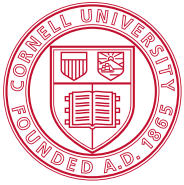


Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly
Agenda of the Thursday, December 3, 2015 Meeting
4:45pm-6:30pm in Willard Straight Hall Memorial Room

- I. **Call to Order & Roll Call**
- II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - a. [November 19th Meeting Minutes](#)
- III. **Open Microphone**
- IV. **Announcements and Reports:**
 - a. *Director of Elections Henderson* - Elections Update
 - b. *Parliamentarian Berger*
 - c. *AAP Representative Karnavat* - Outreach Event
 - d. *LGBTQ+ Representative Titcomb* - SAIFC Report
 - e. *Committee Chair Reports*
- V. **Business of the Day**
 - a. *Byline Packet: Class Councils*
 - b. *Byline Packet: Senior Days*
 - c. *Byline Packet: Club Insurance*
 - d. *Byline Packet: SAFC*
 - e. *Special Projects Funding: Lending Library*
 - f. *Special Projects Funding: ECO*
 - g. *Resolution 24: Cost Barriers to Study Abroad*
 - h. *Resolution 25: Bystander Trainings for Student Groups*
 - i. *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 33: Supporting the Establishment of a Veterans Resource Center*
 - g. *Resolution 34: Student Activity Fee Allocation for the 2016-2018 Funding Cycle*



Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/23/2015
Type of Action:	Byline Report
Status/Result:	New Business

Organization	Class Councils
2014-2016 Allocation	\$2.70
2016-2018 Request	\$3.50
Appropriations Recommendation	\$2.20

Rationale of the Committee

The Appropriations Committee recommends funding Class Councils at \$2.20 for the 2016-2018 By-Line Funding Cycle. The Appropriations Committee appreciates the immense amount of work done by Class Councils to foster class spirit and to bring together the Cornell community. Although the Committee appreciates the work being done to increase efficiency, it recommends further efforts to spend money more effectively including the amount spent on giveaway items. Additionally, given that the RED event was cancelled this semester, the Appropriations Committee expects a significant surplus that, in addition to rollover money, can be spent effectively over the next two years. Finally, the Appropriations Committee encourages Class Councils to reconsider major events that require significant funding like the Leadership Conference and determine whether or not they are the most appropriate way to foster a sense of community within Cornell.

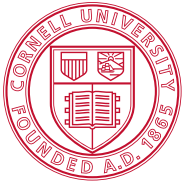
Vote Totals

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
\$3.50	0-12-0
\$2.42	4-7-1
\$2.20	11-1-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Stefanko
 Vice President for Finance



Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	11/23/2015
Type of Action:	Byline Report
Status/Result:	New Business

Organization	Senior Days
2014-2016 Allocation	\$4.85
2016-2018 Request	\$5.00
Appropriations Recommendation	\$4.85

Rationale of the Committee

The Appropriations Committee recommends funding Senior Days at \$4.85 for the 2016-2018 By-Line Funding Cycle. The Appropriations Committee recognizes the significant amount of work being done by seniors within their last semester to plan these events and appreciates the immense level of dedication put into the programming. Moving forward, the Appropriations Committee recommends more accurately counting and reporting exact attendance figures to determine which events are truly more or less successful than other events. Additionally, the Appropriations Committee encourages continued conversation surrounding the best ways to increase ticket sales and senior involvement given the changing landscape of Senior Days away from Senior Week.

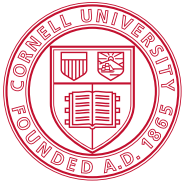
Vote Totals

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
\$5.00	5-5-1
\$4.85	10-1-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Stefanko
 Vice President for Finance



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	12/01/2015
Type of Action:	Byline Report
Status/Result:	New Business

Organization	Club Insurance
2014-2016 Allocation	\$5.10
2016-2018 Request	\$5.10
Appropriations Recommendation	\$5.10

Rationale of the Committee

The Appropriations Committee recommends funding Club Insurance at \$5.10 for the 2016-2018 By-Line Funding Cycle. The Appropriations Committee agrees that insurance offers an invaluable and affordable mechanism for Cornell students to ensure that their events will continue to be covered in case of emergency. The Committee appreciates the work being done to consistently look for ways to save money through other providers and different plans, and they encourage those within Club Insurance to continue to pursue those opportunities.

