

# Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly  
Agenda of the Thursday, November 19, 2015 Meeting  
4:45pm-6:30pm in Willard Straight Hall Memorial Room

- I. **Call to Order & Roll Call**
- II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
  - a. [Minutes of the November 12th Meeting](#)
- III. **Open Microphone**
- IV. **Announcements and Reports:**
  - a. *New Feedback Platform for voicing feedback to the SA* - Savarn Dontamsetti, Amit Mizrahi, Siddant Basnet, Sonia Appasamy, Rachel Kwak
  - b. *Director of Elections Henderson* - Elections Update
  - c. *LGBTQ+ Representative Titcomb* - SAIFC
  - d. *At-Large Representative Kaufman* - Codes and Judicial Committee, Faculty Senate, University Assembly, and Provosts Curriculum Oversight Committee Updates
- V. **Business of the Day**
  - a. [Byline Packet](#): Minds Matter
  - b. [Byline Packet](#): EARS
  - c. [Byline Packet](#): Outdoor Odyssey
  - d. [Resolution 24](#): Cost Barriers to Study Abroad
  - e. [Resolution 25](#): Bystander Trainings for Student Groups
  - f. [Resolution 26](#): Promoting Justice and Friendship in the Housing Lottery
- VI. **New Business**
  - a. [Resolution 27](#): *Ending Bottled Water Sales on Cornell Campus*
  - b. [Resolution 28](#): *Improving Research Matching for Students and Professors*
  - c. [Resolution 29](#): *Improving Academic Advising*
  - d. [Resolution 30](#): *Indigenous Peoples' Day*
  - e. [Resolution 31](#): *Approving the Election Rules* | [Attachment](#): *Election Rules*
  - f. [Resolution 32](#): *Addressing the Student Assembly Surplus*



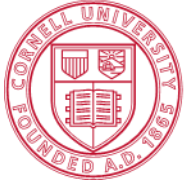
## Undergraduate Student Activity Fee Figures

Current as of November 12, 2015

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>10-12 A</b>	<b>12-14 A</b>	<b>14-16 A</b>	<b>16-18 Req</b>	<b>16-18 Rec</b>
<i>Student Activities Funding Commission</i>	\$80.17	\$84.16	\$89.12	\$94.00	*
<i>Slope Day Programming Board (SDPB)</i>	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
<i>Convocation Committee</i>	\$8.50	\$10.50	\$12.50	\$14.50	\$14.50
<i>Cornell Cinema</i>	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.60	\$12.00	\$10.90
<i>Cornell Concert Commission (CCC)</i>	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
<i>Athletics and Physical Education</i>	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$10.30
<i>Orientation Steering Committee (OSC)</i>	\$6.60	\$7.60	\$8.72	\$10.22	\$9.98
<i>CU Tonight</i>	\$10.00	\$9.50	\$9.50	\$9.50	\$8.55
<i>ALANA</i>	\$7.25	\$8.75	\$8.04	\$8.05	\$8.05
<i>Cornell University Program Board (CUPB)</i>	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$7.50
<i>Club Insurance</i>	\$4.70	\$5.10	\$5.10	\$5.10	*
<i>Senior Days Committee</i>	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$4.85	\$5.00	*
<i>Collegiate Readership Program</i>	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
<i>Women's Resource Center</i>	\$2.00	\$3.50	\$3.46	\$4.00	\$4.00
<i>HAVEN: The LGBTQ+ Student Union</i>	\$2.20	\$3.00	\$3.22	\$3.80	\$3.50
<i>Class Councils</i>	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.70	\$3.50	*
<i>CU Emergency Medical Service (CUEMS)</i>	\$3.84	\$3.90	\$3.90	\$3.50	\$3.24
<i>International Students Union (ISU)</i>	\$2.04	\$2.34	\$2.34	\$3.34	\$3.10
<i>Welcome Weekend</i>	\$2.75	\$2.55	\$2.55	\$2.78	\$2.32
<i>WSH Student Union Board</i>	\$1.25	\$1.80	\$2.00	\$2.26	\$2.14
<i>Community Partnership Funding Board</i>	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$6.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
<i>Cornell Minds Matter</i>	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
<i>Student Assembly (SA)</i>	\$2.45	\$2.20	\$1.90	\$2.00	*
<i>Alternative Breaks</i>	\$1.00	\$1.35	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.50
<i>Empathy, Assistance, &amp; Referral Service (EARS)</i>	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.50
<i>Outdoor Odyssey</i>	\$1.50	\$1.25	\$1.24	\$1.25	\$1.25
<i>Slope Media Group</i>	--	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.15
<i>ECO – The Environmental Collaborative</i>	--	--	--	\$0.76	\$0.76
<i>Multicultural Greek Letter Council (MGLC)</i>	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$0.50
<i>Students Helping Students Fund</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	*
<i>Big Red Bikes</i>	\$1.00	\$2.00	\$1.00	--	*
<i>North Campus Programming Board</i>	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$1.50	--	*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$216.00</b>	<b>\$229.00</b>	<b>\$236.00</b>	<b>\$247.81</b>	<b>TBD</b>

\*Indicates Fall 2015 Funding Hearing has not occurred yet.

Fee-paying Enrollment for Fall 2015: 14,381



## Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(11/19/15)
Type of Action:	Byline Report
Status/Result:	New Business

Organization	Cornell Minds Matter
2014-2016 Allocation	\$2.00
2016-2018 Request	\$2.00
Appropriations Recommendation	<b>\$2.00</b>

### Rationale of the Committee

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The Appropriations Committee recommends funding Cornell Minds Matter at \$2.00 for the 2016-2018 By-Line Funding Cycle. The Committee appreciates the immense amount of work being done by those within Cornell Minds Matter to support the mental health of those within the Cornell community. The Committee suggests that Cornell Minds Matter attempt to eliminate unnecessary costs including massage therapists and focus on which portions of the event are necessary to adequately support the intention of that event. Additionally, the Committee recommends that Cornell Minds Matter reevaluate the importance of their community events to the undergraduate students they are meant to serve through the Student Activity Fee. Finally, the Committee suggests investigating the potential success of larger events as they may represent a way to engage a broader number of students.

### Vote Totals

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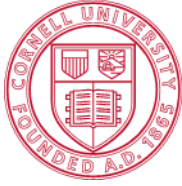
The Committee votes down, from the highest number proposed to the lowest, to give the group the advantage. The vote totals from the Committee were as follows:

Amount	Vote
\$2.00	10-0-1

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Matthew Stefanko**  
*Vice President for Finance*

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## Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(11/19/15)
Type of Action:	Byline Report
Status/Result:	New Business

Organization	EARS
2014-2016 Allocation	\$1.50
2016-2018 Request	\$1.50
Appropriations Recommendation	<b>\$1.50</b>

### Rationale of the Committee

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The Appropriations Committee recommends funding EARS at \$1.50 for the 2016-2018 By-Line Funding Cycle. The Appropriations Committee appreciates the significant amount of work done by the counselors at EARS to support their fellow students and to foster a more supportive and empathetic community. With that being said, the Appropriations Committee believes that promotional and advertising budgeting needs to be reevaluated to determine maximum impact and the most effective way to spend those dollars. Additionally, the Committee suggests further understanding of the possibility and potential necessity of transitioning some of their counselors to an on line chat service in the near future. Finally, the Committee encourages EARS to continue to develop ways to interact with the Cornell community without disrupting the anonymity of their members including, but not limited to, programs that utilize alumni of the program.

