence;

Whereas, the People's Organizing Collective held a teach-in with The First Generation Students Union, in order to educate the Cornell student body about the Student Contribution's negative effects;



Cornell University Student Assembly

Whereas, the People's Organizing Collective has collected numerous student testimonies, which show the burdensome effects of the Student Contribution on students across Cornell University's undergraduate colleges;

Whereas, the People's Organizing Collective has held multiple meetings with Financial Aid Officers during the Fall 2019 semester, urging them to create a pilot program to assist students in unpaid summer work experiences to equalize opportunities to further their own career trajectory just as their higher income peers can;

Whereas, the current VP Provost for Enrollment Jonathan Burdick, Director of Financial Aid Diane Corbett, and Associate Director Colleen Wright have been in the process of instituting a pilot program, aimed at waiving the Student Contribution Fee for low-income students in unpaid summer opportunities, for Summer 2020;

Whereas, the proposal for the Summer 2020 pilot program can be seen in Appendix A.;

Whereas, Vice Provost of Enrollment Jonathan Burdick and Financial Aid Officers Colleen Wright and Diane Corbett have verbalized their support for The People's Organizing Collective's efforts in lowering the financial burdens of the Cornell student body and plan on passing it along a whole body of reforms;

Whereas, higher-income students come from higher-income families, who can afford to pay the Student Contribution on behalf of their children;

Whereas, low-income students cannot take unpaid/low-paid summer job positions in their preferred career paths, i.e. non-profit work, government, and or union work due to a need to make money for expenses during the academic year;

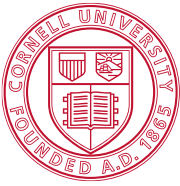
Whereas, the effects of the contribution are not felt equally, and students taking jobs in different states cannot save money to pay the Student Contribution fee due to varying cost of living across the United States;

Whereas, low-income students find themselves working jobs that do not further their career path, causing them to face difficulty in building their careers post-their undergraduate years;

Whereas, financial aid is typically viewed as only equalizing opportunities for students during the fall and spring and this program would advance Cornell's commitment to equalizing summer experience;

Whereas, summer internships are not student independent activities, they are instead greatly informed by the socio-economic status of the student.

Whereas, Vice Provost Burdick has expressed concerns about finding the funding for said Summer pilot program for the upcoming Summer 2020;



Cornell University Student Assembly

Whereas, The Summer 2020 Pilot Program requires funding from the Board of Trustees in order for the Student Contribution to be waived for low-income students in unpaid summer work opportunities;

Whereas, Vice Provost Burdick has expressed that the proposal for the pilot program will likely be included in the agenda of financial aid related items to be discussed with the Board of Trustees;

Whereas; the Summer 2020 Pilot Program must be expanded to include waiving the Student Contribution Fee for all low-income students in subsequent summers post-2020;

Whereas, Cornell University's sister institutions like University of Pennsylvania have as recently as 2019 greatly reduced student contributions for highly-aid undergraduate students. Harvard and Rice University even went as far as eliminating their Student Contribution altogether making Cornell lag behind its peers in supporting students regardless of income;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Office of the President investigate potential sources of funding for the pilot program and encourage the Board of Trustees and other potential funding sources to consider financially supporting the pilot program for this summer;

Be it further resolved, Cornell University commit to providing financial support for the Summer 2020 pilot program as well as implement said program for this upcoming summer and subsequent summers;

Be it finally resolved, Cornell University abolish the Student Contribution for all students and uphold Cornell's commitment to being a bastion of inclusivity for students of all socio-economic backgrounds;

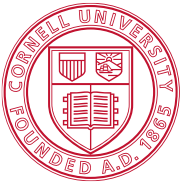
Respectfully Submitted,

Cat Huang '21
Executive Vice President, Student Assembly

Kataryna Restrepo '21
Director of Finance, Office of the Student Advocate
The People's Organizing Collective

Yana Kalmyka '21
The People's Organizing Collective

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 5-0-0, 2/11/2020)



Cornell University Student Assembly

Appendix A

Student Contribution Summer 2020 Pilot Program Proposal

Proposal: provide financial relief and wider opportunities for Cornell student summer career experiences.

Financial eligibility: Cornell undergraduates participating in an approved summer internship, research, volunteer, and non-Cornell-affiliated academic enrichment programs, whose total expected family contribution is equal to or less than two times the standard expected student summer work contribution.

Total financial eligibility per student: an amount equal to the difference between the expected summer work contribution and the non-student (parent or family expected contribution).

- Example 1: a rising senior's total expected family contribution is \$4,700, including \$1,000 parent contribution and \$3,700 from expected summer earnings. The student's eligibility for relief through this program would be [expected summer earnings] minus [expected parent contribution] = \$3,700 - \$1,000 \$2,700.
- Example 2: a rising junior's total expected family contribution is \$3,200, equal to the student's standard expected summer earnings contribution. The expected parent contribution is \$0. The Student's eligibility for relief through this program would be \$3,000-\$0 \$3,000.