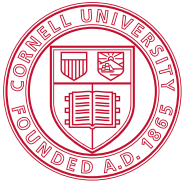
Vote Totals

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
\$5.10	10-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Stefanko
Vice President for Finance



Cornell University
Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	12/01/2015
Type of Action:	Byline Report
Status/Result:	New Business

Organization	SAFC
2014-2016 Allocation	\$89.12
2016-2018 Request	\$94.00
Appropriations Recommendation	\$94.00

Rationale of the Committee

The Appropriations Committee recommends funding the SAFC at \$94.00 for the 2016-2018 By-Line Funding Cycle. The Appropriations Committee recognizes the increased need for support to registered student organizations because of their growth and inflation, and they appreciate the immense amount of work the SAFC has done to improve their organization through help sessions and a desire to hire a diverse set of commissioners. The Committee encourages the SAFC to continue to balance their desire to financially support organizations to a greater extent with their ability to fund more organizations at a lower level. Finally, the Appropriations Committee continues to believe that the SAFC should reserve a minimum amount of money to use for special projects funding during the middle and end of the semester.

Vote Totals

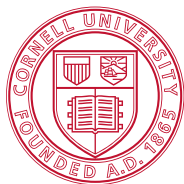
The Committee votes down, from the highest number proposed to the lowest, to give the group the advantage. The vote totals from the Committee were as follows:

Amount	Vote
\$94.00	14-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Stefanko
 Vice President for Finance

Originally Presented on:	12/3/2015
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	Business of the Day



Cornell University Student Assembly

S.A. Resolution #XX

Special Projects Funding: Lending Library

1
2
3
4 ABSTRACT: Special Projects support for the Lending Library which will support students' ability to
5 rent, on a semesterly basis, textbooks from the Durland Alternatives Library.

6
7 Sponsored by: Matthew Stefanko

8
9 Whereas, Section VII, Rule 3 of the Standing Rules states that, "The Student Assembly may choose to
10 fund any project, program or service through SA Special Projects that it deems to improve the quality of
11 undergraduate student life or further the goals of the SA. Special Projects funding is a type of category
12 spending."

13
14 Whereas, the Appropriations Committee determined that the Lending Library would provide significant
15 value to the Cornell undergraduate community and provide students with the ability to improve their
16 educational experience at Cornell while minimizing stress related to high costs.

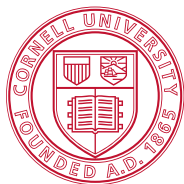
17
18 Be it therefore resolved, that Lending Library be granted a Special Projects funding allocation of
19 \$1,000.00

20
21 Respectfully Submitted,

22
23 Matthew Stefanko '16
24 *Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly*

25
26 *(Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee, 11/23)*

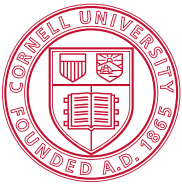
Originally Presented on:	12/3/2015
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	Business of the Day



Cornell University Student Assembly

S.A. Resolution #XX Special Projects Funding: ECO

1
2
3
4 ABSTRACT: Special Projects support for ECO’s leadership summit.
5
6 Sponsored by: Matthew Stefanko
7
8 Whereas, Section VII, Rule 3 of the Standing Rules states that, “The Student Assembly may choose to
9 fund any project, program or service through SA Special Projects that it deems to improve the quality of
10 undergraduate student life or further the goals of the SA. Special Projects funding is a type of category
11 spending.”
12
13 Whereas, the Appropriations Committee determined that ECO could appropriately use this money to
14 supplement and support their second annual Leadership Summit which will provide value to both
15 attendees at the event as well as the community with projects and suggestions from the event being
16 implemented
17
18 Be it therefore resolved, that Lending Library be granted a Special Projects funding allocation of \$500.00
19
20 Respectfully Submitted,
21
22 Matthew Stefanko ‘16
23 *Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly*
24
25 *(Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee, 11/30)*



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

1
2
3
4 ABSTRACT: This resolution recommends that Cornell University take necessary strides to reduce cost
5 barriers for studying abroad.

