



Resolution 7: Amendments to the Interfaith Council at Cornell's Governing Documents

Abstract: This resolution affirms the changes that were made to the Interfaith Council at Cornell's constitution to account for the name change, the addition of three officer positions, and the clarification of some of the responsibilities of the officers.

Sponsored by: Morgan Baker '23

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 08/25/2021

Type of Action: Byline Report

Originally Presented: 08/26/2021

Current Status: New Business

Whereas, the Interfaith Council at Cornell has requested to change their constitution;

Whereas, amendments to the governing documents of byline funded organizations must be approved by the Student Assembly;

Whereas, lines 645-646 under "Section 3: General Guidelines" of the Student Assembly Charter's Appendix B read as follows:

K. Governing Document Approval: All organizations must submit any changes in the organizations' bylaws, constitution, or other governing documents to the SA for its approval.

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly approve the attached changes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Morgan Baker '23

Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly

Interfaith Council at Cornell

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section A: Name

The name of this organization shall be Interfaith Council at Cornell (ICC).

Section B: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- I. To promote interfaith dialogue on campus,
- II. To support religious life and underfunded religious groups on campus,
- III. To encourage shared understanding of the values, experiences, and lives of our Cornell community, and
- IV. To celebrate similarities and differences among us.

Article II: Executive Board

Section A: Composition

The executive board shall be composed of the officers, committee members, and member organization liaisons.

Section B: Officers

The officers shall be:

- President
- Executive Vice President
- Vice President of Finance/Treasurer
- Vice President of Programming
- Vice President of Outreach
- Vice President of Advocacy
- Engagement Chair
- Communications Chair

Section C: Member Organization Liaisons

There shall be a member from each member organization to serve as the liaison between ICC and the home organization.

Section D: Committees

There shall be four committees, led by officers and composed of executive board members. They shall be:

- Funding committee
- Programming committee
- Outreach committee
- Advocacy committee

Article III: Officers

Section A: Duties of Officers

- I. President
 - A. Set the direction and goals for ICC
 - B. Facilitate weekly Executive Board meetings
 - C. Engage with the campus community and other campus organizations who want to be involved

- D. Advise committees
 - E. Maintain a relationship with the Faculty Advisor
 - F. Generally oversee the officers and the committees of the executive board
 - G. Maintain communication with member organizations on campus
- II. Executive Vice President
- A. Oversee member organization liaisons
 - B. Work closely with the President toward the direction and goals for ICC
 - C. Assist Executive Vice President in securing finances for events
 - D. Coordinate with other groups participating in the events (along with the President)
- III. Vice President of Finance
- A. Oversee Funding Committee
 - B. Manage ICC finances for the year
 - C. Maintain yearly budget and financial records
 - D. Apply for byline funding on the biannual cycle
- IV. Vice President of Programming
- A. Oversee Programming Committee, in partnership with Engagement Chair
 - B. Envision and execute all ICC events, including co-sponsored events
 - C. Work with Treasurer to manage in-house programming budget
 - D. Assist Outreach Committee with co-sponsored events
- V. Vice President of Outreach
- A. Oversee Outreach Committee, in partnership with Communications Chair
 - B. Build and maintain relationships with religious and non-religious organizations
 - C. Maintain relationships with current religious member organizations and recruit new member organizations
 - D. Foster relationships with non-religious student organizations, including co-sponsored events
 - E. Manage recruitment of new members to the council
- VI. Vice President of Advocacy
- A. Oversee Advocacy Committee
 - B. Direct diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives related to faith and religion on behalf of ICC
 - C. Work with non-ICC community members seeking to serve the needs of religious students on campus
 - D. Meet regularly with member organization liaisons and leadership to assess needs of religious students on campus and opportunities for progress and advocacy
 - E. Foster a supportive and welcoming environment for students with concerns about religious life on campus
- VII. Engagement Chair
- A. Serve as deputy to Vice President of Programming; assist in Programming Committee
 - B. Support the envisioning and execution of all Interfaith events
 - C. Manage general body member engagement and activities
- VIII. Communications Chair
- A. Serve as deputy to Vice President of Outreach; assist in Outreach Committee

- B. Manage direction and execution of Interfaith-affiliated social media accounts, including all advertising
- C. Assist President in writing and distribution of monthly newsletters

Section B: Appointment of Officers

- I. Eligibility
 - A. Candidates must be a current, active member of the Executive Board.
 - B. They must have been a member of the Executive Board for at least one (1) full semester.
 - C. All exceptions shall be under the unanimous discretion of the outgoing and incoming presidents
- II. Appointment
 - A. Executive Board members run for officer positions each May for the following academic year.
 - B. Incumbent officers will vote for the candidates.
- III. Terms
 - A. Officers shall serve for one (1) academic year, beginning at the start of the fall semester.
 - B. Officers who go abroad shall be empowered to appoint a replacement for that semester.

