

Cornell University University Assembly

Cornell University Assembly Agenda of the May 11, 2021 Meeting 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM Zoom

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohó:nò (Cayuga Nation)
- II. Approval of the Minutes ([5/4/21](#))
- III. Business of the Day
 - a. [UA R24 – Making the UA Charter Gender-neutral](#)
 - b. [UA R25 – Precluding Constituent Leaders from Serving on the UA Executive Board or as Chairs of Standing Committees](#)
 - i. [UA R25 addendum](#)
 - c. [UA R16 – Calling for a Veterans Support Center](#)
 - i. [UA R16 addendum](#)
- IV. New Business
 - a. [UA R27 – Urgent Need for the Hiring of a Military Service-Related CAPS Counselor](#)
 - b. [UA R28 – Transparency and Accountability into the University’s Process for Certifying Enrollment with the Department of Veteran Affairs](#)
 - i. [UA R28 addendum A](#)
 - ii. [UA R28 addendum B](#)
 - c. [UA R29 – Thanking Dean of Faculty Charles Van Loan for Outstanding Service to Shared Governance](#)
 - d. [UA R30 – Postponing the University Assembly Organizational Meeting Until All Constituent Groups Have Had the Opportunity to Fill their Seats](#)
- V. Adjournment

The Organizational Meeting of the University Assembly is scheduled to begin at the conclusion of this meeting unless otherwise changed.



Cornell University University Assembly

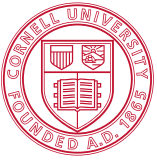
Cornell University Assembly

Minutes of the May 3rd, 2016 Meeting

4:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

- I. Call to Order
 - a. L. Kenney called the meeting to order at 4:32PM.
 - b. *Members Present:* V. Aymer, H. Depew, N. Danev, D. Dunham, J. Feit, B. Fortenberry, T. Fox, D. Hiner, A. Hong, L. Kenney, J. Pea, B. Sherr, L. Smith, C. Van Loan, J. Withers.
 - c. *Members Absent:* U. Chukwukere, C. Huang, R. Howarth, C. Levine, P. Thompson.
 - d. *Also Present:* M. Trauring, R. Platt.
- II. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda
 - a. B. Sherr proposed adding Resolution 25 to Business of the Day, item 3.
 - i. N. Danev seconded the motion.
 - ii. G. Giambattista made a point of order that there is a Late Addition section of the Agenda.
 - iii. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
 - b. J. Feit motions to add Resolution 26 to the Late Addition's section.
 - i. B. Sherr seconded the motion.
 - ii. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
- III. Land Acknowledgment of the Gayogohó'noꝝ (Cayuga Nation)
 - a. L. Kenney recited the Land Acknowledgment.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes (4 /20/21)
 - a. N. Danev motioned to approve the minutes.
 - i. D. Dunham seconded the motion
 - ii. The motion passed with unanimous consent
- V. Business of the Day
 - a. Resolution 23: Resolution on Bursar Billing for Certain Student Organization
 - i. M. Trauring presented the resolution. The termination of Bursar Billing is an issue for organizations such as fraternities, and they present the Cornell Card as a possible solution.
 - ii. L. Smith noted that you exceed the monetary cap on the CornellCard.
 - iii. R. Platt stated that they are going through CornellCard as it avoids many Title IV issues.
 - iv. B. Sherr asked what the alternative would be.
 - v. R. Platt stated that only the room rent would be collected by the Bursar.
 - vi. B. Fortenberry asked if the payment collection would extend outside of rent,



Cornell University University Assembly

- including dining and program fees.
- vii. R. Platt affirmed.
 - viii. B. Fortenberry asked if there was a shift in Title IV.
 - ix. R. Platt stated there were many issues raised for Ivy League schools under the Trump Administration.
 - x. N. Danev stated that they should keep the system as it is proposed in this resolution to shield students from pressures from outside companies. He stated that the 1% loss rate is incredible as opposed to the usual 15%.
 - xi. B. Fortenberry asked if the resolution is asking the University to reinterpret Title IV to apply it in this manner.
 - xii. R. Platt stated over the years, non-Title IV expenses have been placed on the Cornell Card. The plan would expand the threshold of the CornellCard to these charges plus the current cap and it would rewrite the contract of every student living in Cornell fraternity housing.
 - xiii. B. Fortenberry asked about conversations with University leadership and Greek life leadership.
 - xiv. M. Trauring stated that outsourcing these due collections will create a larger financial barrier and might create rifts within the community, ostracizing whoever must collect the dues.
 - xv. R. Platt stated that they would be happy to meet with the Administration to make their case. The issue stems from the fact there are some students who can pay but do not. He states that the financial aid and collection pieces are different. They are trying to keep the loss under the 1% rate.
 - xvi. B. Fortenberry motioned to amend lines 81 and 82 to “Be it finally resolved, the Administration reconsider the aforementioned Bursar change and provide an opportunity to cover meal plans, program fees and damage deposits.”
 - 1. L. Smith seconded the motion.
 - 2. N. Danev asked if R. Platt if this is a friendly amendment.
 - 3. R. Platt affirmed.
 - 4. The amendment passed with unanimous consent.
 - xvii. N. Danev stated that this is a question of protecting undergraduates from direct collections from Greek life national chapters.
 - xviii. R. Platt mentioned a company “GreekBill” that charges around 25% for collections.
 - xix. N. Danev motioned to vote on the resolution.
 - 1. B. Fortenberry seconded the motion.
 - 2. The resolution passed with 13-1-1.
- b. Resolution 24: Making the UA Charter Gender-neutral
- i. L. Kenney turned over chair-ship to T. Fox.
 - ii. L. Kenney stated that the resolution changes “he or she” to the gender-



Cornell University University Assembly

neutral “they” in the Charter.

