Resolution 42: Establish Feb 21st as the US-China Friendship Day at Cornell (中美友好纪念日)

Abstract: This resolution asks the Cornell University to recognize Feb 21st as the US-China Friendship Day.

Sponsored by: JohnJohn Jiang ’22, Joseph Mullen ’24, Luna Lu ’25, Everest Yan ’22

Reviewed by:

Type of Action: Recommendation

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Current Status: New Business

Whereas, the Chinese student community had long contributed to the development of Cornell University.

Whereas, there are more than 2000 Chinese students at Cornell.

Whereas, the earliest Chinese students came to Cornell in the early 1900s.

Whereas, it is vital to recognize the deep historical friendship between the two countries: The United States of America and China.

Whereas, some covid misinformation damaged some of the trust and friendship built between the Chinese students and American students at Cornell for more than a century.

Whereas, there have been incidents of xenophobia and misunderstanding of Chinese students across the United States.

Whereas, these xenophobia and misunderstanding led to negative prejudice against Chinese students who study in the United States.

Whereas, a statement of friendship from Cornell University and Cornell Student Assembly will help show that this hostility is seriously misguided.

Whereas, the university should provide an inclusive environment for students regardless of their nationalities.
Whereas, official recognition of the US-China friendship is, therefore, necessary to rebuild trust between the Chinese student community and the American student community.

Whereas, On February 21st, 1972, President Richard Nixon became the first US president who made an official visit to the People’s Republic of China.

Whereas, February 21st, 2022 is going to be the 50 years anniversary of this historically significant event.

Whereas, it is therefore appropriate to establish February 21st as the US-China Friendship Day (中美友好纪念日) at Cornell and have official recognition for the contribution made by the Chinese students at Cornell.

Be it therefore resolved, Cornell shall officially declare February 21st as the US-China Friendship Day.

Be it further resolved, The sponsors of this resolution shall draft an official email, endorsed by the Cornell Student Assembly, to announce the establishment of the US-China Friendship Day and send an email letter to the current Chinese ambassador Qin Gang (秦刚) and the current Consul General of New York Huang Ping (黄屏).

Respectfully Submitted,

John Jiang ’22
International Students Liaison at Large

Joseph Mullen ’24
Vice President of Internal Operations

Luna Lu ’25
Freshman Representative

Everest Yan ’22
College of Arts & Sciences Representative
To Chinese ambassador Qin Gang and Chinese Consulate General Huang Ping,

Greetings, ambassador Qin and Consulate General Huang, I am International Students Liaison at Large Zheming Jiang. Fifty years ago, on February 17, 2022, President Richard Nixon became the first US president who visited China. It was a historically significant day. At the Cornell Student Assembly Meeting on February 17th, 2022, the Cornell Student Assembly passed a resolution regarding the establishment of the US-China Friendship Day (the resolution is attached below). The resolution said the Cornell Student Assembly decided to make February 17, 2022, the day President Nixon visited China, as the US-China Friendship Day and appoint the International Students Liaison at Large Zheming Jiang as the official Cornell Student Assembly US-China friendship student ambassador of 2022. We hope the establishment of this day could contribute to the friendly academic and cultural exchanges among the US universities. Finally, we appreciate your contribution to the US-China friendship!

Resolution sponsors:

John John Jiang ’22
International Students Liaison at Large

Joseph Mullen ’24
Vice President of Internal Operations

Luna Lu ’25
Freshman Representative

Everest Yan ’22
College of Arts & Sciences Representative

February 17th, 2022