Note that participation in this program does not reduce a student's existing opportunity to borrow up to the extent that they are eligible.

- Academic eligibility: the student must be in good academic standing and meeting satisfactory academic progress (SAP) guidelines. Rising juniors and seniors must have declared majors.
- Experience eligibility: each year on September 1, a pre-approved list of approved organizations for the following summer term will be available. The university and college career service offices will maintain the list.

Students can seek to add new opportunities to the list at any time. The deadline for submitting a new opportunity proposal will be January 1 for the following summer. A standing review committee composed of professional representatives from career services, financial aid, and Engaged Cornell will review new requests. Approval will require up to two months for review. Newly-approved programs will require a follow-up review in the first year before being added to the permanent list, and all organizations and activities will be subject to re-review minimally every three years.

The program will commit to gradual expansion through College and donor participation. Students who are not financially eligible to participate can seek funding support from colleges and other Cornell offices and operations. Financial aid contributions will rise to match total of new dollars invested by colleges and new donors, with the intent to expand the number of eligible students with higher expected family contributions.



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	02/11/2020
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #31

Amending the Student Assembly Charter to Create a Ticket System For the President and Executive Vice President Election

ABSTRACT: These amendments to the Student Assembly Charter

Sponsored by: Moriah Adeghe '21

Whereas, Article V Section 2 of the Student Assembly Charter state, "This charter may be amended at any regular meeting of the assembly by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting. Amendments may be presented to the assembly by voting members and by community petition with at least 100 Cornell undergraduate student signatures;"

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly approve and adopt the attached Charter Amendments.

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly approve and adopt the attached Election Rules Amendments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Moriah Adeghe '21

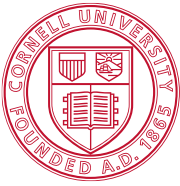
Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 5-0-0, 02/11/2020)

Charter:

Section 2: Election of Voting Members

A candidate for the office of President shall run in conjunction with a candidate for the Executive Vice President; the two candidates shall comprise a unitary and indivisible slate of candidates. Votes shall be cast for such a slate of candidates, not for the individual candidates.



Cornell University Student Assembly

34 The [President/Executive Vice President](#), and other Undesignated at Large representatives will be elected by a
35 single transferable voting system.

36 Voters may rank all [slates](#) on the ballot for the [President/Executive Vice President race](#). All
37 other representatives shall be elected by a plurality voting system. Voters will cast one vote per available seat,
38 (e.g. if three Arts and Sciences representatives are to be elected, the voter will vote for three candidates).

39 Voters may rank all candidates on the ballot for the Undesignated at Large representatives. All
40 other representatives shall be elected by a plurality voting system. Voters will cast one vote per available seat,
41 (e.g. if three Arts and Sciences representatives are to be elected, the voter will vote for three candidates).

42

43 **Election Rules:**

44 **B. Candidate Information**

45 **1. Eligibility and Requirements**

46 To be a candidate, a person must, prior to the petitioning deadline specified in the election calendar:

47 1. Be eligible to vote in the election for the seat and plan to remain seated so for the full term for
48 which they are seeking election¹.

49 2. Submit a completed candidate registration form and any associated materials required in that
50 form. You may not register for more than one position on the candidate registration form.

51 3. Submit petitions endorsed by the required number of people who are eligible to vote in the
52 election for that specific position, which is the lesser of 10% of those eligible to vote for that
53 specific position or:

54 a. [650 for President/Executive Vice President Combined Ticket](#)

55 b. 150 for all other at-large seats

56 c. 100 for Arts and Sciences seats

57 d. 25 for Transfer seat

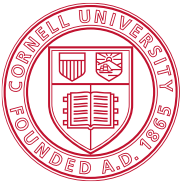
58 e. 75 for all other seats

59

60 **D. Restrictions on Ticketing and Slates**

61 **1. General Rules**

62 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not:



Cornell University Student Assembly

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. *With the exception of the President/Executive Vice President slate.*

2. Share or pool campaign finances with any other candidates or supporters acting on their behalf. *With the exception of the President/Executive Vice President slate.*

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

Candidates in any race, besides those running for the position of President of 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/Executive Vice President races. Candidates 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/Executive Vice President races.



Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	2/13/20
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #33

Changing The Name of the “LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large” Position to “LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large”

ABSTRACT: The purpose of this resolution is to amend the Student Assembly bylaws to ensure that more marginalized communities are fairly and accurately represented.

