

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

1 S.A. Resolution #7

2 Denouncing University Guidelines Related to Event Security

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

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

9
10 **Whereas**, Cornell University enables students from all backgrounds and status, and across political, racial,
11 religious, and gender spectrums to attend and seek an education.

12
13 **Whereas**, student organizations have been able to flourish at Cornell due to their ability to execute their
14 missions without obstruction, leading to a more welcoming environment and support for students across
15 campus.

16
17 **Whereas**, student organizations are funded primarily through the student activity fee, controlled by the
18 Student Assembly, through the byline organization the Student Activities Funding Commission (SAFC).

19
20 **Whereas**, the university recently changed their policy on event registration requiring all clubs to now have
21 their events go through university approval 4 weeks in advance to determine if they are controversial or not.

22
23 **Whereas**, this represent a gross impediment to student's abilities to host events in both the time needed to
24 submit the registration and the content that students are allowed to present;

25
26 **Whereas**, the University now requires student groups to pay for any security fees for any event deemed
27 "controversial" in nature.

28
29 **Whereas**, these fees ranged from \$660 to \$3848, according to an early piece of information¹

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31 **Whereas**, these fees have been changed now to ranging from \$560 to \$3648, according to the now updated
32 Campus and Community Engagement website²

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

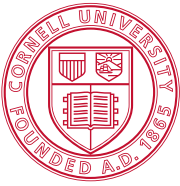
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37 **Whereas**, the definition of "controversial" is undefined and left ambiguous to interpretation.

38
39 **Whereas**, political events are inherently controversial, giving the University the ability to silence student
40 voices on the basis of political viewpoints.

41

¹ See Appendix A

² See Appendix B



Cornell University Student Assembly

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

44
45 **Whereas**, this change places undue financial burdens on student organizations.

46
47 **Whereas**, this change also gives the university the ability to put up roadblocks to students' free speech based
48 mainly on the content of the event.

49
50 **Whereas**, per Article 3 Section 1 of the Charter of the Student Assembly, the Student Assembly "The SA will
51 have legislative authority over the policies of the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of
52 Students, and will have the authority to review the budgets and actions of said departments;"

53
54 **Be it therefore resolved**, no event should be cancelled by the university due to the inability to receive CUPD
55 approval;

56
57 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Student Assembly firmly denounces this change and stands in solidarity with
58 students and student groups across campus who are against it;

59
60 **Be it further resolved**, the Student Assembly requests that the university remove this policy immediately and
61 ensure that students groups are not given any additional financial burdens due to the nature or content of
62 their events.

63
64 **Be it further resolved**, that Appendix B, Section 3, be amended on line 650 to say:

65
66 *M. **CUPD Fees:** No SAF money shall be used to pay for any CUPD security fees based on controversiality of*
67 *events, unless a student organization specifically requests CUPD protection for their event and gets approval by a*
68 *majority vote of the Student Assembly.*

69
70 **Be it finally resolved**, that any such policies in the future related to the funding of every student group,
71 involve students from the beginning, that student input from a diverse group of students is given priority, and
72 that the rollout of any similar policy is done with enough time to give student groups the ability to prepare
73 adequately.

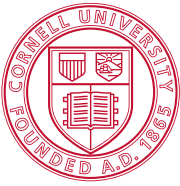
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75 **Respectfully Submitted,**

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

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

83
84 Mahfuza Shovik '19
85 *College of Engineering Representative, Student Assembly*

86
87 Akanksha Jain '20



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 88 *International Students Liaison, Student assembly*
89
90 Joe Anderson '20
91 *Executive Vice President, Student Assembly*
92 *President, Haven: Cornell's LGBTQ Student Union*
93
94 Uchral Tergel '19
95 *Co-Chair, Student Activities Funding Commission*
96
97 Michael Jeong '19
98 *Co-Chair, Student Activities Funding Commission*
99
100 John Dominguez, '20
101 *School of Industrial and Labor Relations Representative, Student Assembly*
102
103 Osai Egharevba '21
104 *College of Engineering Representative, Student Assembly*
105
106 Debbie Nyakaru '20
107 *First Generation College Student Representative at Large, Student Assembly*
108
109 Cristian Gonzalez '20
110 *Vice President of Member & Alumni Development, IFC*
111
112 Adam Khatib '20
113 *President, Islamic Alliance for Justice*
114
115 Christopher Hanna December '18
116 *Organizer, Tompkins County Workers' Center*
117
118 Natalia Hernandez '21
119 *Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion, Student Assembly*
120
121 Shivani Parikh '19
122 *Residential Student Congress Liaison, Student Assembly*
123 *President, South Asian Council*
124
125 Cecilia Faringer-Perez '18
126 *Secretary, Amnesty International*
127
128 Anuush Vejalla
129 *Financial Director, South Asian Council*
130 *Chaplaincy Chair, Hindu Students Council*
131
132 Tirenolu Onabajo '19
133 *Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly*



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