- iii. L. Kenney fixed a grammatical error, adding “a” in “for a specific officer position.”
- iv. B. Fortenberry called to question.
- v. L. Kenney made a point of order, Charter changes must be publicized for at least one week.
- vi. B. Fortenberry motioned to table Resolution 24
 1. N. Danev seconded the motion.
 2. The resolution was **tabled** with unanimous consent.

VI. Assembly Reports

a. Student Assembly

- i. L. Smith stated that they confirmed the new Student Advocate Office. Additionally, they heard the announcement for Slope day performers. Two resolutions were tabled, and one to be discussed later that day, mostly surrounding infrastructure.

b. Graduate and Professional Student Assembly

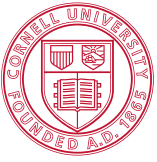
- i. D. Dunham stated that they elected a new GPSA president, James Roe, and executive vice president, Isabella Harnick. They also filled internal positions and heard from the Dean of the Graduate school on data for TA-ships and funding levels. They also re-elected Nickola Danev and elected Ian Akisoglu. The GPSA has two vacant UA representative seats that need to be filled. They also introduced a resolution that introduced standing rules and a resolution to allow a large amount of GPSA funds for pandemic relief.

c. Employee Assembly

- i. H. Depew stated that they were to have their organizational meeting tomorrow with Mary Opperman to present on fall workplace principles and remote working. They will be discussing the finance form in June. The EA will also discuss awards.

d. Faculty Senate

- i. C. Van Loan reported that Eve De Rosa will be the next Dean of Faculty. They will be the first women, person of color, and from the College of Human Ecology to serve in this role. The vote on the Center for Racial Justice and Equitable Futures passed through the Senate by a large margin. They are having discussions on seven alternatives to the faculty and student parts of that initiative.
- ii. D. Dunham asked how one would manage seven proposals that may be contradictory.



Cornell University University Assembly

- iii. C. Van Loan stated that it was a result of the broadening diversity of ideas within the body and a desire not to pitting one against another through the constraint of one resolution.

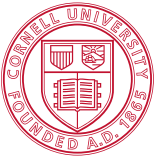
VII. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. L. Kenney stated that they are entertaining a resolution.
- b. Codes and Judicial Committee
 - i. B. Fortenberry stated that they had R. Lombardi visit. They are still garnering responses from those who might extend their term in the UHRB. The OJA may hear cases over the summer. Next week, they will hear of the differences between the current Code of Conduct and the new Student Code of Conduct.
- c. Campus Welfare Committee
 - i. B. Sherr stated that the Ad-Hoc Committee of Veterans' Affairs met.
 - ii. L. Kenney stated that the meeting was an open space to workshop ideas. The resolutions touch veteran's resources, CAPS counselors, and certifying enrollment.
- d. Campus Committee on Infrastructure, Technology, and the Environment
 - i. J. Feit stated that they used a virtual voting system and passed unanimously one petition to renew housing amenities. Another resolution, Tree-per-graduate was referred to the committee however there were several serious legal issues regarding the resolution so there will be a vote to table the resolution indefinitely.

VIII. Liaison Reports

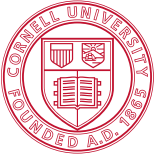
IX. Late Additions to the Agenda

- a. Resolution 25: Precluding Constituent Leaders from Serving on the UA Executive Board or as Chairs of Standing Committees
 - i. L. Kenney presented the resolution. They asserted serving on the University Assembly Executive Board or as Chair of a University Assembly Standing Committee may force constituent leaders to step outside of their campus roles for neutral consideration of topics.
 - ii. D. Dunham asserted that the resolution is not advisable as it restricts full members from serving in a leadership position. Additionally, it implies that one is not capable of being impartial. They do not understand why the leadership must be treated differently.
 - iii. L. Kenney stated that having one person to serve in two positions may go against shared governance.
 - iv. B. Sherr motioned to extend to 6:15pm.



Cornell University University Assembly

1. N. Danev seconded the motion.
2. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
- v. N. Danev stated that for the sake of representation of differing opinions it is important that different people assume these roles.
- vi. D. Dunham stated that the president is not the only person who is supposed to represent their constituents' groups in the U.A.
- vii. L. Kenney recounted a case in which someone served as both.
- viii. B. Fortenberry stated that the case is a misconduct situation that could happen whether they were serving as the president or a member.
- ix. B. Sherr stated that they believe it is an inherent conflict of interest.
- x. J. Feit stated that this resolution may even garner more interest.
- xi. B. Sherr motioned to table the resolution.
 1. J. Feit seconded the motion
 2. L. Kenney proposed a roll-call vote.
 - a. V. Aymer – yes.
 - b. H. Depew – yes.
 - c. N. Danev – yes.
 - d. D. Dunham – no.
 - e. J. Feit – yes.
 - f. B. Fortenberry – yes.
 - g. T. Fox – yes.
 - h. D. Hiner – yes.
 - i. A. Hong – yes.
 - j. J. Pea – yes.
 - k. B. Sherr – yes.
 - l. L. Smith – yes.
 - m. C. Van Loan – yes.
 - n. J. Withers – yes.
 - o. L. Kenney – abstain.
 3. The resolution was **tabled** with a vote of 13-1-1.
- xii. B. Fortenberry motioned to extend the meeting for five minutes
 1. J. Feit seconded the motion.
 2. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
- b. Resolution 26: Petition to Renew Housing Amenities
 - i. L. Kenney reclaimed chair-ship.
 - ii. J. Feit presented the resolution.
 - iii. B. Fortenberry asked if they had taken into account the North Campus renovations to both new and old buildings.

