



Cornell University
Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, October 20, 2016 Meeting
4:45pm-6:30pm in WSH Memorial Room

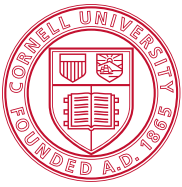
- I. Call to Order & Roll Call**
- II. Approval of the Meeting Minutes**
 - a. Minutes of the October 20th Meeting
- III. Open Microphone**
- IV. Announcements and Reports**
 - a. VP McBride
 - b. President Berger
 - c. EVP Indimine
 - d. Rep Reichel
 - e. VP PR Liu
 - f. Rep Issur
 - g. Rep Kasher
 - h. VP Li
 - i. Rep Magloire
 - j. Rep Iglesias
- V. Initiatives**
 - a. RSC Presentation: Holly Grace
 - b. Town Hall Embracing a Shared Community: Julia Greenberg
- VI. Business of the Day**
 - a. Resolution 12: Empowering All Students in the Restructuring of the SA
 - b. Resolution 13: Amending Article III Section 3 and Other Sections of the Student Assembly Charter
 - i. Appendix: Charter

VII. New Business

- a. Resolution 15: Strengthening the Relationship between Student Assembly & RSC
- b. Resolution 16: Modernizing the Cornell Collegiate Readership Program

VIII. Forum on Mental Health Policies, Resources, & Programs

IX. Executive Session



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	10/20/2016
Type of Action:	Internal Policy: Charter Change
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #13

Amending Article III Section 3 and Other Sections of the Student Assembly Charter

ABSTRACT: This Charter Change Resolution makes changes to the “Reporting of Student Assembly Actions” section and other minor changes at the request of Interim University President Rawlings.

Sponsored by: Dale Barbaria '19

Whereas, Interim President Rawlings rejected sections of the most recently passed version of the Student Assembly Charter, which included amendments to improve consistency across governing documents and efficiency of the Student Assembly;

Whereas, the Student Assembly Charter requires that all amendments to the document are “subject to the approval of the President.”

Whereas, Interim President Rawlings has identified that all references in the Student Assembly Charter to the “Vice President for Student and Academic Services,” must be updated to refer to the “Vice President for Student and Campus Life;”

Whereas, amendments proposed to the section on “Reporting of Student Assembly Actions” in Article III Section 3 Subsection A contained wording which Interim President Rawlings did not approve;

Whereas, Interim President Rawlings also suggested adding the word “University” when referring to the President of the University to reduce ambiguity;

Be it therefore resolved, that ‘Article III Section I: Legislative Authority over Policies – Subsection B’ now will be amended to read:

- A. Should a request be refused, the SA by simple majority vote may request the information be given to the Vice President for ~~Student and Academic Services~~ Student and Campus Life who shall forward it to the SA. The Vice President for ~~Student and Academic Services~~ Student and Campus Life shall act unless otherwise directed by the President of the University, pursuant to Article 3, Section 6.

Be it further resolved, that ‘Article III Section 3: Reporting of Student Assembly Actions – Subsection B: Reporting to Other Bodies’ will be amended to read:

- A. Reporting to Other Bodies – The SA will report in writing its actions to the GPSA, Employee Assembly, and the Faculty Senate, in conjunction with reporting of the actions to the President of the University. The actions will be reported following each meeting by a SA member designated by the SA.

Be it further resolved, that ‘Article III Section 6: Presidential Information’ will be amended as follows:

46 The SA may request and obtain specific information from the President of the University regarding
47 any subject which it deems of general student concern. If such a request is made, and said
48 information is not furnished, the University President will report to the SA the reasons why said
49 information cannot be furnished within two regularly scheduled SA meetings following the denial of
50 the request. The SA will not request information falling into the following categories: salary or wage
51 records of specific individuals, academic or financial records of specific individuals, medical or
52 categorical (race, sex, age, etc.) records of specific individuals and information otherwise defined as
53 confidential or restricted by law.
54