### Vote Totals

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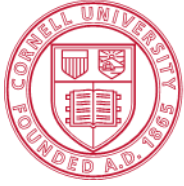
The Committee votes down, from the highest number proposed to the lowest, to give the group the advantage. The vote totals from the Committee were as follows:

Amount	Vote
\$1.50	9-0-1

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Matthew Stefanko**  
*Vice President for Finance*

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**Cornell University**  
**Student Assembly**

Originally Presented on:	(11/19/15)
Type of Action:	Byline Report
Status/Result:	New Business

Organization	Outdoor Odyssey
2014-2016 Allocation	\$1.25
2016-2018 Request	\$1.25
Appropriations Recommendation	<b>\$1.25</b>

Rationale of the Committee

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The Appropriations Committee recommends funding Outdoor Odyssey at \$1.25 for the 2016-2018 By-Line Funding Cycle. The Appropriations Committee appreciates the immense amount of work being done by Outdoor Odyssey to increase its financial aid while continuing to provide excellent programming for over 200 students. The Committee suggests investigating ways to ensure increased engagement with newly added First Year Spring Admit students as well as students who do not traditionally attend Outdoor Odyssey including international students. Finally, although it may ultimately fall outside of the scope of Outdoor Odyssey, the Appropriations Committee suggests looking into ways to expand programming throughout the year for Cornell students.

Vote Totals

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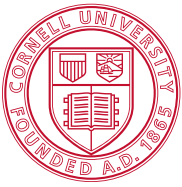
The Committee votes down, from the highest number proposed to the lowest, to give the group the advantage. The vote totals from the Committee were as follows:

Amount	Vote
\$1.25	10-0-0

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Matthew Stefanko**  
*Vice President for Finance*

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# Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/05/2015
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

## S.A. Resolution #24 Cost Barriers To Study Abroad

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ABSTRACT: This resolution recommends that Cornell University take necessary strides to reduce cost barriers for studying abroad.

Sponsored by: *Philip Titcomb '17*

**Whereas**, the former President of Cornell University, President David Skorton, set a goal for the university that 50% of students will have had a meaningful educational experience abroad by the year 2020;

**Whereas**, only 476 students studied abroad through Cornell Abroad in 2012-2013;

**Whereas**, Cornell University imposes a \$2,500 fee to “[cover] costs of remaining registered, transferring credit and financial aid” for all students who are studying abroad during the academic year, commonly referred to as the CIPT (Cornell International Program Tuition);

**Whereas**, students are already discouraged from studying abroad due to co-curricular obligations, fear of not graduating in 4-5 years, and fear of language and cultural barriers;

**Be it therefore resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that President Garrett encourage the Cornell Board of Trustees to eliminate or significantly reduce the CIPT to help students offset the additional costs that they will incur as a part of their abroad experience including student visas and airline tickets;

**Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that each college create additional grants and scholarships to offset the price of airfare for semester abroad students;

**Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that the Administration continue to charge students the cost of their non-Cornell international program in lieu of charging for traditional Cornell tuition and fees for their semester abroad;

**Be it further resolved**, that the Cornell Abroad Office make significant strides to be more transparent in regards to costs incurred by students, including outlining the necessity for any administrative or other fees charged to students;

**Be it further resolved**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Faculty Senate to help improve the quality of the Cornell undergraduate experience;

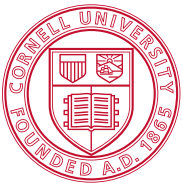
**Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Assembly will continue collaboration with the Cornell Abroad Office on real and perceived barriers to study abroad.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Jordan Berger '17*  
*Parliamentarian, Student Assembly*

*Philip Titcomb '17*  
*LGBTQ+ Representative, Student Assembly*

*(Reviewed by: Academic Policy Committee, 10/28/15)*



Originally Presented on:	11/05/2015
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #25  
Bystander Trainings for Student Groups

ABSTRACT: This resolution calls for the creation of a large-scale “Caring Community” peer-to-peer training session related to mental health, sexual assault, mitigating the harms of high-risk drinking, and diversity issue sensitivity. All byline funded organizations would be required to send a representative, and SAFC is encouraged to adopt a similar policy.

Sponsored by: Emma Johnston '16, Matt Indimine '18, Carolina Bieri '16, Radhika Gupta '18

Whereas, the Student Assembly prioritizes the wellbeing of students;

Whereas, the Student Assembly allocates funding through the Student Activity Fee to byline funding organizations;

Whereas, some byline organizations informally participate in sessions to train members and student leaders on “how to respond to friends in distress,” including Gannett’s “Friend to Friend Program,” Cayuga’s Watchers trainings, EARS outreach, and Wingman101;

Whereas, student wellness and wellbeing is a priority of every student organization, regardless of their explicit mission, since students comprise their memberships;

Whereas, Appendix B, Section 1 of the Student Assembly Charter states that “Each organization that receives funding from the Student Assembly (SA) through the Student Activity Fee (SAF) is subject to guidelines set by the Assembly;”

Whereas, the Student Assembly’s Health and Wellness Committee is currently working on coordinating a large-scale training session for all interested students in the areas of sexual assault/violence, mental health & wellbeing, and mitigating the harms associated with high-risk drinking;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly, through the Health and Wellness and Diversity Committees, in coordination with student organizations, plans a “Caring Community” training session encouraging and instructing appropriate peer intervention on the issues of mental and emotional health & wellbeing, sexual assault and misconduct, mitigating the harms associated with high-risk drinking, and diversity issue sensitivity;

Be it further resolved, this training session be open to the entire Cornell community on the afternoon of Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly requires each byline organization, with the exception of the Collegiate Readership Board and Club Insurance, to send at least one representative from their executive board, where an executive board exists, to this training session;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly encourages the Student Activity Finance Commission to consider adopting a similar policy requiring SAFC funded organizations to also send representatives;

48 **Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Assembly seek input pertaining to implementing a policy  
49 requiring each byline organization to hold a “Caring Community” training session for their entire  
50 memberships during each academic year.

51  
52 Respectfully Submitted,

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54 Matt Indimine '18  
55 *Undergrad Rep, University Assembly*

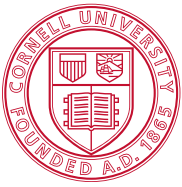
56  
57 Emma Johnston  
58 *Vice President, Student Assembly*

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60 Carolina Bieri  
61 *Co-Chair, Health and Wellness Committee*

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63 Radhika Gupta  
64 *Womens Rep, Student Assembly*

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67 *(Reviewed by: HEALTH AND WELLNESS, 26-0-0, 11/3/15)*





Originally Presented on:	11/10/2015
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #26

Promoting Justice and Friendship in the Housing Lottery

ABSTRACT: This resolution reverses the order in which students receive their time-slots and pick their blocking unit in the housing lottery to guarantee that students can live with their friends and give more time to freshmen to select blocking units,

Sponsored by: Gabriel Kaufman '18

**Whereas**, according to Article III, Section 1 of the Student Assembly Charter, “the Student Assembly has legislative authority over the policies of the Division of Campus Life” and thus by extension the Office of Residential and Event Services (ORES) therein;

**Whereas**, the Student Assembly has exercised this authority in the past, such as when the Student Assembly passed (AY 2012-2013) Resolution #12: “Adoption of a Gender Inclusive Housing Policy” and (AY 2009- 2010) Resolution #13: “Housing Lottery Time Slots,” which reversed the order in which sophomores and seniors receive their time-slots to their present order: sophomores, juniors, seniors;

**Whereas**, the Student Assembly has a compelling interest in reviewing the distribution pattern of the living arrangements of students throughout the campus;

**Whereas**, the Office of Residential and Event Services manages the housing lottery to which this resolution refers in the following clauses;

**Whereas**, the housing lottery is the primary means by which returning students obtain residence and thus defines the aforementioned distribution pattern;

**Whereas**, in the current housing lottery system, students receive time-slots *before* they decide who will comprise their blocking unit of no more than four other students (five students per blocking unit) and those time-slots are allocated randomly to students by class year;

**Whereas**, this system results in a random group of students (those receiving early time-slots) with the ability to decide *both where and with whom they will live*;