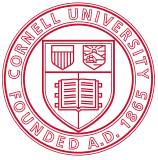


Cornell University
University Assembly

- iv. J. Feit stated that this was aimed to create a precedence for the future in ensuring that all appliances are up to date.
- v. N. Danev motioned to vote on the resolution.
 1. D. Dunham seconded the motion.
 2. N. Danev retracted his motion.
- vi. N. Danev motioned to move the resolution to Business of the Day
 1. N. Danev seconded the motion.
 2. The motion passed with unanimous consent.
- vii. N. Danev motioned to vote on Resolution 26.
 1. D. Dunham seconded the motion.
 2. L. Kenney amended to a roll call vote.
 - a. B. Fortenberry – abstain.
 - b. D. Dunham – yes.
 - c. T. Fox – yes.
 - d. David Hiner – yes.
 - e. H. Depew – abstain.
 - f. J. Feit – yes.
 - g. J. Pea – yes.
 - h. J. Withers – abstain.
 - i. J. Smith – yes.
 - j. N. Danev – yes.
 - k. L. Kenney – abstain.
 3. The resolution passed with 7-0-4.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kassandra Jordan
Clerk of the Assembly



Cornell University University Assembly

APPENDIX A

Chat Transcript

00:12:30 UA - Bennett Sherr (He/Him): Do we have quorum/should we do roll first?

00:17:11 UA - Jeff Pea: Sorry for missing the roll call, had to step away a bit but I am present!

00:43:06 UA - Jessica Withers (she/her): Thanks! So sorry to be late.

00:44:16 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): No worries, welcome Jessica! Glad you will be here for all resolutions today. We added R25 and R26 as late additions to the agenda (they were emailed and can be found on Box as well)

00:44:43 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): Additionally, I confirmed that next week will be our final meeting. And then I will adjourn to open a new session for elections

00:49:06 UA - Brandon Fortenberry (He/Him):provide an opportunity to cover meal plans, program fees and damage deposits.

00:51:53 UA - Bennett Sherr (He/Him): I worry about continuing a system that allows for students not to enter because its a high costs (that not all students can afford even if financial aid is available) and potentially have their diploma withheld if they are unable to add this expense. Worse rates of collection may raise the price of dues, but by allowing students not to pay in or risk withholding their diploma, its eliminating a potential financial barrier to entry. Idk if I buy the earlier point that all of or most of the people not paying dues can afford it and simply don't want to pay.

01:02:41 UA - Bennett Sherr (He/Him): We can't

01:06:48 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): Ian Akisoglu - rising 3rd year law student, veteran, and transfer student

01:07:13 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): And welcome back Nik for a 2-year term

01:07:30 UA - Nikola Danev: Thank you, Logan!

01:09:53 UA - Nikola Danev: who is performing?

01:10:30 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): <https://slopeday.cornell.edu/>

01:10:30 UA - Lucas Smith: <https://slopeday.cornell.edu/>

01:11:27 UA - Brandon Fortenberry (He/Him):Slope Day is the thing that made me know when I got old because at a certain point, I no longer knew ANY of the performers

01:12:01 UA - Bennett Sherr (He/Him): Don't feel too bad Brandon, I don't know anyone of them either #oldsouls

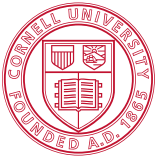
01:12:46 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): With you both on not knowing any of the artists

01:36:42 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): I would like to answer to this

01:36:48 UA - Nikola Danev: ok

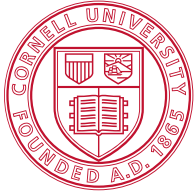
01:37:37 UA - Brandon Fortenberry (He/Him):I believe we need a motion to extend, as we are now at 6:00pm

01:38:33 UA - Bennett Sherr (He/Him): I second everything Logan said



Cornell University University Assembly

- 01:39:11 UA - Brandon Fortenberry (He/Him): sorry, that was a robocall not on mute that I meant to send to v-mail
- 01:39:13 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): Also any of the four individuals elected/appointed, they could run
- 01:42:25 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): Which has happened multiple times throughout the years
- 01:43:07 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): I would like to point out all four chairs are not presidents/chairs of constituent groups
- 01:46:25 UA Chair - Logan Kenney (she, her): It is near impossible to wear two hats properly
- 01:46:33 UA - Jacob Feit: ^
- 01:50:47 UA - Bennett Sherr (He/Him): I have to go, by everyone!
- 01:51:19 UA - Valerie Aymer: I need to leave, see you all next week.
- 01:53:46 Robert Platt: I believe that each project has a focus group that offers input into amenities.
- 01:54:01 UA - Jacob Feit: I believe so
- 01:59:42 Robert Platt: It is a majority of those voting.
- 02:00:34 UA - Jacob Feit: Thank you all!