55 Be it further resolved that ‘Article V: Amendments – Section 2: Presidential Approval’ be amended to read:
56

57 Amendments to this Charter are subject to the approval of the President of the University. Should
58 the University President disapprove the amendments affected by this section, the University
59 President will present a detailed verbal or written report to the SA indicating the reasons for
60 disapproval. The report will be presented within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed
61 amendments by the University President.
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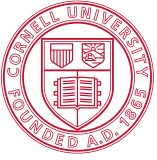
63 Be it further resolved that Appendix A: Guidelines for the Allocation of the Student Activity Fee – Section 4:
64 Procedure – Subsection B. Preliminary Report by Appropriations Committee – Clause i will now state:
65

- 66 i. By the last day of classes in the academic year preceding a fee-setting year, the Vice President for
67 Finance will report each request received and the total amount of requests received in dollars per
68 student per year to the Assembly, the Vice President for Student and Campus Life, and the President
69 of the University.
70

71 Be it finally resolved, that Article III: Authority and Responsibility – Section 3: Reporting of Student
72 Assembly Actions – Subsection A. Reporting to the President will be amended to include the
73 following wording:
74

- 75 A. Reporting to the President – All actions, excluding internal policy changes that do not affect the
76 Student Assembly Charter, of the SA will be reported by the SA President to the University
77 President. The SA will respond to any requests for information from the University President on its
78 actions. The University President may also request reconsideration of legislation proposed by the SA.
79 Such a request must be filed within thirty days of notification of the legislation. The SA will take
80 action on such a request, and, if the legislation is upheld, the SA will inform the University President.
81 If the legislation is upheld and if the University President still deems the action to be defective, the
82 University President may veto the action of the SA. The University President will review all actions
83 of the SA and provide a written response to all actions of the SA that have been reported to him or
84 her and provide a written response to those actions within 30 days. The University President, when
85 appropriate, may also designate a another member of the university administration his or her
86 Cabinet, Senior Administration, Provost’s Office or Dean of Student’s Office to provide an
87 additional written response to an action of the SA within 30 days when appropriate.
88

89
90 Respectfully Submitted,
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92 Dale Barbaria '19
93 *Parliamentarian, Student Assembly*
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95 *(Reviewed by: COMMITTEE NAME, VOTE, DATE)*



Resolution 16: Modernizing the Cornell Collegiate Readership Program

Abstract: This resolution seeks to cease the purchasing and offering of print copies of New York Times and USA Today, and to purchase an annual Academic Site License from the New York Times.

Sponsored by: Diana Li '17, Vice President for Finance

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 10/26/2016

Type of Action: Legislation

Originally Presented: 10/27/2016

Current Status: New Business

Whereas, the Student Assembly is committed to providing resources for the success of all undergraduate students;

Whereas, consistent access to high-quality journalism is essential for the success of all undergraduate students;

Whereas, the Collegiate Readership Program is a program run by *USA Today* that was initially funded by the Student Assembly in 2003 in order to facilitate the purchase of newspapers for undergraduate students;

Whereas, the by-line funded program called “Cornell Collegiate Readership Program” is the mechanism used by the Student Assembly to pay for *USA Today*’s “Collegiate Readership Program”;

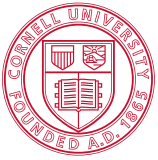
Whereas, the Cornell Collegiate Readership Program currently uses *USA Today* as the main distributor for all print copies of newspapers purchased through the program;

Whereas, the current Cornell Collegiate Readership Program purchases 200 print copies of *The New York Times* and 100 print copies of *USA Today* at 21 for distribution at locations across campus on approximately 145 days during the academic year;

Whereas, the current agreement with *USA Today* and *The New York Times* provides a small number of 24-hour access passes to *The New York Times* digital edition;

Whereas, the number of digital passes to *The New York Times* is based on the print edition consumption;

Whereas, during the 2014-2016 by-line cycle the allocation for the Cornell Collegiate Readership Program was \$6.00 per student or about \$82,000 per academic year;



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31 **Whereas**, the actual expenditures of the Cornell Collegiate Readership Program for the 2015-2016
32 academic year were \$61,642;

33 **Whereas**, data provided by *The New York Times* indicates that 33% (or 28,426) of all print copies
34 delivered to Cornell through the Collegiate Readership Program during the 2015-2016 academic year
35 were not consumed and thus were wasted;

