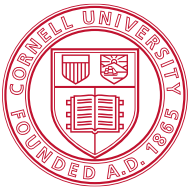


Cornell University
Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, April 27th, 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 April 20th Meeting
- III. Announcements and Reports**
 - a. Rep Iglesias
 - b. President Berger
 - c. EVP Indimine
 - d. VP Montejo
 - e. Rep Iglesias
 - f. VP Li
 - g. Rep Kaufman
- IV. Open Microphone**
- V. Business of the Day**
 - a. Resolution 34: Accessibility & Affordability of Cornell's Fitness Centers
- VI. New Business**
 - a. Resolution 41: Cornell Commitment to Web Accessibility
 - b. Resolution 42: Creating an Investigation into Hindu and Muslim Chaplaincies on Campus
- VII. Academic Calendar Discussion – 6pm**



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(03/23/17)
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #34

Accessibility & Affordability of Cornell's Fitness Centers

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2
3
4 ABSTRACT: This resolution calls for the administration to address student concerns facing the
5 accessibility and affordability of the fitness centers on our campus.

6
7 Sponsored by: Alex Iglesias '17, Justin Selig '17, Ashwin Viswanathan '20
8

9 **Whereas**, annual membership fees for the fitness centers total \$145 which is more expensive than most
10 peer institutions;

11
12 **Whereas**, even if the membership fee could be reduced, it wouldn't be feasible given the existing
13 space concerns the facilities face;

14
15 **Whereas**, the existing facilities are operating at, or above, capacity during the times of the day when
16 most students go to the gym;

17
18 **Whereas**, renovation and expansion plans for Helen Newman Hall have been discussed in the past
19 however, they have not been executed;

20
21 **Whereas**, the expansion of recreation facilities into Appel Community Center has resulted in a space
22 which does not contain all the equipment students desire, and this space is frequently
23 used by physical education programs, and therefore students end up going to Helen Newman,
24 which further exacerbates the problem of overcrowding;

25
26 **Whereas**, the existing fitness space in Appel Community Center could serve as a satellite facility for
27 Cornell Health and this could be incredibly beneficial for students on North Campus;

28
29 **Whereas**, the proposed expansion of housing on North campus, per the housing master plan, would
30 further exacerbate existing issues facing availability of recreation facilities for students as the
31 existing facilities are not sufficient to meet the need from the Cornell community;

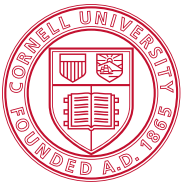
32
33 **Whereas**, many students residing in Collegetown do not have access to recreation facilities in their
34 immediate community which forces them to traverse to Noyes on West Campus or Teagle
35 which are distant walks and these facilities operate above capacity;

36
37 **Whereas**, recreation and fitness facilities have an essential role in supporting the health and wellbeing of
38 the Cornell community;

39
40 **Be it therefore resolved**, we request that Vice President Lombardi work with
41 students, recreation staff members, and the community to address the accessibility and
42 affordability of fitness centers and other recreational services on campus;

43
44 **Be it further resolved**, the Student Assembly recommends that the Division of Student and Campus
45 Life immediately explore the feasibility of acquiring space, or using existing space, to develop a
46 fitness center in Collegetown;

48 **Be it further resolved**, the Student Assembly requests that group exercise and recreation activities be
49 offered in the Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts until a new space is developed;
50
51 **Be it further resolved**, the Student Assembly asks that the administration plan to develop a community
52 center in Collegetown, or work with private developers to address such need, to include a fitness
53 center, recreation space, and dining unit, to improve the student experience;
54
55 **Be it further resolved**, the Division of Student and Campus Life should establish plans to renovate and
56 expand Helen Newman, or construct a new recreation facility, to meet the growing needs of
57 North Campus, while taking into consideration Cornell University Sustainable Design’s proposal
58 for a “Beebe Lake Redevelopment”;
59
60 **Be it further resolved**, we ask that the Division of Student and Campus Life recognize that fitness
61 centers should serve, to some degree, as community centers as Noyes Community Center does
62 on West Campus and that centralized facilities are more conducive toward community-building
63 than satellite facilities;
64
65 **Be it finally resolved**, we ask that this resolution be sent to President Hunter Rawlings, President-elect
66 Martha Pollack, Provost Michael Kotlikoff, Vice President for Student and Campus Life Ryan
67 Lombardi, Dean of Student Vijay Pendakur, and any others deemed appropriate.
68
69
70
71 **Respectfully Submitted,**
72
73 Alexander Iglesias ’17
74 *Human Ecology Representative, Student Assembly*
75
76 Justin Selig ’17
77 *Engineering Representative, Student Assembly*
78
79 Ashwin Viswanathan ’20
80 *Freshman Representative, Student Assembly*
81
82
83 *Reviewed by: Health & Wellness Committee, March 21, 2017*