Cornell University
University Assembly

U.A. Resolution #24

Making the UA Charter Gender-neutral

[05/04/2021]

1 **Sponsored by: Logan Kenney, GPSA**

2

3 **Whereas**, the Charter of the University Assembly uses the terms “he” and “she;” and

4

5 **Whereas**, section 5.3(c), states: If, after the floor is closed for nominations for specific officer
6 position, only one candidate is nominated to be an officer, he or she will be seated
7 immediately, unless a member of the Assembly opposes the nomination; and

8

9 **Whereas**, many individuals in the Cornell community do not identify with these terms; and

10

11 **Whereas**, this item affects members of the Cornell community and falls within the purview of
12 the University Assembly.

13

14 **Be it therefore resolved**, section 5.3(c) of the University Charter will now read: If, after the
15 floor is closed for nominations for a specific officer position, only one candidate is
16 nominated to be an officer, they will be seated immediately, unless a member of the
17 Assembly opposes the nomination; and

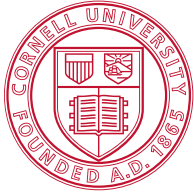
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19 **Resolved**, the University Assembly asks the Administration to consider this change to the
20 University Assembly Charter; and

21

22 **Be it finally resolved**, the University Assembly replace all language pertaining to gender with
23 gender-neutral language.

No signature block is present until the resolution has been disposed of by the Assembly (Passed, Failed, Withdrawn, etc.) Then a block with the certifying member (customarily Chair/Vice-Chair) verifying the authenticity and vote tally of the resolution.



Cornell University
University Assembly

U.A. Resolution #25

**Precluding Constituent Leaders from Serving on the UA
Executive Board or as Chairs of Standing Committees**

[05/04/2021]

1 **Sponsored by:** Logan Kenney, GPSA; Nikola Danev, GPSA; Jacob Feit; Undergraduate
2 **Representative;** Bennett Sherr, Undergraduate Representative

3
4 **Whereas,** serving on the University Assembly Executive Board or as Chair of a University
5 Assembly Standing Committee may force constituent leaders to step outside of their
6 campus roles for neutral consideration of topics; and

7
8 **Whereas,** the Student Assembly President, Graduate & Professional Student Assembly
9 President, Employee Assembly Chair, and Dean of Faculty all serve in positions in which
10 they represent their constituent groups to the University Assembly and the Cornell
11 Community at-large; and

12
13 **Whereas,** constituent leaders have inherent conflicts of interest in serving on the executive board
14 of more than one constituent group; and

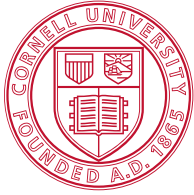
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16 **Whereas,** this conflict extends to leadership of the University Assembly Standing Committees;
17 and

18
19 **Whereas,** exclusionary clauses already exist within the University Assembly Charter; and

20
21 **Whereas,** section 4.2 of the University Assembly Charter excludes voting members of the
22 University Assembly from serving as a member of the Board of Trustees of the
23 University; and

24
25 **Whereas,** this item affects members of the Cornell community and falls within the purview of
26 the University Assembly.

27
28 **Be it therefore resolved,** section 4.2 of the University Assembly Charter will now read: A
29 voting member of the Assembly may not serve concurrently as a member of the Board of
30 Trustees of the University nor may the President or Chair of one of the four Cornell
31 constituent bodies serve as a member of the University Assembly Executive Board or as
32 Chair of a University Assembly Standing Committee; and

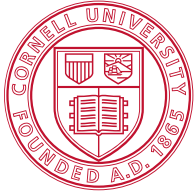


Cornell University University Assembly

34 **Resolved**, the University Assembly asks the Administration to consider this change to the
35 University Assembly Charter; and

36
37 **Be it finally resolved**, the University Assembly declare Presidents and Chairs of the Student
38 Assembly, Graduate & Professional Student Assembly, Employee Assembly, and Faculty
39 Senate be precluded from holding a position on the University Assembly Executive
40 Board or as Chair of a University Assembly Standing Committee due to the inherent
41 conflict of interest that exists because of their roles as constituent group leaders.

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Cornell University
University Assembly

U.A. Resolution # 25 Addendum

**Strengthening Reporting Requirements of University
Assembly Standing Committees**

May 11th, 2021

1 **Sponsored by: David Dunham, President, Graduate & Professional Student Assembly**

2
3 **Whereas**, standing committee chairpersons have the authority to conduct business on behalf of
4 the University Assembly, including making official statements on behalf of the assembly
5 and the committee; and
6

7 **Whereas**, while the chairperson has the authority to set the committee’s agenda, the assembly
8 has the authority to exercise full oversight over the committee’s actions; and
9

10 **Whereas**, without the assembly oversight, the chairperson has the power, but not the right, to
11 take actions contrary to the will of the assembly and the committee’s members; and
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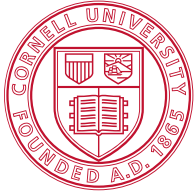
13 **Whereas**, the University Assembly has regularly allocated time in its agenda for oral updates
14 from committee chairpersons, whereupon the assembly can examine the committee’s
15 agenda and exercise its oversight powers; and
16

17 **Whereas**, the parliamentary authority states that “[a]ll committee reports should be submitted in
18 writing” [RONR 51:23] and that “[i]f a written committee report is of considerable
19 importance, it should be signed by all the members concurring. Otherwise, the committee
20 can authorize its chairman to sign the report alone, in which case he adds the word
21 *Chairman* after his signature. By so doing, the committee chairman certifies that the
22 report has been adopted by the committee...” [RONR 51:27]; and
23

24 **Whereas**, the lack of a *written* report enables the chairperson to exercise powers without the
25 consent of the committee; and the assembly would lack the written documentation as
26 evidence of the chairperson’s compliance with the assembly’s directions;
27