36 **Whereas**, the Collegiate Readership Program has, during the current 2016-2018 byline cycle, an
37 allocation of \$5.00 per student, or about \$68,000 per academic year;

38 **Whereas**, the Student Assembly is committed to reducing its paper usage;

39 **Whereas**, print editions of newspapers are not physically accessible to all students;

40 **Whereas**, there is no way to verify that only undergraduate students are using their Cornell
41 Identification Cards to retrieve a paper from the distribution locations;

42 **Whereas**, undergraduate students at Cornell and across the country primarily consume news
43 digitally;

44 **Whereas**, *The New York Times* has made available to the Student Assembly the option to purchase an
45 Academic Site License that would provide all verified undergraduate students full and continual
46 access to *The New York Times* website, smartphone apps, and tablet apps at the cost of \$2.86 per
47 student, or about \$41,000 per academic year, based on current enrollment figures provided by
48 Cornell;

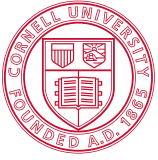
49 **Whereas**, under the Academic Site License offered by *The New York Times*, undergraduate students,
50 after registration through an online portal, will receive continual access to *The New York Times*
51 website, smartphone apps, and tablet apps while they are an enrolled undergraduate student at
52 Cornell University;

53 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the Student Assembly, through Cornell Collegiate Readership
54 Program, cease the purchasing and offering of print copies of *USA Today* and *The New York Times*,
55 effective November 2016;

56 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly, through the Cornell Collegiate Readership
57 Program, purchase an annual Academic Site License from *The New York Times*, starting November
58 2016,

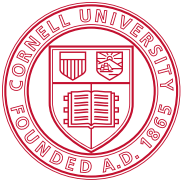
59 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly will amend Appendix B of its Charter and other
60 relevant documents as soon as possible to reflect these changes in the Cornell Collegiate Readership
61 Program,

62 **Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Assembly re-allocate the surplus funds resulting from the
63 lower cost of the License as soon as possible;



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- 64 **Respectfully Submitted,**
- 65 Diana Li '17
- 66 *Vice President for Finance*



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Originally Presented on:	(10/13/16)
Type of Action:	TYPE: Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #12

Empowering All Students in the Restructuring of Student Assembly

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4 ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to empower all students in the restructuring of the Student
5 Assembly.

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7 Sponsored by: Paola Muñoz '17, Nicholas Karavolias '18
8

9 **Whereas**, the Student Assembly does not represent all students. This was affirmed by the 2015-2016
10 Student Assembly in their discussions surrounding the creation of the First Generation Student
11 Representative. This resolution was adopted unanimously by the previous assembly;
12

13 **Whereas**, there are significant barriers for students to gaining membership on the Student Assembly and
14 these barriers need to be removed. Some of these barriers include elitist language, access to
15 accommodation, and more;
16

17 **Whereas**, non-members of the Student Assembly are left out of many discussions and decisions that
18 impact the student experience, as a result of ineffective outreach;
19

20 **Whereas**, Student Assembly members have a responsibility to represent their constituencies; however,
21 they rarely inform or consult members of their constituencies before voting on resolutions on the floor
22 of the Student Assembly;
23

24 **Whereas**, all students are stakeholders in the representative structure of the Student Assembly;
25

26 **Be it therefore resolved**, this resolution empowers and encourages each and every member of the
27 Student Assembly to convene open working groups to discuss restructuring the Student Assembly;
28

29 **Be it further resolved**, the Student Assembly empowers and encourages all undergraduate students to
30 participate in the restructuring process and to conduct discussions and convene working groups on the
31 restructuring of the Student Assembly;
32

33 **Be it further resolved**, that all undergraduate students may send recommendations to
34 studentassembly@cornell.edu by October 31st at noon. All proposals shall be made publically available
35 and shared with the undergraduate student body by **November 1st at noon**. Additionally, a form shall be
36 made available for all students to provide comments electronically if they are unable to attend the forum;
37