**Whereas**, such a system allows a student with the better time-slot to exercise complete power over the composition of his or her blocking unit, creating an unfair and unequal dynamic among students who do have early time slots and those who do not;

**Whereas**, allocating the time-slots before the students choose their blocking unit partners creates a perverse incentive for students to choose *with whom* they will live as a function of *where* they will live, which makes building friendly communities more difficult as those blocking units are chosen not based on the inherent qualities of the students, but on the prospect of receiving better housing;

**Whereas**, that incentive is removed if participants cannot choose based off another participant's time-slot;

**Whereas**, a housing lottery system where students choose with whom they will live before they know

48 where they will live will incentivize students to choose blocking unit partners based only off the value  
49 of their friendship (or their compatibility as roommates);  
50

51 **Whereas**, such a system which allows students to pool their chances of getting a better time-slot by blocking  
52 with other students increases the blocking unit's chance to get better housing proportionally to the  
53 number of students in the block (e.g, giving a blocking unit of x number of students x time slots and  
54 assigning the blocking unit the best one);  
55

56 **Whereas**, such a system would be fair for large, medium, and small blocking units as larger blocking units  
57 would be more likely to get better time-slots but smaller blocking units would have more available  
58 blocks from which to choose;  
59

60 **Whereas**, such as system would give participants far more time to decide who will be in their blocking unit  
61 as they would not have to wait for the assignment of the time slot in February to think about who;  
62

63 **Whereas**, a housing lottery system incorporating all of these features can be created by reversing the order  
64 of assigning the time-slot and choosing with whom to block;  
65

66 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the Office of Residential and Event Services reverse the order in which  
67 participants receive their time slots and decide with whom to block, such that participants choose  
68 their blocking unit and then, after submitting the blocking unit, collectively receive a time slot;  
69

70 **Be it further resolved**, that blocking units collectively receive the best time slot of the time slots that any of  
71 the block members would have received under the current system;  
72

73 **Be it finally resolved**, that blocking unit members *may not defect until there no suitable blocks on*  
74 *campus capable of fitting that blocking unit*, as this guarantees that as long as there is at least one block on  
75 campus with enough beds for all members of the blocking unit, then *the members are guaranteed to be*  
76 *with each other*;  
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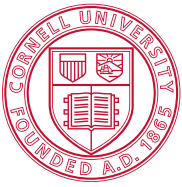
78 **Be it further resolved**, that the Office of Residential and Event Services have otherwise broad discretion  
79 in implementing this reversal to take into account the nuances of the system;  
80

81 **Be it finally resolved**, that the Office of Residential and Event Services report to the Student Assembly  
82 at the first Student Assembly meeting of the Spring Semester 2016 to give an update on ORES's  
83 progress in implementing the reversal.  
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85

86 Respectfully Submitted,

87  
88 Gabriel Kaufman 18  
89 *Undesignated At-Large, Student Assembly*

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91 *(Reviewed by: Residential Life Committee, DATE)*



# Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/19/2015
Type of Action:	Sense of the Body
Status/Result:	New Business

1 S.A. Resolution #27  
 2 Ending Bottled Water Sales on Cornell Campus

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 4 **ABSTRACT:** This resolution seeks to end the purchase, sale, and distribution of bottled water on  
 5 Cornell University campus and sanctioned events.

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 7 Sponsored by: Emma Johnston '16

8  
 9 **Whereas,** the Cornell Climate Action Plan, which seeks to “provide a model for solutions that will engage,  
 10 educate, and inspire our state, nation, and our world,” identifies energy conservation as one of the  
 11 five recommended action areas and promotes “active leadership” and “campus engagement from  
 12 faculty, staff, students, and alumni

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 14 **Whereas,** President Garrett said that she and campus leaders “agree that moving toward greater sustainability  
 15 is a priority,” emphasizing the necessity of Cornell’s campus to act as a living laboratory for  
 16 sustainability

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 18 **Whereas,** 870+ Cornell students, faculty, alumni, and staff have signed a petition in support of ending  
 19 bottled water sales on campus

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 21 **Whereas,** all incoming students receive free reusable water bottles

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 23 **Whereas,** Cornell has installed more bottle filling stations designed for reusable water bottles since 2010

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 25 **Whereas,** Cornell’s design standards for new buildings and renovations now include bottle filling stations

26  
 27 **Whereas,** Cornell Water Filtration Plant filters Cornell’s tap water, which consistently exceeds EPA standards

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 29 **Whereas,** public tap water is safe and significantly more affordable, accessible, and environmentally  
 30 sustainable than bottled water

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 32 **Whereas,** Cornell annually sells 350,000-400,000 single-serving water bottles and purchases more than 30,000  
 33 five-gallon carboy water bottles for campus water coolers

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 35 **Whereas,** the Cornell community spends an estimated \$640,000 on bottled water per year, but the same  
 36 volume of tap water would cost \$1,000

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 38 **Whereas,** Cornell’s annual consumption of bottled water causes nearly 115,000 kg of CO2 emissions, which  
 39 is equivalent to 265 barrels of oil

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 41 **Whereas,** plastic water bottles enter Cornell’s waste stream which increases campus’ greenhouse gas  
 42 emissions as well as contributes to the larger landfill crisis

43  
 44 **Whereas,** over 90 Colleges and Universities have banned or are restricting the use of bottled water on their  
 45 campuses, including Harvard University and Brown University

46  
 47 **Whereas,** Cornell has an opportunity to be a leader in environmental stewardship

48

- 49 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that the University take concrete steps to  
50 slowly end the purchase, sale, and distribution of bottled water on campus and at University  
51 sanctioned events, specifically refusing to sell bottled water through Cornell Dining and vending  
52 machines  
53
- 54 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that President Garret issue a directive to all  
55 departments, facilities, and functions discouraging the purchase of bottled water for their offices or  
56 events  
57
- 58 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that the University encourage the use of and,  
59 where possible, give out reusable bottles at University sanctioned events and functions for free  
60
- 61 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that the University continue investing in  
62 drinking fountain infrastructure by increasing the number of and, where possible, retrofitting  
63 drinking fountains on campus with bottle filling stations for reusable water bottles  
64
- 65 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends pairing the campus phase-out of bottled  
66 water with educational campaigns to aid the transition and bring awareness to Cornell's contribution  
67 to global waste streams  
68
- 69 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recognizes the importance of sustainability and authorize,  
70 endorse and facilitate efforts to educate, via various media, the University community regarding the  
71 value and benefits of tap water  
72
- 73 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends reviewing current and negotiating future  
74 beverage contracts  
75
- 76 **Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that the President's Sustainable Campus  
77 Committee (PSCC) includes a timeline of specific measures pertaining to decreasing the consumption  
78 of bottled water into its "annual progress report on Cornell's campus sustainability initiatives and  
79 commitments" as part of the Climate Action Plan  
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81 Respectfully Submitted,

82  
83 Emily Dong '18

84 Chair of Environmental Policy and Planning Commission, Student Assembly

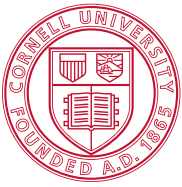
85  
86 Cornell Environmental Collaborative (ECO)

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88 Take Back the Tap

89  
90 KyotoNOW!

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92 Society for Natural Resources Conservation (SNRC)

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94 *(Reviewed by: Environmental Policy and Planning Committee, 14-0-0, 11/16/15)*



Originally Presented on:	11/19/2015
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #28

Improving Research Matching for Students and Professors

**ABSTRACT:** Resolution recommending the Cornell administration implements a program to fix the research matching process.