6
7 Sponsored by: *Philip Titcomb '17*

8
9 **Whereas**, the former President of Cornell University, President David Skorton, set a goal for the university that 50% of
10 students will have had a meaningful educational experience abroad by the year 2020;

11
12 **Whereas**, only 476 students studied abroad through Cornell Abroad in 2012-2013;

13
14 **Whereas**, Cornell University imposes a \$2,500 fee to “[cover] costs of remaining registered, transferring credit and
15 financial aid” for all students who are studying abroad during the academic year, commonly referred to as the CIPT
16 (Cornell International Program Tuition);

17
18 **Whereas**, students are already discouraged from studying abroad due to co-curricular obligations, fear of not graduating
19 in 4-5 years, and fear of language and cultural barriers;

20
21 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that President Garrett encourage the Cornell Board
22 of Trustees to eliminate or significantly reduce the CIPT to help students offset the additional costs that they will incur
23 as a part of their abroad experience including student visas and airline tickets;

24
25 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that each college create additional grants and
26 scholarships to offset the price of airfare for semester abroad students;

27
28 **Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that the Administration continue to charge students the
29 cost of their non-Cornell international program in lieu of charging for traditional Cornell tuition and fees for their
30 semester abroad;

31
32 **Be it further resolved**, that the Cornell Abroad Office make significant strides to be more transparent in regards to
33 costs incurred by students, including outlining the necessity for any administrative or other fees charged to students;

34
35 **Be it further resolved**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Faculty Senate to help improve the quality of
36 the Cornell undergraduate experience;

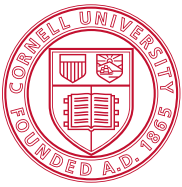
37
38 **Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Assembly will continue collaboration with the Cornell Abroad Office on real
39 and perceived barriers to study abroad.

40
41 Respectfully Submitted,

42
43 *Jordan Berger '17*
44 *Parliamentarian, Student Assembly*

45
46 *Philip Titcomb '17*
47 *LGBTQ+ Representative, Student Assembly*

48
49 *(Reviewed by: Academic Policy Committee, 10/28/15)*
50



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 21st;

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,

53
54 Matt Indimine '18
55 *Undergrad Rep, University Assembly*

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

59
60 Carolina Bieri
61 *Co-Chair, Health and Wellness Committee*

62
63 Radhika Gupta
64 *Womens Rep, Student Assembly*

65
66
67 *(Reviewed by: HEALTH AND WELLNESS, 26-0-0, 11/3/15)*

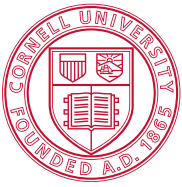


Table with 2 columns: Field (Originally Presented on, Type of Action, Status/Result) and Value (11/10/2015, Legislation, New Business)

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*;
77

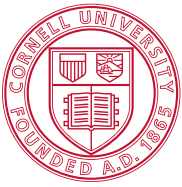
78 **Be it further resolved**, that the Office of Residential and Event Services have otherwise broad discretion
79 in implementing this reversal to take into account the nuances of the system;
80

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.
84
85

86 Respectfully Submitted,

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

90
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

3
4 **ABSTRACT:** This resolution seeks to end the purchase, sale, and distribution of bottled water on
5 Cornell University campus and sanctioned events.

6
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
13

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
17

18 **Whereas**, 870+ Cornell students, faculty, alumni, and staff have signed a petition in support of ending
19 bottled water sales on campus
20

21 **Whereas**, all incoming students receive free reusable water bottles
22

23 **Whereas**, Cornell has installed more bottle filling stations designed for reusable water bottles since 2010
24

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
28

29 **Whereas**, public tap water is safe and significantly more affordable, accessible, and environmentally
30 sustainable than bottled water
31

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
34

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
37

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
40

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
 80

81 Respectfully Submitted,

82
 83 Emily Dong '18

84 Chair of Environmental Policy and Planning Commission, Student Assembly

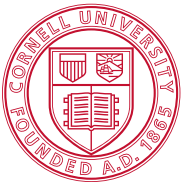
85
 86 Cornell Environmental Collaborative (ECO)

87
 88 Take Back the Tap

89
 90 KyotoNOW!