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(04/27/17)
Type of Action:	TYPE: Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #41

Cornell Commitment to Web Accessibility

1
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4 ABSTRACT: This resolution requests that the University adopt a Web Content Accessibility Policy to be
5 applied to all new websites and to legacy websites upon major update.
6

7
8 Sponsored by: Jordan Berger '17, Sarah Park '20
9

10 **Whereas**, the University of Washington has found that approximately 6% of undergraduate students have
11 disabilities.
12

13 **Whereas**, there are 285 million people worldwide with visual impairment, 275 million people worldwide with
14 moderate-to-profound hearing impairment, and many more with physical, speech, cognitive, neurological
15 disabilities; and
16

17 **Whereas**, Cornell University's global community both includes and interacts with many of these people, as
18 well as many people with a limited understanding of English, all of whom could benefit from web
19 technology that meets accessibility standards; and
20

21 **Whereas**, modern accessibility standards benefit all individuals by making websites more accessible through
22 mobile devices, in locations where sound is not permitted or cannot be heard, from areas with slow internet
23 connections, or through text-based browsers such as Lynx; and
24

25 **Whereas**, in 1990 the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a federal civil rights law that prohibits
26 discrimination against people with disabilities in areas of public life, was passed; and
27

28 **Whereas**, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states, "No otherwise qualified individual with a
29 disability in the United States...shall...be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be
30 subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance or under any
31 program or activity conducted by any Executive agency...";
32

33 **Whereas**, under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, federal agencies are required to make their
34 electronic and information technology accessible to people with disabilities, and standards are provided; and
35

36 **Whereas**, the Cornell motto reflects our inclusive goal of "... any person ... any study"; and
37

38 **Whereas**, The University's Equal Education and Employment Opportunity Statement declares that Cornell
39 is "committed to assisting those persons with disabilities who have special needs related to their educational
40 pursuit or employment" and prohibits discrimination on this basis; and
41

42 **Whereas**, The Campus Master Plan states that, "Cornell campus will support and cultivate academic success
43 and growth, providing high quality open, collaborative and adaptable environments for teaching, research,
44 service and outreach, the exchange of ideas and the nurturing of innovation..."; and
45

46 **Whereas**, Cornell's websites are one of our most visible communications tools, and any site on the
47 Cornell.edu domain is a representation of the university, reflecting our competency, values, and standards;
48 and
49

50 **Whereas**, in order to meet our stated institutional commitment to accessibility, our web administrators,
51 content providers, and developers need institutional support and a set of published standards to work from
52 when creating new websites and remediating legacy sites; and
53

54 **Whereas**, an inaccessible website can exclude faculty, staff, prospective and existing students, and their
55 families, due to their abilities or the method they use to access the web; and
56

57 **Whereas**, the University Assembly and the Employee Assembly have passed similar resolutions,
58

59 **Be it therefore resolved**, the Divisions of University Relations, Cornell Information Technologies, and
60 Human Resources by August 1, 2017 will set, publish, and disseminate to all levels of University personnel, an
61 Accessibility Policy for all websites on the Cornell.edu domain which will:

- 62 1. Set a baseline standard to meet WCAG 2.0 AA Standards.
- 63 2. Require all newly created sites to conform to this standard.
- 64 3. Require all legacy sites to be remediated for conformance upon any major update.
- 65 4. Using the model for IT Security exemptions, provide a process for exemption of sites for which
66 conformance would impose an undue burden.