**Sponsored by:** Ben Bacharach '18, Gabriel Kaufman '18

**Whereas,** Cornell University prides itself on being a world-renowned research university that encourages undergraduate research;

**Whereas,** it is difficult for many undergraduates to find research opportunities and will often not do research because of the challenge of finding opportunities;

**Whereas,** Cornell does not currently have an organized resource for students to find research opportunities and for professors to advertise research opportunities;

**Whereas,** undergraduate research plays a vital role in the education of undergraduate students;

**Whereas,** Cornell students could benefit from a streamlined research opportunity finding process;

**Be it therefore resolved,** the SA recommend the Cornell administration implement a university wide program to increase the transparency for research opportunities and encourage undergraduate research campus wide;

**Be it finally resolved,** that the University consider ResearchConnection as a potential option to address this problem, as it matches students with research opportunities, encourages students to become more involved in research and to develop relationships with professors, and saves professors and students time with its skill-matching features by pairing professors who are looking for certain skillsets with students who can provide such expertise at a cost of \$5,000/year.

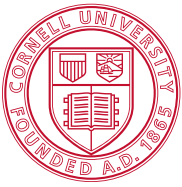
**Respectfully Submitted,**

Adam Bronfin 18  
*Community Member, Academic Policy Committee*

Ben Bacharach '18  
*Industrial and Labor Relations Representative, Student Assembly*

Gabriel Kaufman '18  
*Undesignated At-Large, Student Assembly*

*(Reviewed by: Academic Policy Committee, 11/11/2015)*



# Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/19/15
Type of Action:	Sense of the Body
Status/Result:	New Business

1 S.A. Resolution #29  
 2 Improving Academic Advising

3  
 4 ABSTRACT: This resolution recommends that the Faculty Senate work with the Student Assembly  
 5 to improve academic advising for undergraduates.

6  
 7 Sponsors: Katie Zhu '18, Gabriel Kaufman '18

8  
 9 **Whereas**, the relationship between faculty and students is an integral part of the Cornell experience;

10  
 11 **Whereas**, faculty-student advising serves the function of fostering closer relationships between  
 12 faculty and undergraduates at an individual level;

13  
 14 **Whereas**, according to the 2015 PULSE survey, 34% of overall students at Cornell were either  
 15 'Generally dissatisfied' or 'Very dissatisfied' with academic advising;<sup>1</sup>

16  
 17 **Whereas**, overall student satisfaction with academic advising is 17% lower than Cornell's  
 18 overall student satisfaction;<sup>2</sup>

19  
 20 **Whereas**, page 84 of the Faculty Handbook reads, "The precise form of this [student] advising  
 21 varies from one academic unit to another and is ordinarily established by the department chair or  
 22 dean in consultation with individual faculty members;"

23  
 24 **Whereas**, the Faculty Senate's Educational Policy Committee is tasked with considering  
 25 revisions to the Faculty Handbook;

26  
 27 **Be it therefore resolved**, that Student Assembly recommends that the Faculty Senate  
 28 Educational Policy Committee consider adding more specific language outlining the precise  
 29 obligations faculty advisors have to undergraduates to the faculty handbook, and that this  
 30 language be added at the broad discretion of the EPC.

31  
 32 Respectfully Submitted,

33  
 34 Katie Zhu '18  
 35 *CALS Representative, Student Assembly*

36  
 37 Gabriel Kaufman '18

---

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix A

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

### Satisfaction with Cornell

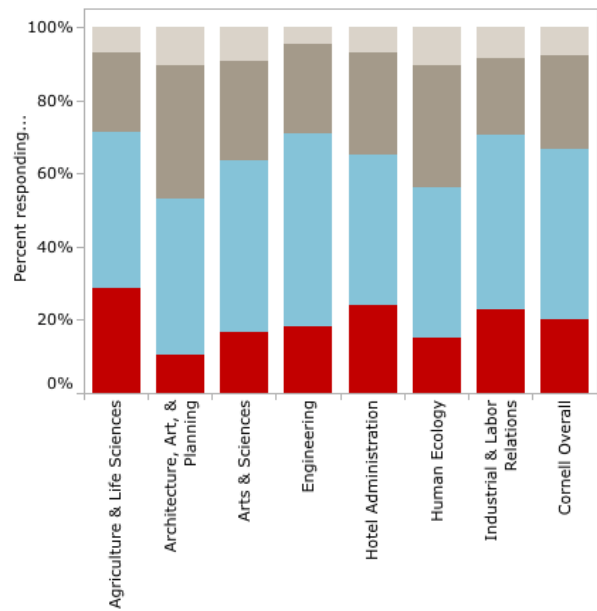
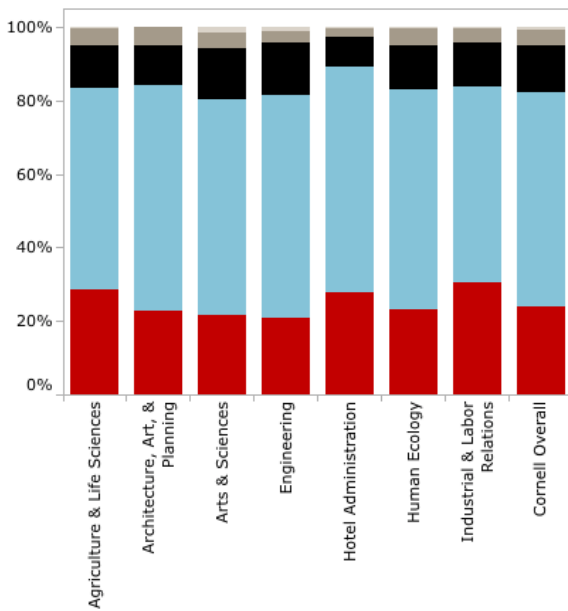
Overall, how satisfied have you been with your undergraduate education so far?

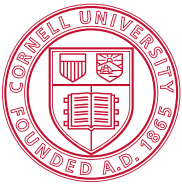
Satisfaction with:

Academic advising

Very satisfied  
Generally satisfied  
Ambivalent  
Generally dissatisfied  
Very dissatisfied

Very satisfied  
Generally satisfied  
Generally dissatisfied  
Very dissatisfied





# Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/19/15
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

## S.A. Resolution #31 Approving the Spring 2016 Elections Rules

1  
2  
3  
4 ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to update the elections rules that govern seats on the Student  
5 Assembly and directly elected undergraduate seats on the University Assembly.

6  
7  
8 **Sponsored by:** Matthew Henderson '16  
9

10 **Whereas,** the Student Assembly bylaws task the Elections Committee with coordinating and  
11 implementing the regularly scheduled and special elections of the Student Assembly and the  
12 directly elected undergraduate representatives of the University Assembly;

13  
14 **Whereas,** a substantial part of coordinating and implementing the elections is ensuring that the elections  
15 rules are up to date;

16  
17 **Whereas,** the Student Assembly Elections Committee approved the rules set forth in the attached  
18 document for all Spring 2016 elections;

19  
20 **Be it therefore resolved,** that the Student Assembly approve the procedures in the attached document  
21 containing the Spring 2016 elections rules with modifications to the Fall 2015 rules indicated;

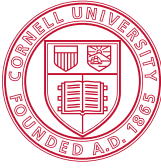
22  
23 **Respectfully Submitted,**

24  
25 **Matthew Henderson '16**

26 *Director of Elections, Student Assembly*

27  
28 *(Reviewed by: Elections Committee, 11/16/15, 7-0-0)*





# Student Assembly Elections Rules

*Adopted on Thursday, December 3 2009. Amended Friday, December 3, 2010; Friday, December 2, 2011, Thursday, November 29, 2012, Friday, December 6, 2013, Thursday, May 1, 2014, Thursday, November 20, 2014, Thursday, March 26, 2015, Monday, November 16, 2015.*

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  - 4. Campus Mail
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  - 7. Endorsements
  - 8. Campaign Ethics

### ARTICLE II. Direct Election of President and Executive Vice President

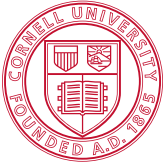
- A. President and Executive Vice President Designation and Eligibility
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Appendix A: Approved Student Assembly Committees

Appendix B: Sample Promotional Materials



# Cornell University Student Assembly

## 48 **Article I. Election Guidelines**

49 Elections are the foundation upon which representative governance rests. These rules are designed to  
50 protect the rights of all candidates, as well as all members of the University community, and to  
51 ensure that the election process takes place in an open and fair arena. Candidates must respect the  
52 rights and privileges of all members of the Cornell community, and ~~to~~ follow all election guidelines  
53 outlined in this document. Elections rules are subject to ~~yearly~~ the approval ~~by~~ of voting members of  
54 the Student Assembly ~~each semester~~.