91
 92 Society for Natural Resources Conservation (SNRC)

93
 94 *(Reviewed by: Environmental Policy and Planning Committee, 14-0-0, 11/16/15)*



Cornell University Student Assembly

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.

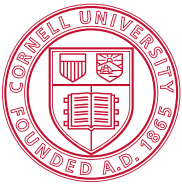
Respectfully Submitted,

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)



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

S.A. Resolution #29
Improving Academic Advising

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

Sponsors: Katie Zhu '18, Gabriel Kaufman '18

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

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

Whereas, according to the 2015 PULSE survey, 34% of overall students at Cornell were either 'Generally dissatisfied' or 'Very dissatisfied' with academic advising;¹

Whereas, overall student satisfaction with academic advising is 17% lower than Cornell's overall student satisfaction;²

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

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

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

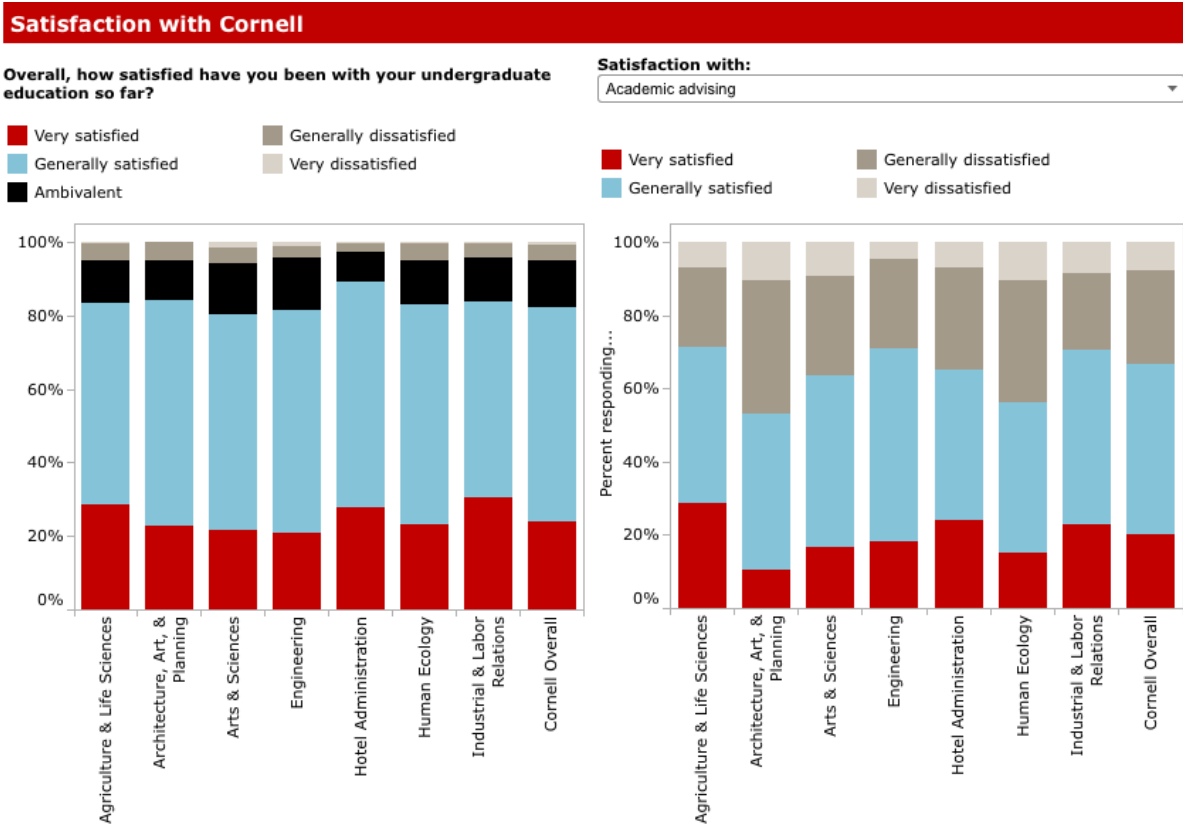
Respectfully Submitted,

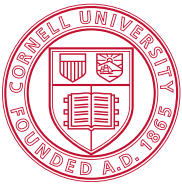
Katie Zhu '18
CALs Representative, Student Assembly

Gabriel Kaufman '18

¹ See Appendix A

² Ibid.