38 **Be it further resolved**, that all ideas and proposals be discussed at an open forum held on **Wednesday**
39 **November 2nd from 5:30-7:30pm**. The Student Assembly President shall moderate the forum and shall
40 prioritize non-Student Assembly members on the speakers list. At the end of the forum, all participants
41 shall be given a voice and a vote in what the next step forward is. Additionally, notes from the forum
42 shall be made publically available to all members of the student body;
43

44 **Be it further resolved**, that all Student Assembly members shall be required to attend this forum and
45 the attendance policy be in effect;

46 **Be it further resolved,** that an independent organization such as Cornell Institutional Research and
47 Planning assist in compiling the opinions of the student body toward the structure of the Student
48 Assembly;

49
50 **Be it further resolved,** that the final decision about restructuring should provide a mechanism for all
51 students who choose to participate to have an equal voice and vote;

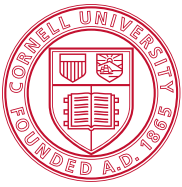
52
53 **Be it further resolved,** that if the restructuring process is completed by the first week in February that
54 the Student Assembly update its internal documents and election rules to echo the will of the student
55 body and to implement the new structure for the Spring 2017 election;

56
57 **Respectfully Submitted,**

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59 Paola Muñoz '17
60 *President, First in Class*

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62 Nicholas Karavolias '18
63 *Member of First in Class Advocacy Team*

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65 *(Reviewed by: SA Member Signatures, 10/11/16)*



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	10/27/2016
Type of Action:	TYPE: Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

1 S.A. Resolution #15
2 Strengthening the Relationship between the Student Assembly & Residential Student
3 Congress
4

5 ABSTRACT: This resolution establishes a closer legislative relationship between the Student
6 Assembly and Residential Student Congress (RSC) by providing a mechanism for RSC to
7 introduce resolutions pertaining to residential life before the SA.
8

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10 Sponsored by: Justin Selig '17, Alex Iglesias '17
11

12 Whereas, the Student Assembly recently passed Resolution 10 “Elimination of the Residential Life
13 Committee” which called for the removal of the Residential Life Committee, for relevant change
14 to be made in the SA Bylaws, and for this issue to be revisited by the Student Assembly;
15

16 Whereas, the Residential Student Congress is a body of students empowered to address issues pertaining
17 to Residential Life, and its Advocacy Committee works to review and propose resolutions to
18 address these issues;
19

20 Whereas, resolutions passed by the Residential Student Congress go directly to the Executive Director of
21 Campus & Community Engagement for consideration;
22

23 Whereas, the Residential Student Congress has a strong presence in the North Campus and Collegetown
24 residence halls, however has lacked a similar relationship with all members of the West Campus
25 Housing System;
26

27 Be it therefore resolved, the Student Assembly should support the Residential Student Congress in any
28 capacity which improves the student experience in on-campus living and should empower the
29 Residential Student Congress to bring their resolutions to the floor of the Student Assembly,
30

31 Be it finally resolved, that the following language be added to the Student Assembly Standing Rules
32 Section 3 Subsection E, between Rules 5 and 6, to create a new rule:
33

34 F. Rule 6: If the Residential Student Congress needs to pass a formal legislative resolution
35 concerning residential life at Cornell, the Residential Student Congress has the authority to pass
36 resolutions that will be introduced as New Business on the Student Assembly agenda. These
37 resolutions must explicitly pertain to residential life. Any resolutions presented by the Residential
38 Student Congress must have been voted on and approved by a majority vote of the general body
39 members of the Residential Student Congress and the Residential Student Congress liaison to
40 the Student Assembly, who must be the sponsor of the resolution. The resolution must be sent
41 to the Student Assembly EVP at least one week before the Student Assembly meeting where the
42 resolution will appear on the agenda. All resolutions appearing on the SA agenda through this
43 method, without having been passed by an SA committee, will require a vote of two-thirds of SA
44 members present to be passed.
45

46 Respectfully Submitted,

47
48 Alex Parkhurst
49 *President of the Residential Student Congress*
50
51 Holly Grace
52 *VP of the Residential Student Congress*
53
54 Justin Selig '17
55 *Engineering Representative, Student Assembly*
56
57 Alex Iglesias '17
58 *Human Ecology Representative, Student Assembly*
59
60 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, VOTE, 10/25/2016)*