### 55 **A. Voter Eligibility**

56 To vote in an election for a seat in the Student Assembly (SA) ~~or for the directly elected seats on the~~  
57 ~~University Assembly (UA)~~, a person must:

- 59 1. Be a full-time, matriculated undergraduate student enrolled in a degree-granting unit of the  
60 Ithaca campus of the University; and,
- 61 2. Be a member of the constituency for which the seat is designated, if it is designated for one  
62 of the following:
  - 63 a. Specific to college of enrollment
  - 64 b. Freshman ~~at Large~~
  - 65 c. Transfer ~~at Large~~

### 66 **B. Candidate Information**

#### 67 **1. Eligibility and Requirements**

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

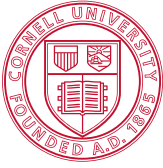
69 Be eligible to vote in the election for the seat and plan to remain so for the full term for which ~~he~~  
70 ~~or she is~~ ~~they are~~ seeking election<sup>1</sup>

- 71 1. Submit a completed candidate registration form and any associated materials required in that  
72 form
- 73 2. Submit petitions endorsed by the required number of people who are eligible to vote in the  
74 election for that specific position, which is the lesser of 10% of those eligible to vote for that  
75 specific position or:
  - 76 a. 300 for President and Executive Vice President
  - 77 b. 150 for all other at-large seats
  - 78 c. 100 for Arts and Sciences seats
  - 79 d. 25 for New Transfer seat
  - 80 e. 75 for all other seats
- 81 ~~3. Have not violated the early campaigning guidelines, as outlined in Article 1, Section C(2)~~
- 82 4. Have not resigned or been removed from the SA ~~or from a directly elected UA seat~~ in the  
83 academic year ~~of the election~~ prior to the academic year of the term for the seat being  
84 elected  
85

86

---

<sup>1</sup> Candidates should not plan to pursue study abroad programs or internships that would require them to leave the Ithaca campus for any semester during their tenure.



## Cornell University Student Assembly

87 To be a candidate, a person must, prior to the commencement of voting as specified in the elections  
88 calendar:

- 89 1. Attend at least one full SA meeting in that semester and register his or her attendance at that  
90 meeting with the Director of Elections, unless waived by the Director of Elections for  
91 extenuating circumstances<sup>2</sup>
- 92 2. Apply online to serve on at least one committee of the SA<sup>3</sup>

93  
94 The Office of the Assemblies, assisted by the Elections Committee, will review submitted materials  
95 for compliance with petitioning requirements as follows:

- 96 1. A sampling method may be used as long as at least 10% of **required** signatures are validated  
97 for all petitions and all **required** signatures are validated for any petition found to be  
98 ineligible
- 99 2. All petitions will be available for viewing only to members of the Cornell community and  
100 may be examined in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall. Petitions may not be  
101 photocopied once submitted.
- 102 3. The Office of the Assemblies will notify the Director of Elections, who will notify any  
103 candidates who fail to meet petitioning requirements prior to the scheduled announcement  
104 of candidates
- 105 4. Candidates who are listed on the ballot but found to have not fulfilled eligibility  
106 requirements prior to tabulation of results will be disqualified with vote counts untallied and  
107 discarded

108

### 109 **2. Petitioning**

110 In order to demonstrate that ~~he or she~~ **they** will be a respectable representative of the Cornell  
111 Student Assembly and student body at large, candidates are required to collect a certain number of  
112 petition signatures. The required number of petition signers is designated above. Candidates are  
113 expected to maintain the highest integrity when collecting petition signatures. In addition to the Early  
114 Campaigning rules detailed in Article 1, Section C(1) of these elections rules, the following  
115 restrictions are in place to ensure fairness during the petitioning period.

116 Candidates may not:

- 117 1. Announce their candidacy on social media platforms in order to collect signatures
- 118 2. Announce their candidacy in front of a classroom during class hours in order to collect  
119 signatures
- 120 3. Circulate unattended petitions

121

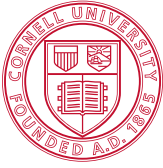
### 122 **3. Written Statements**

- 123 1. Each candidate is asked to submit a short statement, which may be no more than 1,250  
124 characters, including spaces (NOT word count) via the online Candidate Profile portal.  
125 Submissions must be plain text.

---

<sup>2</sup> However, this rule does not apply to past SA representatives.

<sup>3</sup> A list of such committees is provided in Appendix A to this document.



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 126 2. Statements will be displayed in informational materials published by the Elections  
127 Committee, ~~both in print and online.~~  
128 3. Statements may not include names of any political coalitions.  
129 4. If a candidate's statement does not conform with these guidelines, the statement will not be  
130 posted.

131

### 4. Pictures

133 Candidates ~~must~~ ~~may~~ have their photos taken in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, before  
134 the petition deadline. Photos will be displayed in informational materials published by the Elections  
135 Committee. ~~Candidates who do not have their photos taken by the petitioning deadline forfeit the~~  
136 ~~opportunity to have such photos disseminated.~~ Candidates ~~who are studying abroad and not able to~~  
137 ~~appear in person to have their picture taken~~ may submit a photograph of themselves that conforms  
138 to the ~~following~~ specifications ~~and any others required~~ ~~announced~~ by the Office of the Assemblies.

- 139 ~~1. Must be in JPEG format~~  
140 ~~2. Must feature the face of the candidate~~  
141 ~~3. May not be professionally produced~~  
142 ~~4. May not be enhanced after being taken~~  
143 ~~5. Must have a plain, white background; and,~~  
144 ~~6. Must be cropped to 263 pixels wide by 351 pixels tall or proportionally larger dimensions.~~  
145 ~~Such a photograph must be submitted by email to [assembly@cornell.edu](mailto:assembly@cornell.edu) before the petitioning~~  
146 ~~deadline.~~

147

### 5. Promotional Materials

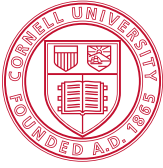
149 Each candidate may receive a combination of up to 300 one-sided 8 1/2" X 11" or 150 two-sided 8  
150 1/2" X 11" printed materials at no charge. These may be posters or quarter-cards<sup>4</sup>, or a combination  
151 of both.

- 152 1. The design must be attached, exactly as it is to be copied, as a PDF to the Candidate Profile  
153 Form online and submitted by the application deadline  
154 2. All materials must include the dates and times of the elections and be in compliance with  
155 election guidelines  
156 3. Candidates may select up to two different paper colors from the swatches provided by the  
157 Office of the Assemblies  
158 4. Materials will be printed in black & white only  
159 5. No Cornell insignia or logo is allowed  
160 6. Candidates who do not submit materials, which meet these criteria by the petitioning  
161 deadline, forfeit the opportunity to receive such materials ~~from the Office of the Assemblies~~  
162 7. The Office of the Assemblies will be responsible for making the copies.  
163 8. The office will not assist in designing, modifying, or otherwise formatting a printed  
164 submission

165 ~~Candidates that do not receive or choose not to receive free promotional materials printed by the~~  
166 ~~Office of the Assemblies will be eligible for up to \$20 in reimbursements that can be used towards~~

---

<sup>4</sup> See Appendix B for an example of an approved quarter-card.