Cornell University Student Assembly

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

S.A. Resolution #30 Indigenous Peoples' Day

1
2
3
4 ABSTRACT: This legislation seeks to amend the Cornell Academic Calendar to recognize
5 Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday of October, which is commonly referred to as
6 Columbus Day.

7
8 Sponsored by: Maria Chak '18, Saim Chaudhary '17
9

10 **Whereas**, Columbus Day, a federal holiday in the United States of America, is celebrated on second
11 Monday of October every year to signify the landing of Christopher Columbus in what is now
12 known as and called the Americas
13

14 **Whereas**, millions of Native Americans were either killed or driven out of their native lands as a result
15 of the colonization that ensued after Columbus' voyage;
16

17 **Whereas**, according to reasonable estimates, 20 million indigenous people resided on the lands now
18 known as and called the Americas before Christopher Columbus discovered what is now called
19 the Americas;
20

21 **Whereas**, roughly 19 out of 20 indigenous people lost their lives during colonization,
22

23 **Whereas**, Cornell University and the City of Ithaca were established on the ruins of indigenous societies
24 that were brutally devastated throughout the course of colonization that ensued after Christopher
25 Columbus' arrival,
26

27 **Whereas**, the land that Cornell University sits upon was seized from the Cayuga Nation during a
28 scorched earth campaign commissioned by General George Washington in 1779,
29

30 **Whereas**, at Cornell, there is no formal acknowledgement of the violent colonialist history behind the
31 seizure of lands later granted to the university,
32

33 **Whereas**, at Cornell, there is no formal acknowledgement of Cornell's ongoing occupation of native
34 territories,
35

36 **Whereas**, Cornell University has an ethical obligation as a land-grant institution of higher
37 education to promote the public good and confront systems of oppression,
38

39 **Whereas**, the commemoration of Columbus Day ignores the loss of lives and territories of the
40 indigenous people, which was a direct result of the actions of colonizers
41

42 **Whereas**, Columbus Day memorializes the ethnic cleansing of the lands now called the Americas and
43 consecrates the arrival of colonizers whose arrival to lands known as the Americas marked the
44 liquidation of hundreds of indigenous cultures,
45

46 **Whereas**, Indigenous Peoples' Day claims space after an erasure of the violent land seizures, giving
47 voice to an often invisible and marginalized group of people.
48

49 **Whereas**, the celebration began in Berkeley, California, through the International Indian Treaty Council
50 and Denver, Colorado

51
52 **Whereas**, there are 9 cities in the lands now called the United States celebrating Indigenous Peoples’
53 Day, including: Albuquerque, New Mexico; Lawrence, KS; Portland, OR; St. Paul, MN; Bexar
54 County, TX; Anadarko, OK; Olympia, WA; Alpena, MI; and Seattle, Washington.

55
56 **Whereas**, the students of Cornell’s peer institutions, specifically Harvard and Brown, are advocating and
57 pushing for Indigenous Peoples’ Day

58
59 **Whereas**, institutional recognition and affirmation of Indigenous People’s Day at Cornell University will
60 aid the efforts to transfer spaces and voices to indigenous people as a step towards
61 acknowledging the university’s role in an invisible, large part of history, as well as empower
62 marginalized, local indigenous communities that still exist to this day

63
64 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the Student Assembly recommends that the Provost amends Cornell
65 University’s Academic Calendar to annually recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day on the day on
66 which Columbus Day is federally observed

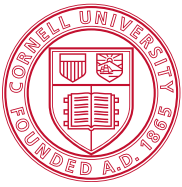
67
68 Respectfully Submitted,

69
70 Maria Chak ‘18
71 *Vice President of Outreach, Student Assembly*
72 *Co-President of Amnesty International*