Sponsored by: Uche Chukwukere '21, Gavin Martin '20, Tomás Reuning '21

Whereas, The Cornell Student Assembly should be constantly striving to be a more diverse and inclusive governing body that constantly makes necessary changes to its governing documents that reflect the necessary efforts that are being made;

Whereas, The position of LGBTQ Liaison At-Large was created to represent the interests of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer communities as it pertains to Cornell's campus;

Whereas, It is important to recognize the history and path-paving future of the LGBTQIA+ community and the impacts that they have had on our society and on Cornell's campus. The term LGBTQ+ is an initialism that has been in mainstream existence since 1996¹ and has been used as a way to highlight and include the different groups and members of the LGBTQIA+ community and continue the path for increased representation amongst this group;

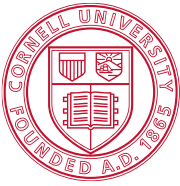
Whereas, Lesbian refers to homosexual womxn in relation to their sexual identity and behavior or used as a descriptor for womxn homosexuality or same-sex attraction;

Whereas, Gay refers to homosexual men in relation to their sexual identity and behavior or used as a descriptor for men homosexuality or same-sex attraction;

Whereas, Queer is an umbrella terms coined for gender and sexual minorities that are not heterosexual or cisgender and is used to describe a non-normative and sexual and gender identities and politics;

Whereas, In an effort to attempt to be more inclusive of other gender and sexual minorities we must recognize the increasing movement to use LGBTQIA+ as an umbrella term to refer to the LGBTQIA+ community and support the initialism bestowed upon this community;

Whereas, LGBTQIA+ is an umbrella term to represent Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Genderqueer, Pansexual, Questioning, Two-Spirit, and etc. individuals;



Cornell University Student Assembly

Whereas, Intersex refers to someone whose combination of chromosomes, gonads, hormones, internal sex organs, gonads, and/or genitals differs from one of the two expected patterns;

Whereas, Asexual refers to person who is not sexually attracted to anyone or does not have a sexual orientation;

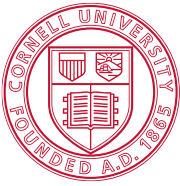
Whereas, “A” does not stand for “Ally” as it has conventionally co-opted as for the acronym. It is important to recognize that allies do not have the same experiences as individuals who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Genderqueer, Pansexual, Questioning, Two-Spirit, and etc;

Whereas, It is important that we increase the autonomy of all individuals who are a part of this community and show unwavering support and allyship by taking part in analyzing the inclusivity of the seats that exist on the Cornell Student Assembly;

Be it further resolved, The position of LGBTQ+ Representative At-Large should be changed to “LGBTQIA+ Representative At-Large”;

Be it finally resolved, Amending Article IV: Membership , Section 1: Composition, General Composition –

The SA will consist of 28 voting members who are registered undergraduate students at Cornell University. Up to two additional votes shall be allocated to the entire community of undergraduates as a whole present at a Student Assembly meeting on motions that express the opinion of the assembly. Such community votes shall be allowed only as provided by the Assembly in its bylaws. Eleven voting members of the SA will be elected by and from the student populations of the colleges and schools, one from each: the College of Architecture, Art and Planning; the School of Hotel Administration; the College of Human Ecology; and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Two each shall be elected from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Engineering; and three shall be elected from the College of Arts and Sciences. In addition, twelve voting members will be elected at-large by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole; two at-large seats are to be reserved for candidates seeking the offices of President and Executive Vice President of the Student Assembly and must be explicitly designated as such; two at-large seats are to be reserved for non-constituent, undesignated at-large group candidates who do not run for President or Executive Vice President; two at-large seats are to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent minority students; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent international students; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent women’s issues in relation to the broader Cornell community; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent First Generation College students; and one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent the **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Asexual, Genderqueer, Pansexual, Questioning, Two-Spirit, and etc** community. The two remaining non-constituent, undesignated at-large seats are to be contested by



Cornell University Student Assembly

88 candidates running for President and Executive Vice President and by non-constituent,
89 undesignated at-large group candidates not running for President or Executive Vice
90 President. Five seats shall be elected by and from new students entering in the fall.
91 Should there be no candidate running for a given seat, the seat shall be considered vacant.
92

93 And, that henceforth, the previously named “*LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large*” shall be renamed the
94 “*LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large*”—as to be referred to in texts (such as public statements, posts,
95 or liaisons with organizations) and all current and future iterations of the Cornell Student
96 Assembly’s Governing documents—
97

98 **Respectfully Submitted,**
99

100
101 Uche Chukwukere ‘21
102 *Undesignated Representative At-Large, Student Assembly*
103 *Former LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
104

105 Gavin Martin ‘20
106 *Vice President for Research & Accountability, Student Assembly*
107 *College of Arts and Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*
108

109 Tomás Reuning ‘21
110 *LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
111

112
113
114 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, x-x-x,)*