## Cornell University Student Assembly

167 the following expenses: website expenses, chalk, printed materials, or any other promotional  
168 materials approved by the Director of Elections that are not a violation of these elections rules.  
169 These reimbursements will not be counted in a candidate's out-of-pocket expenses, as detailed in the  
170 Campaign Finance rules in Article 1, Section C(6) of these elections rules.

171

### 172 **6. Candidate Forum**

173 All candidates are encouraged to participate in the Candidates' Forums held by the Elections  
174 Committee during the campaign period. The Elections Committee will be responsible for planning,  
175 coordinating, and marketing these forums. At the forum, candidates are encouraged to discuss their  
176 experience, platforms, and more. Candidates are also encouraged to use the forum as an opportunity  
177 specifically to discuss why they are more qualified for the contested position than their opponent(s).  
178 The Director of Elections shall reach out to student organizations that receive funding from the  
179 Student Assembly, encouraging them to use the candidate forum as an opportunity to vet candidates  
180 for endorsements.

181

### 182 **C. Election Guidelines**

#### 183 **1. Early Campaigning**

184 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must not participate in the following campaign  
185 activities until campaigning officially begins:

- 186 1. Distribution of printed campaign materials to the public
- 187 2. Advertising candidacy by chalk, poster, or other method designed for public viewing
- 188 3. Making speeches or statements to student organizations or groups of students
- 189 4. Promoting their candidacy through email, social networking tools, or other digital media
- 190 a. The Elections Committee may challenge or disqualify a candidate if a violation is  
191 found to compromise the fairness of the election

192

#### 193 **2. Restrictions for Current SA Members**

194 Current SA members seeking reelection:

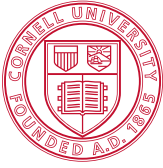
- 195 1. Must refrain from any form of individual or self-promoting publicity during the petitioning  
196 period
- 197 2. Must not host constituency outreach events that are meant to fulfill an outreach requirement  
198 from the deadline for elections materials through the last day of voting

199

#### 200 **3. Compliance with University Policies and Campus Code of Conduct**

201 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf must be aware of and comply with all applicable  
202 policies and provisions of the Campus Code of Conduct, including but not limited to:

- 203 1. Use of Cornell Name, Logo & Artwork policy
- 204 2. Event Registration/~~Use of University Property~~ policies
- 205 3. Facilities reservation policies, including Willard Straight Hall area reservation policies
- 206 4. University Postering & Chalking policies
- 207 5. ~~Campus Life~~ Residential & New Students Programs' policy for ~~posting~~ postering in  
208 residence halls



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 209 6. Dining hall policies, including a prohibition of distributing printed campaign materials in  
210 dining halls without permission from authorized staff, and as designated in the Campus  
211 Code of Conduct<sup>5</sup>

212

213 A violation of any University policy is a violation of these rules and therefore grounds for a challenge  
214 if it compromises the fairness of the election. It is the candidate's responsibility to read the  
215 referenced documents and be familiar with the rules and regulations established within them. The  
216 Director of Elections may also refer any reported violations to the Office of the Judicial  
217 Administrator or **any** other appropriate office, which may impose disciplinary remedies and penalties  
218 according to its own rules and procedures.

219

### 220 4. Campus Mail

221 Candidates and their supporters may not use Campus Mail for campaigning purposes.

222

### 223 5. Electronic Communications and Social Media

224 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:

- 225 1. Must obtain permission from the **owner administrator** of any university-hosted bulk mailing  
226 lists  
227 2. Must comply with Cornell University **e-mail IT** policies  
228 ~~3. May create a website, Facebook "Page", or "Event" to promote a campaign as long as events~~  
229 ~~are scheduled to occur entirely within the voting period.~~  
230 ~~4. May not create Facebook "Profiles" or "Groups" dedicated to a candidate or a candidate's~~  
231 ~~campaign.~~

232

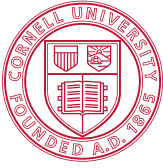
### 233 6. Campaign Finance

234 Candidates or supporters acting on their behalf must submit all receipts and/or proof of fair market  
235 value with the signed **Expenditure Form expense report** in person to the Office of the Assemblies,  
236 109 Day Hall, by the deadline specified in the elections calendar. Candidates who do not submit  
237 receipts and/or proof of fair market value will be presumed to have spent \$0 on their campaign.

- 238 1. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not exceed the \$50 limit for out-of-  
239 pocket expenses and fair market value of donations of materials, professional services,  
240 and/or money
- 241 a. Fair market value is the value at which something is to be obtained normally if  
242 documentation of its dollar value is not provided
  - 243 b. ~~Therefore,~~ If there is a supporting receipt for a good used in a candidate's campaign,  
244 then the value of that good is the dollar value on the supporting receipt **as long as**  
245 **the transaction was conducted at arm's length**
  - 246 c. For donated materials, professional services, or other goods for which no official  
247 receipt is provided, candidates must seek the most plausible assessment of the fair

---

<sup>5</sup> Please note that it is against the University Postering and Chalking Policy to chalk on any vertical surface, regardless of the location.



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 248 market value of the good. Professional services will be defined as any work for  
249 which the given individual/donor is typically compensated. Volunteer time donated  
250 by full-time students will not be considered professional services.
- 251 d. Paid advertisements and related costs on social networking sites or other websites  
252 must also be accounted for at fair market value
- 253 2. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf in races where only one candidate has  
254 submitted a petition are limited to 150 copies and \$10 for out-of-pocket expenses.  
255 Donations may be used, but proof of their fair market value must be provided and  
256 accounted for.

### 7. Endorsements

259 All registered student organizations receiving funds from the Student Assembly are encouraged to  
260 endorse candidates. ~~The Director of Elections will encourage groups to do so, through email~~  
261 ~~notification.~~ If an organization chooses to endorse a candidate, it is expected to abide by the  
262 guidelines below.

- 263 1. Student ~~Assembly Activities Finance Funding~~ Commission (SAFC) funded and ~~Student~~  
264 ~~Activity Fee (SAF) byline funded~~ organizations may endorse candidates. All groups must act  
265 in a way that is fair and balanced when deciding on the endorsement of candidates.
- 266 ~~2. Student Activity Fee (SAF) byline funded organizations seeking to endorse candidates for a~~  
267 ~~position must give all petitioners for that position and the Director of Elections 24 hours~~  
268 ~~advance notice of endorsement meetings.~~
- 269 3. The Elections Committee may recommend that the SA impose fines on or revoke allocated  
270 funds from organizations failing to comply

### 8. Campaign Ethics

273 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:

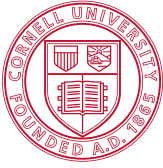
- 274 1. May not, at any time before, during or after the elections, harass, threaten, ~~defame~~ or coerce  
275 others
- 276 2. May not provide anything of material value to a member of the ~~University Cornell~~  
277 ~~community to further themselves in the election or to promote their candidacy, aside from~~  
278 ~~the complementary promotional materials provided to them by the Office of the Assemblies~~
- 279 3. May not compel any person to endorse their candidacy, assist their campaign, or act as  
280 supporter as an explicit or implicit condition for initiation to, admission into, affiliation with,  
281 or continued membership in a group or organization
- 282 ~~4. May not criticize others on the basis of their character other candidates~~
- 283 ~~5. Are allowed to comment on other candidates' platforms, experience, or voting records as~~  
284 ~~long as such comments are grounded in factual evidence.~~

## Article II. Direct Election of President and Executive Vice President

### A. President and Executive Vice President (EVP) Designation and eligibility

- 288 1. Two of the Undesignated At-Large Representative seats will be reserved for the directly  
289 elected seats of President and Executive Vice President





## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 290 2. Candidates running for the Undesignated At-Large Representative seats may specify  
291 themselves as a Presidential candidate or Executive Vice Presidential candidate  
292 3. Candidates who do not wish to run for the position of President or Executive Vice President  
293 may run individually for an undesignated at-large seat  
294 4. All candidates running for any undesignated at-large seat will be listed as undesignated at-  
295 large candidates on the ballot.