67
68 **Be it further resolved**, Cornell Administration, in consultation with the Department of Inclusion and
69 Workforce Diversity, the ADA Coordinator Team, the Divisions of University Relations, and Cornell
70 Information Technologies, will name and/or identify an office or person(s) as a point of contact on campus
71 to handle reporting, assist with procedures, and periodically assess the resources needed to ensure successful
72 implementation of the policy.
73

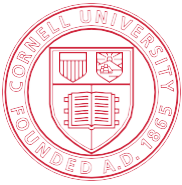
74 **Be it finally resolved**, the Divisions of University Relations and Cornell Information Technologies will:

- 75 1. Revise the Brand Book by August 1, 2017 to include accessible templates for items including but not
76 limited to presentations, videos, posters, and digital media.
- 77 2. Provide and make readily available information on making digital information accessible and using
78 automated tools to check the accessibility of content.
- 79 3. Provide guidance, incentive, and encouragement to all University academic, administrative, and
80 business units, aiming for the highest level of conformance in all possible cases.
- 81 4. Provide tools to all University academic, administrative, and business units to perform standardized
82 evaluations of conformance.
- 83 5. Compile annual surveys from all University academic, administrative, and business units for their
84 level of conformance, making the survey results available to the Assemblies. The first survey is to be
85 completed before January 1, 2018.
- 86 6. Set a goal for domain-wide conformance exceeding 85% within 5 years.
- 87 7. After this goal is reached, refer any non-exempt sites falling below 75% conformance to the
88 administrator for remediation or exemption.
- 89 8. Re-evaluate exemptions at least once per year.

90
91 **Respectfully Submitted,**

92
93 Jordan Berger '17
94 *President, Student Assembly*

95
96 Sarah Park '20
97 *Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly*



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	(04/27/17)
Type of Action:	TYPE: Sense-of-the-body
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #42

Creating an Investigation into Hindu and Muslim Chaplaincies on Campus

1
2
3
4 ABSTRACT: Given the current political climate, Hindu and Muslim students feel marginalized and
5 under-supported, without proper representation on campus. This resolution recommends creating a
6 task force through the Office of the Dean of Students and Cornell United Religious Works to
7 investigate bringing Hindu and Muslim chaplains to provide such representation and to support
8 these communities.
9

10 Sponsored by: Matt Indimine '18

11
12 Whereas, given the political climate, and recent attacks on American Hindus and Muslims, Hindu
13 and Muslim students have felt marginalized and precarious on campus;

14
15 Whereas, Muslim and Hindu organizations on campus are treated as clubs with SAFC funding, and
16 as a result, have limited capacity to bring religious authority figures and speakers to campus. This
17 inhibits proper development in identity and support;

18
19 Whereas, religious life is a major component in Hindu and Muslim identities and mental health on
20 campus, and the lack of guidance prevents the ability for students to fully engage with their faith;

21
22 Whereas, peer institutions such as Harvard, Princeton, Brown, and Georgetown, among others have
23 recently funded and hired Hindu and Muslim chaplains as a response to the current climate and the
24 need for Hindu and Muslim students to have representation and support on campus;

25
26 Whereas, of the 28 chaplains in CURW currently, almost all are from Judeo-Christian faiths, while
27 none represent are representative of Hindus and Muslims, despite the sizable population of Hindus
28 and Muslims on campus;

29
30 Whereas, Hindu and Muslim students are not represented when decisions are made regarding
31 Anabel Taylor Hall and the use of space dedicated to religious organizations;

32
33 Whereas, the nearest formally staffed established places of worship for Hindus and Muslims are
34 about an hour away from Ithaca;

35
36 Whereas, Hindu and Muslim students do not have the proper training to support or teach others
37 about their religion and speak about cultural issues. Most courses on campus about Hindu and
38 Muslim culture and religion are not taught by practicing Hindus and Muslims;

39
40 Whereas, Hindu and Muslim students were told by CURW that in order to obtain a chaplaincy, they
41 would have to independently find upwards of \$1 million for permanent chaplaincy positions;

42
43 Whereas, nationally scaled religious organizations and foundations for Hindu and Muslim students,
44 such as the Hindu Students' Council and Muslim Students' Association, are too decentralized to
45 provide funding and support for chaplaincy positions;

46
47 Whereas, the university has the means to identify donors who would be willing to help fund
48 chaplaincies for Hindu and Muslim students, but has refused to do so;
49
50 Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly recommends that the Dean of Students and
51 Cornell United Religious Works create a task force to investigate instituting a Hindu chaplain and a
52 Muslim chaplain on campus;
53
54 Be it further resolved, that the task force support Hindu and Muslim students in finding donors and
55 fundraising options in order to hire chaplains;
56
57 Be it further resolved, that the task force investigates how classes with religious elements represent
58 and reflect upon beliefs of practicing students on campus;
59
60 Be it further resolved, that the task force investigates possibilities of funding sources going directly
61 to religious organizations in order to provide them the bandwidth to bring religious figures and
62 scholars to campus;
63
64 Be it finally resolved, that this resolution be forwarded to the Dean of Students Vijay Pendakur, Vice
65 President of Student and Campus Life Ryan Lombardi, and The Director of Cornell United
66 Religious Works Kenneth Clarke.

