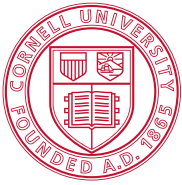


**Cornell University**  
**Student Assembly**

**Cornell University Student Assembly**

Agenda of the Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 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 February 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting
- III. Open Microphone**
- IV. Announcements and Reports**
  - a. VP Li
  - b. VP McBride
  - c. President Berger
  - d. EVP Indimine
  - e. Rep Selig
  - f. Rep Valadez
- V. Initiatives**
  - a. Restructuring Updates- President Berger
- VI. New Business**
  - a. Resolution 30: Affirming Cornell's Stance on Supporting the Rights of Transgender Individuals
  - b. Resolution 31: Audit of Cornell University Administration Finances
- VII. Executive Session**



# Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	3/2/2017
Type of Action:	Sense-of-the-Body
Status/Result:	<b>New Business</b>

## S.A. Resolution #30

### Affirming Cornell's Stance on Supporting the Rights of Transgender Individuals

ABSTRACT: This resolution seeks to affirm Cornell's support of Transgender Individuals

**Sponsored by: Matthew Indimine '18**

**Whereas**, on February 22, 2017, the Department of Justice and the Department of Education withdrew the statements of policy and guidance reflected in:

- a. letter to Emily Prince from James A. Ferg-Cadima, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Education dated January 7, 2015, and
- b. Dear Colleague Letter on Transgender Students jointly issued by the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice and the Department of Education dated May 13, 2016;

**Whereas**, in doing this, the Trump Administration has revoked federal guidelines specifying that transgender students have the right to use public school restrooms that match their gender identity;

**Whereas**, Cornell University was founded as an institution where "any person can find instruction in any study;"

**Whereas**, Cornell University's official non-discrimination policy includes the protection of "sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression;"

**Whereas**, according to the University's May 2016 Restroom/Facilities Guidelines, the University allows students, faculty, staff, and visitors to use the restroom or facility that corresponds to their gender identity;

**Whereas**, gender identity refers to an individual's internal sense of gender, and may be different from or the same as the person's sex assigned at birth;

**Be it further resolved**, that the students at Cornell University will have the ability to use the restroom or facility that corresponds to their gender identity,

**Be it further resolved**, that Cornell University publicly condemn the Trump Administration's revocation of federal guidelines specifying that transgender students have the right to use public school restrooms that match their gender identity;

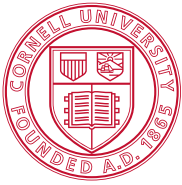
**Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly reaffirms the importance of reporting bias incidents by all members of the community;

**Be it finally resolved**, that Cornell University reaffirm its commitment to supporting people of all gender identities,

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Matthew Indimine '18**

*Executive Vice President, Student Assembly*



# Cornell University Student Assembly

- 47 *Former LGBTQ+ Liaison, Student Assembly*
- 48
- 49 **Dustin Liu '19**
- 50 *LGBTQ+ Liaison, Student Assembly*
- 51
- 52 **Philip Titcomb '17**
- 53 *Former LGBTQ+ Liaison, Student Assembly*
- 54
- 55 **Jevan Hutson '16**
- 56 *President-emeritus, Haven: The LGBTQ Student Union*
- 57 *Former LGBTQ+ Liaison, Student Assembly*
- 58
- 59 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 5-0-0)*

Dear Members of the Cornell LGBTQ+ Community,

On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, the White House and Departments of Education and Justice withdrew the federal guidance on transgender students that was issued in May 2016. This was historic guidance for the nation's schools on the needs and rights of hundreds of thousands of students who are transgender. The guidance summarized over a decade of best practices from across the country, advising schools that under the federal Title IX law, schools should treat trans students according to their gender identity. This guidance allowed students throughout our nation to use restrooms matching their gender identity, as well as expected schools to honor one's gender identity in areas related to instruction, inclusive of names and pronouns.

A complete list of frequently asked questions and answers is available from the [National Center for Transgender Equality](#), which provides both background and explanation for what is happening.

As a reminder for us at Cornell and in New York State, New York State [Human Rights Law \(by means of regulation\) covers gender identity as a protected class](#). Governor Cuomo has also issued statements today related to [New York State protections and trans rights](#). Cornell has [policies in place which protect our communities](#) from harassment and discrimination related to gender identity, and these policies reinforce this for all members of our community - students, faculty, and staff.

However, even with the law and policies in place throughout our state and in our local community, the climate for our transgender community is still deeply impacted by the ongoing federal and state actions regarding the rights of transgender people. Now is the time to reach out and provide support, to check in with those who you know, and to be sensitive to what you can do to create an inclusive, welcoming and supportive campus for our transgender and gender queer communities. There are still systemic and social barriers that impact our students, faculty, and staff every day.

All of us working together can continue to improve the climate for our community. As we continue to advocate for change, take time to imagine how you might be able to improve the Cornell and Ithaca experience for our transgender community. We have much work yet to do and this work is our collective work!

Take good care of each other,

***The Staff and Students of the LGBT Resource Center***

## Additional Resources from the LGBT Resource Center

At Cornell, students and those who support them are encouraged to access resources at <https://www.gannett.cornell.edu/>, (607) 255-5155, 24 hours a day. Our faculty and staff struggling to make sense of this have the Faculty and Staff Assistance program available to them as well, with more information accessible at <http://fsap.cornell.edu/> or by calling, (607) 255-2673.