IV: Member Organization Liaisons

Section A: Liaisons

- I. The Member Organizations will designate one member of their respective executive boards to be a liaison.

Section B: Duties

- I. Liaisons will be the primary connection between the ICC and the member organization they represent.
- II. Liaisons will interact with the Funding Committee in order to secure ICC funds for their Member Organization.
- III. Liaisons will work to diffuse information regarding the ICC to Member Organizations.

V: Member Organizations

Section A: Membership Requirements

- I. The Cornell Interfaith Council shall be composed of different member organizations which represent the various faith groups on campus. In order to remain in *good standing* they must:
 - A. Be a registered student organization
 - B. Primarily and directly serve a religious community on campus
 - C. Have at least one (1) present and consistent undergraduate representative at Interfaith Council meetings (i.e. the liaison)
 - D. Must host at least one (1) interfaith event per semester

Section B: Applying for Membership

- I. If an organization meets all of the requirements for membership outlined in Article V Section A and have fulfilled these requirements for at least one (1) semester, they can apply to be a member of the Interfaith Council.

- II. The application process will be as follows:
 - A. The Funding Committee shall provide prospective member organizations with the application.
 - B. The applications shall be accepted on a rolling basis.

VI: Funding Committee

Section A: Leadership

- I. The Treasurer shall oversee the Funding Committee.

Section B: Duties

- I. The Funding Committee shall manage and oversee all budgeting and finances for the ICC.
- II. The Funding Committee shall plan and execute fundraising events for the ICC.
- III. The Funding Committee shall provide funding allotments to member organizations in the first month of each semester, as based on preliminary budgets provided by said organizations.
- IV. The Funding Committee shall receive grant applications for interfaith events/activities and deliberate on awarding the requested amount.
 - A. A decision on whether the grant is awarded for the requested amount, a lesser amount, or outright denied will be made within two weeks of the Funding Committee receiving the application and a hearing is held between the applicant and the Funding Committee.
 - B. A final decision made by the Funding Committee must be approved by the President.
- V. The Funding Committee shall aid the Officers in biannual applications for byline funding.

VII: Programming Committee

Section A: Leadership

- I. The Vice President of Programming shall oversee the Programming Committee.
- II. The Engagement Chair shall aid in oversight.

Section B: Duties

- I. The Programming Committee shall lead the planning and execution of all club programming, including but not limited to hosting panels and interfaith meals.
 - A. It shall include reserving spaces on campus, checking in with appropriate campus groups, etc.
- II. The Programming Committee shall work with the Executive Board to plan programming for each semester with input from members to further the ICC's goals.

VIII: Outreach Committee

Section A: Leadership

- I. The Outreach Chair shall oversee the Outreach Committee.
- II. The Communications Chair shall aid in oversight.

Section B: Duties

- I. The Outreach Committee shall direct recruitment of new Executive Board members.
- II. The Outreach Committee shall direct recruitment of new Member Organizations.

- III. The Outreach Committee shall coordinate with other religious and non-religious campus groups directly with co-sponsorships to support events with interfaith goals.
- IV. The Outreach Committee shall coordinate community outreach campaigns through multiple platforms, including but not limited to Slack, CampusGroups, Facebook, and Instagram.
- V. The Outreach Committee shall maintain communication with vested parties, including Member Organizations.

IX: Advocacy Committee

Section A: Leadership

- I. The Advocacy Chair shall oversee the Advocacy Committee.

Section B: Duties

- I. The Advocacy Committee shall meet regularly with member organization liaisons and leadership, as well as other religious students on campus, to assess the ongoing needs and address them.
- II. The Advocacy Committee shall direct diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives related to faith and religion on behalf of ICC.
- III. The Advocacy Committee shall collaborate with other interested parties in advocacy for religious students on campus.

X: Staff Advisor

Section A: Selection

- I. One advisor will be chosen to advise Interfaith Council from the staff of the Cornell University Religious Work and/or the Office of Spirituality and Meaning Making.
 - A. The Director of CURW/Associate Dean of Students for Spirituality and Meaning-Making shall serve as the advisor unless otherwise specified.

Section B: Duties

- I. The advisor will help with the organization of events and programming.
- II. The advisor will help make sure that ICC has all the resources they need.
- III. The advisor will approve any funding applications that require advisor consent.

XI: Constitutional Amendments

Section A: Proposing Amendments

- I. Amendments can be proposed during an Interfaith Council meeting.
- II. After discussion of the amendment, the officers will vote to decide whether to include the amendment.

XII: Non-Discrimination Clause

As an organization, ICC will not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived age, citizenship, color, (dis)ability, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any combination of these factors when determining its membership and when determining the equal rights of all executive board members, liaisons, and officers, respectively. Such protections shall include, but are not limited to, voting for, seeking, and holding positions within the organization.