296

### 297 **B. Restrictions on Ticketing and Slates**

#### 298 **1. General Rules**

- 299 1. Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf may not:  
300 a. Include any other candidate's name, a common "ticket" name, or a shared slogan  
301 and/or symbol on any promotional materials or within any form of electronic  
302 communication and/or media  
303 b. Share or pool campaign finances with any other candidates or supporters acting on  
304 their behalf  
305 c. Distribute any promotional materials, send any electronic communication, or utilize  
306 any other form of electronic media on behalf of any other candidate  
307 d. Campaign with or on behalf of each other or engage in any coordination of  
308 campaigning activities.

309

#### 310 **2. Plagiarism**

311 Candidates may not disseminate written statements, promotional materials, or electronic  
312 communications that are plagiarized or substantially copied from any such items created or  
313 distributed by any current or former candidate.

314

## 315 **Article III. Election Procedures**

### 316 **A. The Elections Calendar**

- 317 1. The Director of Elections, in consultation with the Office of the Assemblies, will draft the  
318 elections calendar prior to the semester of the elections, and will be approved by the  
319 Elections Committee at a meeting in the prior semester<sup>6</sup>  
320 2. Consideration shall be given to any religious holidays that may fall during the election period,  
321 guaranteeing that the right to free religious observance is afforded to all potential candidates  
322

322

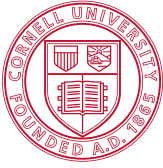
### 323 **B. The Elections Committee**

- 324 1. The Director of Elections shall serve as chair and a designated representative of the Office  
325 of the Assemblies shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of this committee  
326 2. Members of the Elections Committee may not seek SA or UA office for the academic year  
327 following their term of service on the committee  
328 3. The Director of Elections shall publish at the beginning of each semester a list of  
329 Assembly seats to be filled, in accordance with Student Assembly Charter ~~section 3.1~~

---

<sup>6</sup> The Director of Elections should coordinate the schedule of the Student Assembly elections with other campus elections, such as those of the Student-Elected Trustee and Class Councils.





## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 330 4. Elections Committee members are expected to abide by the highest standards of personal  
331 conduct and integrity. Students are mandated to excuse themselves from serving on the  
332 Elections Committee if they plan to actively take part in a campaign or sit on the executive  
333 board of an organization that has endorsed a candidate. Therefore, members should not be  
334 actively involved in the campaigning process. All conflicts should be considered and resolved  
335 before the election cycle begins.
- 336 5. The Elections Committee should be prepared to meet immediately following the challenge  
337 deadline to rule on all pertinent challenges. ~~All challenges must be heard simultaneously.~~
- 338 6. The Elections Committee shall use Robert's Rules of Order ~~in accordance with Student~~  
339 ~~Assembly Charter § 6.6~~ to consider challenges, in addition to the ~~Undergraduate~~ elections  
340 rules. ~~In the event of conflict, these elections rules supersede Robert's Rules of Order.~~ The  
341 Elections Committee has no power to overrule the ~~Undergraduate~~ elections rules under any  
342 circumstances.
- 343 7. The Director of Elections shall give a final report on the results of the elections when there  
344 are no remaining unresolved matters
- 345 8. For the benefit of the students, the Elections Committee shall establish voting booths across  
346 campus on the days of the election. Committee members will ensure that no campaigning  
347 occurs within 25 feet of a voting booth.
- 348

### 349 C. Independence of the Elections Committee

350 While members of the Elections Committee are expected to abide by the highest standards of  
351 integrity, they also enjoy independence from undue interference. Hence, students may not falsely  
352 accuse, harass, threaten or coerce any member of the Elections Committee for actions taken in ~~his or~~  
353 ~~her~~ ~~their~~ official capacity.

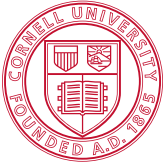
354

355 Subject to the determination ~~by~~ ~~of~~ the Elections Committee, any violation of this section can result  
356 in temporary or permanent disqualification from contesting elections to the ~~Student Assembly~~ SA or  
357 UA. It may also result in disciplinary referral to the Judicial Administrator. ~~The procedures of~~  
358 ~~reconsideration and review laid down in Article III, Section E will apply in such cases.~~

359

### 360 D. ~~Conduction of Election~~ Voting and Tabulation

- 361 1. The order in which names appear on the ballot shall be randomly selected
- 362 2. Tabulation of the results of voting shall be as follows:
- 363 a. The President, Executive Vice President, and other Undesignated At-Large  
364 Representatives will be elected by a single transferable voting system according to the  
365 Article IV, Section 2 of the Charter of the Student Assembly. Voters may rank all  
366 candidates on the ballot for each of these races.
- 367 b. All other representatives shall be elected by a plurality voting system. Voters will cast  
368 one vote per available seat, (e.g. if three Arts and Sciences representatives are to be  
369 elected, the voter will vote for three candidates).
- 370 c. ~~Uncontested candidates will not be listed for a vote on the ballot and will be deemed~~  
371 ~~victorious pending the resolution of challenges~~



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- 372 3. ~~The Office of the Assemblies will post preliminary results for unchallenged races by 4:30~~  
373 ~~p.m. on the day following the election.~~ Preliminary results for challenged races will be posted  
374 after the Elections Committee has ruled on those challenges
- 375 4. The Elections Committee will not have access to the preliminary results prior to and during  
376 challenge deliberations. The Office of Assemblies will release election results ~~from the~~  
377 ~~challenged races~~ after the Elections Committee has validated the election results.
- 378 ~~5. The official announcement of results shall be at the next Student Assembly meeting~~  
379 ~~following the validation of the election results by the Elections Committee.~~
- 380 6. A printout of election results for qualified candidates shall be available in the Office of the  
381 Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, for one year following the election. Disqualified candidates will  
382 not have their vote tallies made available.
- 383

### 384 E. Challenges

#### 385 1. Eligibility to Challenge

- 386 1. Any member of the Cornell community may submit a challenge
- 387 2. The Director of Elections may submit a challenge
- 388 3. The Elections Committee as a body may submit a challenge by majority vote
- 389 4. Individual committee members, except the Director of Elections, may not submit a  
390 challenge
- 391

#### 392 2. Challenge Deadlines

- 393 ~~1. Petition challenges must be submitted to the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, by the~~  
394 ~~petition challenge deadline specified in the elections calendar~~
- 395 2. Election challenges must be submitted by the election challenge deadline specified in the  
396 elections calendar
- 397 3. The Director of Elections or the Elections Committee by a majority vote can submit a  
398 challenge at any time before the declaration of results
- 399 4. No challenges ~~or further supporting documentation~~ will be accepted after these deadlines
- 400 5. Once submitted, a challenge becomes part of the formal record, and may not be withdrawn  
401 except by the explicit permission of the Director of Elections
- 402

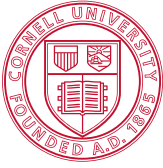
#### 403 3. Format of Challenges

404 Challenges must be in writing, submitted on the signed Challenge Form, and accompanied by the  
405 following supporting documentation:

- 406 1. Challenger's name
- 407 2. Candidate's name
- 408 3. Date of challenge
- 409 4. Reason for challenge and supporting evidence
- 410

#### 411 4. Notification of Election Challenges

412 The Office of the Assemblies will notify the Director of Elections who will send an email notifying  
413 anyone who is named in an election challenge. The email will contain a scanned copy of the  
414 challenge.