28 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the University Assembly Bylaws is amended to add the following
29 §3.2.1(G) after line 111 (“Each standing committee must...”):
30

31 G. submit written committee reports for inclusion on the agenda at each regular
32 assembly meeting.



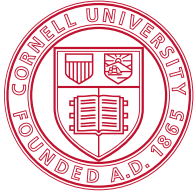
Cornell University University Assembly

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Be it further resolved, that the University Assembly Bylaws is amended to add the following §3.3.1(C) after line 145 (“Mandatory Procedures”):

- C. issue written reports at each regular meeting of the University Assembly, which must include all relevant documentation pertaining to official actions of the committee, including:
- 1) the minutes of committee meetings,
 - 2) written correspondence of members acting in their capacity as representatives of the committee,
 - 3) reports issued by the committee to any external entity, and
 - 4) reports received by the committee from any external entity.

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U.A. Resolution #16

Calling for a Veterans Support Center

[03/16/2021; 05/10/2021]

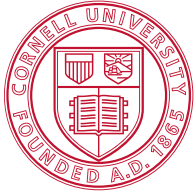
1 **Sponsored by:** Logan Kenney, Graduate & Professional Student Representative, ex-officio
2 member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs (within the Campus Welfare
3 Committee); Christopher Austin '22 JD, Vice President, Cornell Law Veterans
4 Association; Michael Caprietta, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs;
5 Christopher Denkovic '20 SHA; Jacob Feit, Undergraduate Student Representative,
6 member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs; Mary Mildred Fisk, Student
7 Veteran Advisor & Program Manager; Mitchell Hoy, Veteran Association Liaison to the
8 Cornell University Student Assembly, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran
9 Affairs; Dakota Johnson '22 SHA, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs;
10 Jeramy Kruser, Staff Veteran and Communications Director for Team RWB Ithaca;
11 Aubrey Lang, Disability Colleague Network Group co-chair & Team Timmy founder;
12 Philip Kay; Ryan Kokell '17 SHA; Rachelle LaCroix, PhD Candidate, CALS; Mark
13 Minton; Roland Molina, President, Cornell Undergraduate Veterans Association; Dennis
14 Morrisroe '21 JD/MBA; Joseph Mullen '24, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran
15 Affairs; Seamus Murphy '17 CALS, Co-Founder of the Cornell Undergraduate Veterans
16 Association and Co-Founder and Secretary of the Cornell Military Network; Trent
17 Nachbar '22 JD/MBA, President, Cornell Law Veterans Association; Anthony Nash '22
18 AAP; Patrick O'Neil '19 CALS; David Outlaw '17 SHA, Co-Founder of the Cornell
19 Undergraduate Veterans Association; Luke Opyd '18 ILR; Denesha Record; Paul Rojas
20 '20 Dyson; Michael Sanchez; Patrick Shaffer '22 MBA

21
22 **Abstract:** This resolution aims to increase on-campus support for veteran students, faculty, and
23 staff through the creation of a support center for members of the Cornell University community
24 who have served, plan on serving, or are affiliated with the Armed Forces of the United States of
25 America.

26
27 **Whereas,** there is currently no support center that is specific to the needs of veteran students,
28 faculty, and staff and as a result these Cornellians have reached out University Assembly;
29 and

30
31 **Whereas,** members of the Cornell veteran community have been asking for a service center for
32 approximately one decade; and

33
34 **Whereas,** the Provost received a proposal for a “Veterans and Military Services Center”



Cornell University University Assembly

35 approximately one year ago; and

36

37 **Whereas**, veterans of the Armed Forces risked their lives and livelihoods serving the United
38 States, thus maintaining a global trading system that not only protects University assets
39 and investments, but defends the values of democracy and promotes the security
40 necessary for the sustainability of our community; and

41

42 **Whereas**, Cornell University counts more than 500 veterans among students, faculty, and staff;
43 and

44

45 **Whereas**, Cornell University, a private and land-grant research institution, seeks to promote an
46 inclusive campus environment; and

47

48 **Whereas**, veterans have unique needs in recruitment, admission, financial aid, and support that
49 are unlike those of civilian students; and

50

51 **Whereas**, veteran resource centers are common-place in many universities; and

52

53 **Whereas**, other comparable institutions such as Brown University and Syracuse University
54 house veteran resource centers and have support staff that support the recruitment,
55 empowerment, and transition of veterans through accessible staff members and resources;
56 and

57

58 **Whereas**, in 2013, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,
59 and the U.S. Department of Defense set forth a voluntary initiative titled “8 Keys to
60 Veterans’ Success” which details steps that postsecondary institutions can take to assist
61 Veterans and Servicemembers in transitioning to higher education, including “Coordinate
62 and centralize campus efforts for all veterans, together with the creation of a designated
63 space for them;” and

64

65 **Whereas**, as of the first of May 2021, at least 2,323 colleges and universities have committed to
66 supporting veterans as they pursue their education and employment goals; and

67

68 **Whereas**, we recognize the University’s commitment to increasing the number of veterans
69 admitted each admission cycle; and

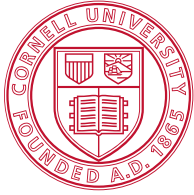
70

71 **Whereas**, we recognize more space is going to become available on the Ithaca Cornell Campus
72 due to the restructuring of workplace norms.