73
74 Christopher Hanna ‘18
75 *Co-President of Amnesty International*
76 *Assistant Director of the Cornell Roosevelt Institute Center for Foreign Policy and International Affairs*

77
78 Saim Chaudhary ‘17
79 *Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion, Student Assembly*

80
81 *(Reviewed by: Diversity and Inclusion Committee, 11/15/15, 14-0-0)*



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;

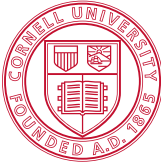
19
20 **Be it therefore resolved,** that the Student Assembly approve the procedures in the attached document
21 containing the Spring 2016 elections rules with modifications to the Fall 2015 rules indicated;

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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ARTICLE II. Direct Election of President and Executive Vice President

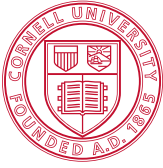
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Appendix A: Approved Student Assembly Committees

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**

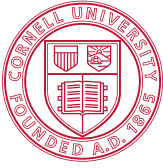
68 To be a candidate, a person must, ~~prior to the petitioning deadline~~ specified in the elections calendar:

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 election¹

- 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

¹ 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 circumstances²
- 92 2. Apply online to serve on at least one committee of the SA³

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

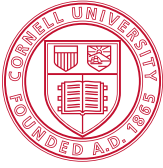
121

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.

² However, this rule does not apply to past SA representatives.

³ 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

132 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 before the petitioning~~
146 ~~deadline.~~

147

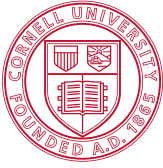
148 5. Promotional Materials

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-cards⁴, 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~~

⁴ 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:

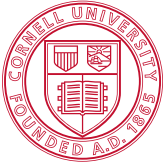
- 195 1. Must refrain from any form of individual or self-promoting publicity during the petitioning
196 period
- 197 2. Must not host constituency outreach events that are meant to fulfill an outreach requirement
198 from the deadline for elections materials through the last day of voting

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 Conduct⁵

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.~~

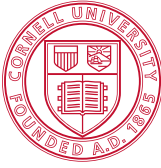
232

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

⁵ 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

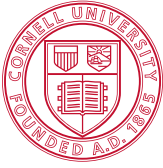
273 Candidates and supporters acting on their behalf:

- 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.~~

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

287 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**

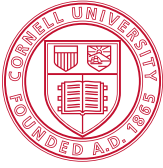
- 317 1. The Director of Elections, in consultation with the Office of the Assemblies, will draft the
318 elections calendar prior to the semester of the elections, and will be approved by the
319 Elections Committee at a meeting in the prior semester⁶
320 2. Consideration shall be given to any religious 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~~

⁶ 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.

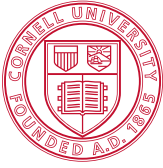
354

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~~



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 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

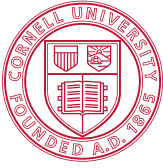
403 3. Format of Challenges

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.



Cornell University Student Assembly

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

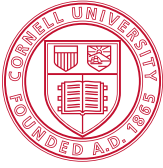
447

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. 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



Cornell University Student Assembly

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.

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481 **Appendix A**

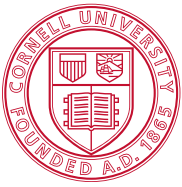
482 List of approved Student Assembly committees:

- 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)



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	12/3/2015
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

1 S.A. Resolution #33
2 Supporting the Establishment of a Veterans Resource Center
3

4 **ABSTRACT:** This resolution aims to increase on-campus support for veteran students through the
5 creation of a resource center, knowledgeable staff, and a safe space in order to ensure the effective
6 recruitment, retention, and transition of veteran students.