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415

### 416 **5. Response to Election Challenges**

417 A challenged candidate may review challenges **to which they are a party** in the Office of the  
418 Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, and address written statements in response to the committee. The  
419 challenged candidate may request a hearing in person with the committee. ~~The deadline for responses~~  
420 ~~is set in the elections calendar.~~

421

### 422 **6. Challenge Review Meeting**

423 The committee will schedule a meeting to review challenges in Executive Session. The committee  
424 will provide an opportunity for the challenged candidate to respond in person if requested by the  
425 challenged candidate or a member of the committee. For each challenge, the committee will  
426 determine:

- 427 1. Whether a preponderance of evidence substantiates each alleged violation; and,
- 428 2. Which, if any, substantiated violations or combination thereof compromised the fairness of  
429 the election **and constituted a material advantage** to the extent the challenged candidate  
430 should be disqualified by a two-thirds majority

431 The Committee will first vote by simple majority to determine if the evidence substantiates each  
432 alleged violation. If the violation is substantiated, the committee will vote which, if any, substantiated  
433 violations or combination thereof compromised the fairness of the election **and constituted a**  
434 **material advantage** to the extent the challenged candidate should be disqualified by a two-thirds  
435 majority.

436

### 437 **7. Preliminary Report**

- 438 1. For each rule violation, the Director of Elections or a member of the Elections Committee  
439 as delegated by the Director will create a written report summarizing the challenge(s), the  
440 decision made, and how the decision was reached
- 441 2. The preliminary report is kept confidential and only released to the challenged candidate and  
442 the challenger(s)
- 443 3. A copy is kept in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall
- 444 4. For each challenge, the committee will report to the challenger(s) and the challenged  
445 candidate all evidence received/**found**, any violations substantiated, and any decisions to  
446 disqualify the challenged candidate

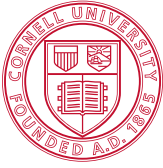
447

### 448 **8. Reconsideration**

449 If the committee determines a candidate should be disqualified, the candidate may request  
450 reconsideration within twenty-four hours of receiving the Preliminary Report. To be reconsidered,  
451 the candidate seeking such reconsideration must submit a request in writing to the Office of the  
452 Assemblies via email to [assembly@cornell.edu](mailto:assembly@cornell.edu). The statement should address the specific findings in  
453 the preliminary report to be reconsidered.

454

455 The committee will convene in response to such a request. The committee, after evaluating each  
456 request for reconsideration, will take a vote requiring a simple majority to determine if the previous  
457 decision to disqualify should be overturned. If the committee votes to overturn the previous



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458 decision, then the committee will consider the initial challenge again and will vote to disqualify the  
459 candidate by two-thirds majority.

460

461 If a disqualified candidate finds that the Elections Committee was biased in their application of the  
462 rules, ~~he or she~~ they may request a review by the Judicial Codes and Counselor (JCC). If the JCC  
463 review finds that the application of the rules was biased, the decision of the Elections Committee  
464 may be overturned.

465

### 466 **9. Finality**

467 The determination of the committee after expiration or resolution of requests for reconsideration  
468 shall be final.

469

### 470 **10. Confidentiality**

- 471 1. Members of the committee and parties to a challenge may not share the contents of  
472 challenges, evidence, or decisions submitted to or received from the committee, except when  
473 explicitly permitted by these rules or by the Director of Elections
- 474 2. Unauthorized disclosure of confidential information may result in a disciplinary referral ~~by~~ to  
475 the Judicial Administrator
- 476 3. A review of the Challenges may take place in the Office of the Assemblies, 109 Day Hall, by  
477 any member of the Cornell community. Challenges may not be photocopied, photographed,  
478 digitally recorded or removed from the Office of Assemblies.

479

480

### 481 **Appendix A**

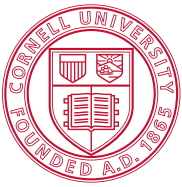
482 List of approved Student Assembly committees:

- 483 1. Academic Policy Committee
- 484 2. Appropriations Committee
- 485 3. City and Local Affairs Committee
- 486 4. Communications Committee
- 487 5. Dining **Services** Committee
- 488 6. Diversity Committee
- 489 7. Environmental Committee
- 490 8. Financial Aid Review Committee
- 491 9. Health and Wellness Committee
- 492 10. Infrastructure Fund Committee
- 493 11. Residential Life Committee
- 494 12. Technology Committee – **Infrastructure**
- 495 13. **Technology Committee – Web Development**

496

### 497 **Appendix B**

498 Sample Promotional Materials (Poster and Quarter Card)



Originally Presented on:	11/19/2015
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #32

Addressing the Student Assembly Budget Surplus

ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to allocate the Student Assembly’s surplus towards the purchase of 34 tablet devices that will be available for rent to byline funded groups, a Student and Campus Life Fellowship program, and a fund for initiatives planned by the Cornell Social Consultants.

Sponsored by: Emma Johnston, ’16, Matthew Stefanko, ’16

Whereas, the Student Assembly expects all byline funded organizations to have a thorough plan for spending any surplus that exists within their budget;

Whereas, the Student Assembly has a surplus of \$39,000 and should follow the same guidelines for its own budget as it holds for other byline funded groups;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly allocate \$15,000 for the purchase of at least 34 tablet devices and cases for the use of the Student Assembly during its general body and Appropriations Committee meetings, and for use by any registered undergraduate student organization as approved by the Student Assembly Executive Committee;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly Executive Committee in conjunction with the Office of the Assemblies adopt guidelines for the use of the tablet device that include at least the following:

- Any byline funded organization can borrow the tablet devices any day except Monday and Thursday,
- Before the tablet devices can be lent to a byline funded organization, the President, Treasurer, and Advisor of the organization must sign a use agreement form, as provided by the Office of the Assemblies;

Be it further resolved, that the Vice President for Finance work with the Office of the Assemblies to identify a tablet device for purchase, purchase the tablet devices, and develop a system for use that ensures the longevity of the devices;

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly allocates \$12,000 to establish a pilot program for a Student and Campus Life Fellowship Program for the spring semester. During the spring semester, these three Fellows will:

- Support the currently underserved resource centers through additional support and the allocation of three graduate students per semester to resource centers like the LGBTRC, the WRC, the A3C, 626, etc.
- Be provided a \$3,000 stipend per semester with an additional \$1,000 dedicated to various programming initiatives that they deem fit relevant to the project or projects that they are assigned.
- Work on projects determined and developed through a comprehensive planning and search process using input from students, student organizations, and the resource centers themselves, such as the planning of major conferences, the development of new initiatives or programs offered by the resource center, the support of students through office hours or attendance of

47 events, and many more. The Student Assembly would maintain multiple positions on the  
48 selection and allocation committees to ensure fluidity.

49  
50 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly allocates \$7,500 towards a fund for initiatives planned  
51 by the Cornell Social Consultants (CSC), who will work to promote constructive practices in  
52 their communities to help to create a more positive sexual climate on campus. Although the  
53 CSC's have been staffed and paid for by the Cornell administration, they have not been allocated  
54 money to carry out programming and resource-oriented initiatives.

- 55 • This money would be allocated over three years (\$2,500 per year)
- 56 • The Student Assembly would designate a liaison to work with the Social Consultants on  
57 spending this allocation and ensure collaboration between the Student Assembly and this group.

58  
59 **Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Assembly will review the specific finances allocated for each  
60 project before it moves forward with spending the funds.

61  
62 Respectfully Submitted,

63  
64 Emma Johnston  
65 *Executive Vice President, Student Assembly*

66  
67 Matthew Stefanko  
68 *Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly*

69  
70 *(Reviewed by: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 11/17/2015)*