67
68
69 **Respectfully Submitted,**

70
71 Samir Durvasula '17,
72 *President, Cornell Hindu Students Council*

73
74 Nabiha Qudsi '18,
75 *President, Committee of the Advancement of Muslim Life*

76
77 Saim Chaudhary '17,
78 *President, Islamic Alliance for Justice*

79
80 Syed Samin '19,
81 *President, Muslim Educational and Cultural Association*

82
83 Shivani Parikh '19,
84 *Intern, Asian & Asian-American Center and Funding*
85 *Board Undergraduate Representative, Student Diversity Development Initiatives*

86
87 Omar Din '19
88 *Human Ecology Representative-elect, Student Assembly*
89 *Executive Board Member, Muslim Educational and Cultural Association*

90	
91	Matt Indimine '18
92	<i>EVP, Student Assembly</i>
93	
94	Abhirami Ramakrishnan '20
95	<i>Board member, Cornell Hindu Students' Council</i>
96	
97	Anuush Vejalla '20
98	<i>Board member, Cornell Hindu Students' Council</i>
99	
100	Reshma Patel '18
101	<i>Board member, Cornell Hindu Students' Council</i>
102	
103	Kimaya Raje '20
104	<i>Board Member, Cornell Hindu Students' Council</i>
105	
106	Asif Siddique '19
107	<i>External Vice President, National Society of Black Engineers</i>
108	
109	Raashed Raziuddin '18
110	<i>Executive Board Member, Muslim Educational and Cultural Association</i>
111	
112	Jahan Zaveri '19
113	<i>Member, Phi Kappa Tau</i>
114	
115	Zameer Ghanshani '19
116	<i>Member, Delta Tau Delta</i>
117	
118	Mazen Ibrahim '19
119	<i>Treasurer, Alpha Lambda Mu Fraternity</i>
120	
121	Zehra Jafri '19
122	<i>Executive Board Member, Pakistani Students Association</i>
123	
124	Mahfuza Shovik '19
125	<i>Committee Chair, Muslim Educational and Cultural Association</i>
126	
127	Mohammad Mahmud '19
128	<i>Muslim Educational and Cultural Association</i>
129	
130	Mubeen Sheeraz '19
131	<i>Member, Alpha Lambda Mu Fraternity</i>
132	
133	Samin Foysol '19

134	WICC
135	
136	Odalís Flores '19
137	
138	Nazmus Sarwar '18
139	
140	Savarn Dontamsetti '19
141	
142	Indraneel Roy '19
143	
144	Sakib Jamal '19
145	
146	Jaëlle Sanon '19
147	<i>Executive Director, Cornell Lending Library</i>
148	<i>First Generation Student Liaison-elect</i>
149	
150	Rafia Rifa '19
151	<i>Member, Cornell Libertarians</i>
152	
153	Michael Xiao '20
154	
155	Jibran Gilani, '20
156	<i>Member, Alpha Lambda Mu and Muslim Educational and Cultural Association</i>
157	
158	Harris Liou, '20
159	<i>Member, Alpha Lambda Mu and Muslim Educational and Cultural Association</i>
160	
161	Jennifer Guerrero, '18
162	<i>Resident Advisor, Ecology House</i>
163	<i>Vice President, Cornell Herpetological Society</i>
164	
165	Emad Piracha '17
166	<i>President, Alpha Lambda Mu Fraternity</i>
167	
168	Mohamed Hassan '20
169	<i>Member, Alpha Lambda Mu Fraternity</i>
170	
171	Aziz Shafi '19
172	<i>Member, Alpha Lambda Mu Fraternity</i>
173	
174	Rachel Wallace '17
175	
176	Verlandy Michel '18
177	

178 Mushaffar Khan '19
179 *Member, Alpha Lambda Mu Fraternity*
180
181 *Tania Ventura '18*
182
183 Arwa Ali '18,
184 *Board Member, MECA- Worship Coordination Committee*
185
186 Haris Shamsuddin Hassan '18,
187 *Student Assembly - VP for Diversity & Inclusion elect, ALANA - Programming Coordinator*
188
189 Alicia Coto '19
190
191 Divyansha Sehgal '18
192
193 Anum Hussain '19
194 *Executive Board Member, Committee of the Advancement of Muslim Life*
195
196 *(Reviewed by: SA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 6-0-0,4/25/17)*