73

74 **Be it therefore resolved**, Cornell University Administration must fully recognize and support
75 the unique needs of the Cornell veteran community in order to be inclusive; and

76



Cornell University University Assembly

77 **Resolved**, a centralized location on the Ithaca Cornell Campus be repurposed as a Veterans
78 Resource and Support Center; and

79
80 **Resolved**, this Center will provide Cornell's veteran community with a wide array of specifically
81 tailored services in order to address veterans' unique needs, promoting an increasingly
82 equitable University environment by which all members have greater access to reach
83 their full academic, professional, and personal potential(s); and

84
85 **Be it finally resolved**, the University Assembly asks the Administration to support a veteran
86 support center and assist in establishing a committee in furtherance of this.

No signature block is present until the resolution has been disposed of by the Assembly (Passed, Failed, Withdrawn, etc.) Then a block with the certifying member (customarily Chair/Vice-Chair) verifying the authenticity and vote tally of the resolution.

8 Keys to Veterans' Success Sites

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.

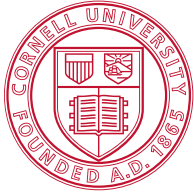
Postsecondary institutions listed on this site have voluntarily affirmed their support for the 8 Keys. However, a listing here is not a representation or assurance by the U.S. Department of Education that an institution has implemented the 8 Keys or how well it has implemented them, and it does not constitute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

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



U.A. Resolution #27

**Urgent Need for the Hiring of a Military Service-Related
CAPS Counselor**

[05/09/2021]

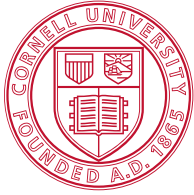
1 **Sponsored by: Logan Kenney, Graduate & Professional Student Representative, ex-officio**
2 **member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs (within the Campus Welfare**
3 **Committee); Christopher Austin '22 JD, Vice President, Cornell Law Veterans**
4 **Association; Michael Caprietta, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs;**
5 **Christopher Denkovic '20 SHA; Jacob Feit, Undergraduate Student Representative,**
6 **member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs; Mary Mildred Fisk, Student**
7 **Veteran Advisor & Program Manager; Mitchell Hoy, Veteran Association Liaison to the**
8 **Cornell University Student Assembly, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran**
9 **Affairs; Dakota Johnson '22 SHA, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs;**
10 **Jeramy Kruser, Staff Veteran and Communications Director for Team RWB Ithaca;**
11 **Aubrey Lang, Disability Colleague Network Group co-chair & Team Timmy founder;**
12 **Philip Kay; Ryan Kokell '17 SHA; Rachele LaCroix, PhD Candidate, CALS; Mark**
13 **Minton; Roland Molina, President, Cornell Undergraduate Veterans Association; Dennis**
14 **Morrisroe '21 JD/MBA; Joseph Mullen '24, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran**
15 **Affairs; Seamus Murphy '17 CALS, Co-Founder of the Cornell Undergraduate Veterans**
16 **Association and Co-Founder and Secretary of the Cornell Military Network; Trent**
17 **Nachbar '22 JD/MBA, President, Cornell Law Veterans Association; Anthony Nash '22**
18 **AAP; Patrick O'Neil '19 CALS; David Outlaw '17 SHA, Co-Founder of the Cornell**
19 **Undergraduate Veterans Association; Luke Opyd '18 ILR; Denesha Record; Paul Rojas**
20 **'20 Dyson; Michael Sanchez; Patrick Shaffer '22 MBA**

21
22 **Whereas,** veterans and military-affiliated individuals experience unique mental health issues that
23 are often different from that of civilian individuals; and

24
25 **Whereas,** the average rate of veteran suicides is nearly twice that of civilians, approximately 22
26 per day; and

27
28 **Whereas,** Cornell University appears to remain the Ivy League institution with the largest
29 number of suicides per year; and

30
31 **Whereas,** Cornell University has made great strides in hiring more CAPS counselors; but has
32 not hired a veteran or military-trained counselor; and
33



Cornell University University Assembly

34 **Whereas**, military sexual trauma (MST) is estimated to occur to 1 in 4 women, and 1 in 100 men
35 in the armed forces, one common cause of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
36 symptoms; and
37

38 **Whereas**, PTSD is a mental health issue developed after experiencing or witnessing a life-
39 threatening event or trauma, often leaving the veteran managing severe anxiety among
40 other symptoms; and
41

42 **Whereas**, due to the nature of military service, a disproportionate number of veterans experience
43 traumatic brain injury (TBI), a disruption in the normal function of the brain caused by a
44 bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or penetrating head injury; and
45

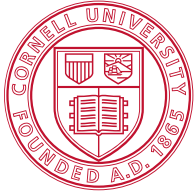
46 **Whereas**, transitioning from military-service back into the civilian world, especially to
47 traditional academia, is a unique and often difficult experience; and
48

49 **Whereas**, this issue falls within the purview of the Campus Welfare Committee under the
50 Bylaws of the University Assembly.
51

52 **Be it therefore resolved**, the University Assembly calls on the Administration to support the
53 hiring of a CAPS counselor who is trained in military service-related experiences and
54 trauma; and
55

56 **Be it finally resolved**, the University Assembly calls on the Administration to direct Cornell
57 Health to hire a counselor (preferably a veteran themselves) who can best address the
58 unique issues veterans and military-affiliated individuals experience.

No signature block is present until the resolution has been disposed of by the Assembly (Passed, Failed, Withdrawn, etc.) Then a block with the certifying member (customarily Chair/Vice-Chair) verifying the authenticity and vote tally of the resolution.



