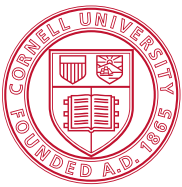




Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly
Agenda of the Thursday, March 3, 2016 Meeting
4:45pm-6:30pm in Physical Sciences Building 401

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call
- II. Open Microphone
- III. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - A. Minutes of the February 25 Meeting
- IV. Announcements and Reports
 - A. *Director of Elections Henderson* – **Elections**
 - B. *President Batista* - **President's Update**
 - C. *VP of Finance Stefanko* - **Appendix B Update**
 - D. *EVP Johnston* - **Diversity Trainings & Campus Planning**
- V. Initiatives
 - A. *Reporting Work Over Winter Break* - Dale Barbaria & Shreya Mantrala
- VI. Business of the Day
 - A. Resolution 36: Attendance Policy
- VII. New Business
 - A. Resolution 44: Creation of the First Generation Student Representative



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	02/04/16
Type of Action:	Charter Change
Status/Result:	New Business

1 S.A. Resolution #36
2 Attendance Policy

3
4 ABSTRACT: This resolution amends the attendance policy in the Student Assembly Charter.

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6
7 Sponsored by: Matthew Stefanko '16

8
9 Whereas, the current policy on absences grants the Executive Committee of the Student Assembly the
10 ability to avert a vacancy by a unanimous vote;

11
12 Whereas, given the political nature of the body, a unanimous vote allows any member of the Executive
13 Committee to vacate a representative for political reasons such as an upcoming election or
14 differing viewpoint;

15
16 Be it therefore resolved, that Article IV Section 5 of the Student Assembly charter be amended as
17 follows:

18
19 **Section 5: Absentees**

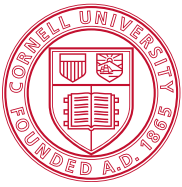
20 Any voting members who are absent for three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings or for six
21 regularly scheduled meetings cumulatively during their term will have their position vacated. The
22 Executive Committee may avert such a vacancy by a ~~unanimous~~ **two-thirds** vote of all voting members
23 of the Executive Committee. The vote would be conducted by secret ballot. The Executive Committee
24 should consider the reasoning for past absences, the likelihood of future absences, and the
25 representative's supplemental actions to represent their respective constituency in making their decision.
26 The same action must be taken if the Executive Committee wishes to avert a vacancy whenever the three
27 consecutive absences or the six cumulative absences mark is exceeded. **The Director of Elections will**
28 **serve as Chair for these meetings.**

29
30
31 Respectfully Submitted,

32
33 Matthew Stefanko '16
34 *Vice President of Finance, Student Assembly*

35
36 Jordan Berger '17
37 *Parliamentarian, Student Assembly*

38
39
40 *(Reviewed by: EXEC, 2/2/2016)*



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	3/3/2016
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #44

Creation of the First Generation Student Representative

1
2
3
4 ABSTRACT: This resolution demands/recommends the creation of a First Generation Liaison at-
5 Large who will serve as a full voting member of the Student Assembly
6

7 Sponsored by: Saim Chaudhary '17, Paola Muñoz '17, Ewa Przybylko '18
8

9 **Whereas**, there is no first-generation student representation on the Student Assembly;
10

11 **Whereas**, the Student Assembly has historically represented different demographics of the student body
12 including but not exclusive to international, minority, female, and LGBTQ+ students;
13

14 **Whereas**, the first-generation undergraduate student population at Cornell University accounts for 14%
15 of the undergraduate student population;
16

17 **Whereas**, this large student population feels it would benefit from direct student representation on the
18 Student Assembly;
19

20 **Whereas**, the first generation representative would address the unique needs of first generation students
21 including admissions, retention and graduation rates, limited access to cultural/social capital*, sense of
22 belonging* and “the imposter syndrome”, mental health, and how the first-generation identity often
23 intersects with being of a low-socioeconomic status which presents its own unique issues — not to be
24 conflated with non-first generation low-SES students;
25

26 **Whereas**, the first generation identity is unique to the college experience, considering that it emerges as
27 an identity solely upon matriculation, as a result of becoming the first generation within a given
28 household to attend an institution of higher education;
29

30 **Whereas**, if the Student Assembly seeks to be truly representative, it must incorporate diverse social
31 identity groups within its representative positions. Student governance that is not diverse, and/or allows
32 for diverse marginalized social identity groups to be represented monolithically, is inherently not
33 representative;
34

35 **Be it therefore resolved**, that a First Generation Liaison at-Large position be added to the Student
36 Assembly;
37

38 **Be it further resolved**, that *Section 1 of Article IV* of the Student Assembly Charter be amended as
39 follows:
40

41 **A. General Composition** - The SA will consist of 28 voting members who are registered
42 undergraduate students at Cornell University. Up to two additional votes shall be allocated to the
43 entire community of undergraduates as a whole present at a Student Assembly meeting on
44 motions that express the opinion of the assembly. Such community votes shall be allowed only
45 as provided by the Assembly in its bylaws. Eleven voting members of the SA will be elected by
46 and from the student populations of the colleges and schools, one from each: the College of

47 Architecture, Art and Planning; the School of Hotel Administration; the College of Human
48 Ecology; and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Two each shall be elected from the
49 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Engineering; and three shall be
50 elected from the College of Arts and Sciences. In addition, twelve voting members will be
51 elected at-large by and from the University undergraduate student population as a whole; two at-
52 large seats are to be reserved for candidates seeking the offices of President and Executive Vice
53 President of the Student Assembly and must be explicitly designated as such; two at-large seats
54 are to be reserved for non-constituent, undesignated at-large group candidates who do not run
55 for President or Executive Vice President; two at-large seats are to be reserved for candidates
56 seeking to represent minority students; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking
57 to represent international students; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to
58 represent women's issues; one-at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent
59 First Generation College Students; and one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking
60 to represent the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer community. The two remaining
61 non-constituent, undesignated at-large seats are to be contested by candidates running for
62 President and Executive Vice President and by non-constituent, undesignated at-large group
63 candidates not running for President or Executive Vice President. Five seats shall be elected by
64 and from new students entering in the fall. Should there be no candidate running for a given
65 seat, the seat shall be considered vacant.

66
67 **Be it further resolved**, that the initial election for the First Generation Liaison at-Large position will
68 take place during the fall 2016 election cycle for all undergraduate students;

69
70 **Be it further resolved**, that the elections after fall 2016 will consecutively occur during the Spring
71 election cycles;

72
73 **Be it finally resolved**, that the First Generation Liaison at-Large be a first-generation undergraduate
74 student or a student ally that is voted for by the entire undergraduate student body.

75
76 **Respectfully Submitted,**

77
78 Saim Chaudhary '17
79 *Minority Representative, Student Assembly*

80
81 Paola Muñoz '17
82 *Co-head, First in Class Advocacy Committee*

83
84 Ewa Przybylko '18
85 *Co-head, First in Class Advocacy Committee*

86
87 *Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 3/2/16.*

88 *(*Originally approved by the Diversity Committee, revised and passed through the Executive Committee with minor revisions.)*