7
8 Sponsored by: Matt Indimine '18, Dustin Liu '19, Seamus Murphy '16, David Outlaw '17
9

10 **Whereas,** the Student Assembly is charged “with the authority and the responsibility to examine any
11 matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the student community.”
12

13 **Whereas,** the University counts more than 400 veterans among students, faculty, and staff.
14

15 **Whereas,** there is currently no resource center that is specific to the needs of veteran undergraduate
16 students, and as a result these students have reached out to veteran staff to mitigate
17 difficulties.
18

19 **Whereas,** veteran students have expressed concerns regarding the lack of support from the
20 administration in the recruitment, support, and transition of veterans to the university
21 setting.
22

23 **Whereas,** in 2013, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and
24 the U.S. Department of Defense set forth a voluntary initiative titled “8 Keys to Veterans’
25 Success” which details steps that postsecondary institutions can take to assist Veterans and
26 Service members in transitioning to higher education.
27

28 **Whereas,** as of the first of December 2015, 1,958 colleges and universities have committed to
29 supporting veterans as they pursue their education and employment goals.
30

31 **Whereas,** other comparable institutions such as Columbia University and Syracuse University house
32 resource centers and have support staff that support the recruitment and retention of
33 veterans through accessible staff members and resources.
34

35 **Whereas,** the Cornell Undergraduate Veterans Association has been established in efforts to
36 increase communication between veteran students and has indicated a lack of
37 acknowledgement of the challenges that they face.
38

39 **Whereas,** both the Student Assembly and the University actively tackle issues facing the diverse
40 communities on campus, yet fail to address the needs of the veteran community.
41

42 **Be it therefore resolved,** that the Student Assembly recommends that Cornell creates a Student
43 Veteran Resource Center to address the needs of our students that have served our country,
44 and serve as a safe space;
45

46 **Be it further resolved**, that this Student Veteran Resource Center be lead by a full-time paid staff
47 member who is a VA-certified official to better connect veteran students with University
48 resources, including but not limited to: Financial Aid, Student and Academic Services, Career
49 Services, and Gannett Health Services.

50
51 **Be it finally resolved**, the Student Assembly recommends the University to show a greater amount
52 of support for student veterans by recognizing the challenges that are faced by these
53 individuals.

54
55 Respectfully Submitted,

56
57 Matt Indimine '18

58 *Chair of Student Assembly Health and Wellness*

59 *Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly*

60

61 Dustin Liu, '19

62 *Freshman Representative at-Large, Student Assembly*

63

64 Seamus Murphy, '16

65 *Member, Cornell Undergraduate Veterans Association*

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67 David Outlaw, '17

68 *Member, Cornell Undergraduate Veterans Association*

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70

71 *(Reviewed by: Health and Wellness Committee, 12/1/2015)*

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Appendix A – 8 Key Steps

The "8 Keys to Veterans' Success" are steps that postsecondary institutions can take to assist Veterans and Service members in transitioning to higher education, completing their college programs, and obtaining career-ready skills.

Postsecondary institutions listed on this site have voluntarily affirmed their support for the 8 Keys. However, a listing here is not a representation or assurance by the U.S. Department of Education that an institution has implemented the 8 Keys or how well it has implemented them, and it does not constitute an endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education of these institutions or their policies or programs.

To help you determine whether a school meets your needs or interests, we recommend that you seek out additional information from the school or schools you are considering. You may also wish to seek additional information from current or former students, and other sources.

The 8 Keys

1. Create a culture of trust and connectedness across the campus community to promote well-being and success for veterans.
2. Ensure consistent and sustained support from campus leadership.
3. Implement an early alert system to ensure all veterans receive academic, career, and financial advice before challenges become overwhelming.
4. Coordinate and centralize campus efforts for all veterans, together with the creation of a designated space for them (even if limited in size).
5. Collaborate with local communities and organizations, including government agencies, to align and coordinate various services for veterans.
6. Utilize a uniform set of data tools to collect and track information on veterans, including demographics, retention, and degree completion.
7. Provide comprehensive professional development for faculty and staff on issues and challenges unique to veterans.
8. Develop systems that ensure sustainability of effective practices for veterans.