U.A. Resolution #28

**Transparency and Accountability into the University’s
Process for Certifying Enrollment with the Department
of Veteran Affairs**

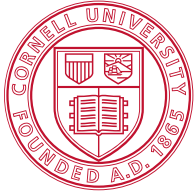
[05/10/2021]

1 **Sponsored by:** Seamus Murphy ’17 CALS, Co-Founder of the Cornell Undergraduate
2 Veterans Association and Co-Founder and Secretary of the Cornell Military Network;
3 Christopher Austin ’22 JD, Vice President, Cornell Law Veterans Association; Michael
4 Caprietta, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs (within the Campus
5 Welfare Committee); Christopher Denkovic ’20 SHA; Jacob Feit, Undergraduate Student
6 Representative, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs; Mitchell Hoy,
7 Veteran Association Liaison to the Cornell University Student Assembly, member of the
8 Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs; Dakota Johnson ’22 SHA, member of the Ad Hoc
9 Committee on Veteran Affairs; Jeramy Kruser, Staff Veteran and Communications
10 Director for Team RWB Ithaca; Aubrey Lang, Disability Colleague Network Group co-
11 chair & Team Timmy founder; Philip Kay; Logan Kenney, Graduate & Professional
12 Student Representative, ex-officio member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs;
13 Ryan Kokell ’17 SHA; Rachele LaCroix, PhD Candidate, CALS; Mark Minton; Roland
14 Molina, President, Cornell Undergraduate Veterans Association; Dennis Morrisroe ’21
15 JD/MBA; Joseph Mullen ’24, member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Veteran Affairs; Trent
16 Nachbar ’22 JD/MBA, President, Cornell Law Veterans Association; Anthony Nash ’22
17 AAP; Patrick O’Neil ’19 CALS; David Outlaw ’17 SHA, Co-Founder of the Cornell
18 Undergraduate Veterans Association; Luke Opyd ’18 ILR; Denesha Record; Paul Rojas
19 ’20 Dyson; Michael Sanchez; Patrick Shaffer ’22 MBA

20
21 **Abstract:** This resolution calls for the University to define and amend its processes and
22 procedure for the certification of enrollment for student-veterans with the Department of
23 Veterans Affairs (V.A.) to ensure transparency and accountability in the process. Additionally,
24 we recommend the Cornell University affirm support for the 8 Keys to Veterans’ Success and
25 become a signatory to the Principles of Excellence Program.

26
27 **Whereas,** the absence of clearly defined processes and procedures for the certification of
28 enrollment for student-veterans has led to considerable delays in receiving V.A. benefits;
29 and

30
31 **Whereas,** the delay in receiving benefits puts undue hardship on student-veterans as they
32 continue their studies; and



Cornell University University Assembly

33
34 **Whereas**, a Cornell University staff member is drafting procedures, but that information does
35 not appear to be accessible to the campus community yet; and
36

37 **Whereas**, this issue falls within the purview of the Campus Welfare Committee under the
38 Bylaws of the University Assembly.
39

40 **Be it therefore resolved**, the University Assembly calls on the Administration to support
41 transparency and accountability into the University's process for certifying enrollment
42 with the Department of Veteran Affairs (V.A.) and visibility into the benefits available
43 for student veterans; and
44

45 **Resolved**, we recommend that student veterans be informed, after accepting their offer to attend
46 Cornell University, of the articles related to Cornell's process and procedures for V.A.
47 funding; and
48

49 **Resolved**, we recommend that Cornell University create and agree to disseminate regularly (at
50 least yearly) a consolidated list of V.A. benefits and resources for student veterans; and
51

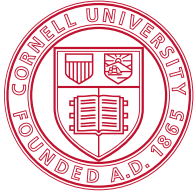
52 **Resolved**, we recommend that returning student veterans be informed again of this information
53 before the beginning of each academic year or relevant semester; and
54

55 **Resolved**, we recommend that Cornell University prioritize the processing of student veteran
56 forms to ensure there is no delay and that they are received on time; and
57

58 **Resolved**, in keeping with the United States Department of Veteran Affairs School Certifying
59 Official Handbook, which states for Chapter 33 Post 9/11 G.I. Bill, "Schools should
60 submit certifications as early as possible, in order to ensure that students receive their
61 benefit payments in a timely manner," the University Assembly, in agreement with the
62 resolution sponsors, suggests that Cornell University submit these forms at least 90 days
63 prior to the start of the relevant semester for returning student veterans and at least 30
64 days prior to the beginning of the relevant semester for newly enrolled student veterans;
65 and
66

67 **Resolved**, we recommend that Cornell University affirm support for the 8 Keys to Veterans'
68 Success and become a signatory to the Principles of Excellence program.
69

70 **Be it finally resolved**, the University Assembly calls on the Administration to create the
71 appropriate measures for accountability for best ensuring Cornell students receive their
72 benefits on time and are aware of all opportunities available.



Cornell University University Assembly

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Chapter 30, 32, 35, and 1606 Enrollment Certifications

Certifications can be submitted 120 days before the term begins, but must be submitted within 30 days of the beginning of the term, unless training time is less than ½-time, the student is on active duty, or accelerated payment is requested. If a student is less than ½-time, on active duty, or certified for accelerated payment the Certification must be submitted on or after the first day of class and tuition and fees must be reported.

Chapter 33 Enrollment Certifications

Schools should submit certifications as early as possible in order to ensure that students receive their benefit payments in a timely manner, but certifications must be submitted within 30 days of the beginning of the term. An effective way to minimize tuition and fees debts is for schools to submit an enrollment certification with \$0.00, and then amend the tuition and fees after the end of the drop-add period.