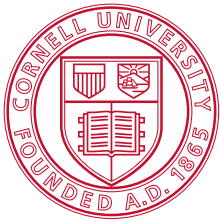
*Below are other resources that may be helpful at this time:*

### National Hotlines/Resources:

- **The Trevor Project** (<http://www.thetrevorproject.org/>)  
(866) 488-7386
- **The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender National Hotline** (<http://www.glbtnationalhelpcenter.org/>)  
(888) 843-4564
- **The GLBT National Youth Talkline** (<http://www.glnh.org/talkline/>)  
(Youth serving youth through age 25)  
(800) 246-7743
- **The TransLifeline Transgender Crisis:** (<http://www.translifeline.org/>)  
(877) 565-8860
- **The National Runaway Switchboard**  
1-800-RUNAWAY
- **Crisis Text Line: 741-741** (<http://www.crisistextline.org/>)  
*Crisis Text Line Serves anyone, in any type of crisis, providing access to free, 24/7 support and information via text. Simple text 741-741 from anywhere in the USA, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds quickly, helping you "move from a hot moment to a cool moment." Please note that this Crisis Text Line is not specific to LGBTQ+ people.*

**Still seeking more? Find Resources where you are:**

- **Find support in your community!** (<http://resources.lgbtcenters.org/Directory/default.aspx>)



# Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented On	3/2/17
Type of Action	Investigation
Status/Result	New Business

1 **S.A. Resolution #31**  
2 **Audit of Cornell University Administration Finances**

3  
4 **ABSTRACT:** A formal request for information from the University for Financial Data regarding  
5 the University Administration, specifically its resource allocations and general data on wages  
6 and salaries of it higher level staff.

7  
8 Sponsored by: Mitch McBride '17, Diana Li '17

9  
10 **Whereas**, Article III, Section 6 of the Student Assembly Charter states, "The SA may request and  
11 obtain specific information from the President of the University regarding any subject which it  
12 deems of general student concern. If such a request is made, and said information is not  
13 furnished, the University President will report to the SA the reasons why said information cannot  
14 be furnished within two regularly scheduled SA meetings following the denial of the request. The  
15 SA will not request information falling into the following categories: salary or wage records of  
16 specific individuals, academic or financial records of specific individuals, medical or categorical  
17 (race, sex, age, etc) records of specific individuals and information otherwise defined as  
18 confidential or restricted by law."  
19

20 **Whereas**, Paul Campos, a law professor at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and a contributor to  
21 the New York Times, brought the attention of the public to the fact that "a major factor driving  
22 increasing costs [in tuition] is the constant expansion of university administration." (New York  
23 Times),  
24

25 **Whereas**, "According to the Department of Education data, administrative positions at colleges and  
26 universities grew by 60 percent between 1993 and 2009, which Bloomberg reported was 10 times  
27 the rate of growth of tenured faculty positions." (New York Times)  
28

29 **Whereas**, there is reasonable suspicion that the increased cost of education across the US may well be  
30 due to increases in administration sizes and salaries (and thus we need Cornell data),  
31

32 **Whereas**, the students of Cornell University deserve the right to know what they pay for as they are  
33 the consumers, customers, and contributors,  
34

35 **Whereas**, the Student Assembly expressly does not request any information of specific individuals  
36 within the University or information otherwise deemed confidential for privacy or legal concerns,  
37

38 **Whereas**, there are concerns that the administration has grown too large, has given too high of salaries  
39 to its higher level staff, and is too unwilling to disperse with redundant or ineffective employees,  
40

41 **Whereas**, the University must save money from administration expenses in order to dedicate itself to  
42 more (not less) generous financial aid policies in order to fulfill its mission of "any person, any  
43 study"

44  
45 **Whereas**, giving student leaders access to such information might assist the university in finding areas  
46 to save as any groupthink that exists in the administration would be diminished,  
47

48 **Whereas**, university may likely receive positive press for opening its finances such that the world  
49 realizes it is actually attempting to reduce costs for students and save so tuition does not increase,  
50 but rather decreases,  
51

52 **Be it therefore resolved**, The Cornell Student Assembly exercises its prerogative to  
53 formally request information relating to the administration finances, including  
54 general salary breakdowns of administration members (assistant dean level or  
55 equivalent and above), general resource allocation information relating to the  
56 amount and type of resources dedicated to different university divisions,  
57 departments, and offices, and any other relevant information relating to the  
58 Administration's finances that the Student Assembly would find helpful in its review  
59 of the spending of the University on the administration.  
60

61 **Be it further resolved**, The Student Assembly Appropriations Committee will be charged  
62 with reviewing the information about how the University distributes resources to the  
63 administration and issue a report to the assembly regarding recommendations for  
64 eliminating waste and overspending within the administration's various offices or in  
65 its payments to personnel,  
66

67 **Be it further resolved**, The administration will act in good faith to provide this  
68 information so it is readily understandable, complete, and detailed in order to  
69 conduct a review of how the administration operates financially,  
70

71 **Be it finally resolved**, if the President's decision is to decline to give the requested  
72 information to the elected representatives of the students, the SA requests the  
73 President send a copy of this resolution and our objection to the denial (unless based  
74 on legal grounds) to the Chair of the Cornell Board of Trustees.  
75

76 Respectfully Submitted,  
77

78 Mitchell McBride '17  
79 *Vice President of Internal Operations, Student Assembly*  
80

81 Diana Li '17  
82 *Vice President of Finance, Student Assembly*  
83

84 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 6-0-0, 2/27/17)*