<http://www.ed.gov/veterans-and-military-families/8-keys-success-sites>

134 **Appendix B – Syracuse University Programming**

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VETERANS CAREER TRANSITION PROGRAM (VCTP)

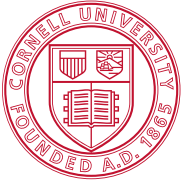
Transitioning from the military to careers in civilian business/industry, government and other careers often presents two challenges:

- How to translate education, experience, skills and training from a military to civilian environment to be a competitive candidate for recruitment and hiring?
- How to develop the soft skills necessary to succeed in a civilian corporate or government environment, particularly in business sectors not closely connected to the military?

The Veterans Career Transition Program, operated by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University, is delivered at no cost to post-9/11 veterans, their spouses, and spouses of active duty military. Paid for in entirety by a grant from JPMorgan Chase & Co, VCTP offers solutions to the above challenges, as well as connections to specific education and training programs, business/industry coalitions focused on veteran employment and information about national and state-level opportunities and benefits for veterans and their families. The Professional Skills Track and the Tech Track are offered through an advisor-led group admitted quarterly, and the Independent Study Track is available for start at any time. Each track is described below.

<http://vets.syr.edu/education/employment-programs/>

Originally Presented on:	12/03/15
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	Business of the day



Cornell University Student Assembly

S.A. Resolution #34 Student Activity Fee Allocation

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ABSTRACT: The compilation of all of the activity fee reports with a final recommendation for the Student Activity Fee for the 2016-2018 Byline Funding Cycle.

Sponsored by: Matthew Stefanko '16

Whereas, the Vice President of Finance is charged by Appendix A of the Student Assembly Charter with presenting the recommendations of the Appropriations Committee in the form of a legislative resolution.

Whereas, the recommendations contained herein represent the collective recommendations of the Appropriations Committee for each by-line funded organization.

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly endorses the Byline Funding allocations contained in the addendum and that these allocations be forwarded to President Garrett for approval.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Stefanko '16
Vice President for Finance, Student Assembly

(Reviewed by: Appropriations Committee, 11/30)



Student Activity Fee Allocation Proposal

2016-2018 Byline Funding Cycle

Organization	2014-2016	2016-2018		% Change
	Allocation	Request	Allocation	
ALANA	\$8.05	\$8.05	\$8.05	0.0%
Alternative Breaks	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.50	0.0%
Athletics and Physical Education	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$10.30	2.9%
Big Red Bikes	\$1.00	--	--	
Class Councils	\$2.70	\$3.50	\$2.20	-22.7%
Club Insurance	\$5.10	\$5.10	\$5.10	0.0%
Collegiate Readership Program	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	-20.0%
Community Partnership Funding Board	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	0.0%
Convocation	\$12.50	\$14.50	\$14.50	13.8%
Cornell Cinema	\$10.60	\$12.00	\$10.90	2.8%
Cornell Concert Commission	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	0.0%
CUTonight Funding Commission	\$9.50	\$9.50	\$8.55	-11.1%
Cornell University Program Board	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$7.50	0.0%
EARS	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.50	0.0%
ECO	--	\$0.76	\$0.76	
EMS	\$3.90	\$3.50	\$3.24	-20.4%
Haven	\$3.22	\$3.80	\$3.50	8.0%
International Students Union	\$2.34	\$3.34	\$3.10	24.5%
Multicultural Greek Letter Council	--	\$0.50	\$0.50	
Minds Matter	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	0.0%
North Campus Programming Board	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$0.00	
Orientation Steering Committee	\$8.72	\$10.22	\$9.98	12.6%
Student Assembly Finance Commission	\$89.12	\$94.00	\$94.00	5.2%
Senior Days	\$4.85	\$5.00	\$4.85	0.0%
Slope Day Programming Board	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	0.0%
Slope Media Group	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$0.85	-47.1%
Student Assembly	\$1.90	\$2.00	\$2.00	5.0%
Welcome Weekend	\$2.55	\$2.78	\$2.32	-9.9%
Outdoor Odyssey	\$1.24	\$1.25	\$1.25	0.8%
Women's Resource Center	\$3.46	\$4.00	\$4.00	13.5%
WSH Student Union Board	\$2.00	\$2.26	\$2.14	6.5%
Total Student Activity Fee	\$236.00	\$249.31	\$241.59	2.3%