- If Tuition and Fees are known, submit the actual net cost for in-state tuition and fees for each term
- If Tuition and Fees are unknown, submit the term dates, credits and enter \$0.00 for these charges. This allows VA to begin paying the Monthly Housing Allowance on time

Once Tuition and Fees are determined (less any applicable waivers) submit an amended enrollment certification of the actual net costs if the number of credit hours you certified has not changed.

Enrollment Changes under Post 9/11 after Tuition and Fees are Reported

- If the enrollment change occurs prior to the first day of the term, an adjustment should be submitted with the new hours and the associated Tuition and Fees
- If the enrollment change occurs on or after the first day of the term, an amendment should be submitted to report the tuition and fees for the original number of hours the student began the enrollment period with on the first day of the term

The next day, an adjustment should be submitted with the new hours and the tuition and fees associated with the new hours.

See Certifying Tuition and Fees for specific instructions for submitting Tuition and Fees.

https://www.knowva.ebenefits.va.gov/system/templates/selfservice/va_ssnew/help/customer/locale/en-US/portal/55440000001018/content/554400000149088/School-Certifying-Official-Handbook-On-line

8 Keys to Veterans' Success

Over the next several years, the number of service members transitioning from military life to civilian life (as veterans) is expected to increase significantly. A growing number of these veterans will be enrolling at America's colleges and universities as they seek to become career-ready and improve their future prospects for employment. For these veterans, access to higher education is important, but it is not enough; we must help our veterans obtain a degree, certificate, or license. These credentials are valued by employers and serve as a key milestone to future career success.

America's colleges and universities play a critical role in ensuring that veterans have access to high-quality educational experiences and postsecondary opportunities. The 8 Keys to Veterans' Success (8 Keys) highlight specific ways that colleges and universities can support veterans as they pursue their education and employment goals.

Background

The Obama Administration has made veteran educational success a priority. As such, Executive Order 13607, Establishing Principles of Excellence for Educational Institutions Serving Service Members, Veterans, Spouses, and Other Family Members, calls for agencies to work together to ensure that educational institutions effectively serve those who have served our nation. Building on these collaborative efforts, the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Education and Defense have been working collaboratively to identify concrete strategies to aid our veterans and service members in reaching their educational and training goals. A session was held where over 100 participants discussed various approaches that could be scaled and replicated to foster success on campus. This gathering brought together a wide range of stakeholders: government agencies; non-profit organizations, including foundations and veteran service organizations; and, importantly, veterans who had recently completed college degrees in a range of disciplines. During the session and subsequent efforts, we have gleaned – and continue to seek more examples – of many best practices and strategies. From this convening came the 8 Keys.

8 Keys to Veterans' Success

By affirming support for the 8 Keys to Veterans' Success, your institution is expressing its commitment to implement the promising practices outlined in the 8 Keys, as follows:

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.

The Principles of Excellence

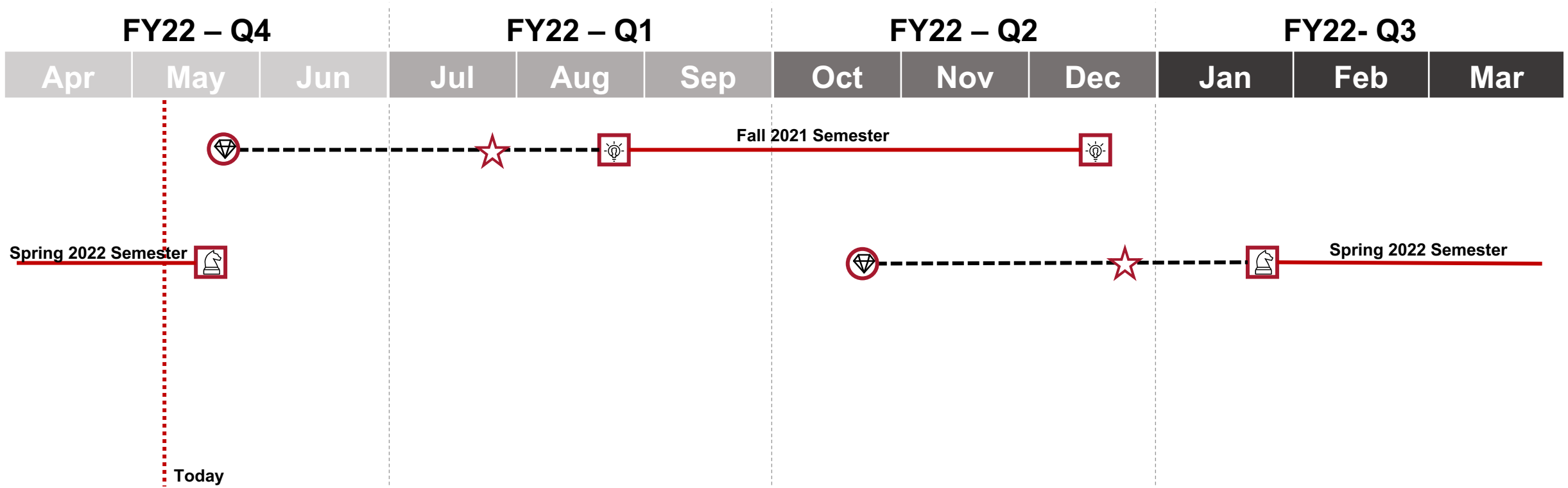
We recommend that your school also become a signatory to the Principles of Excellence program, if you have not already done so. Implemented through a collaboration between the Departments of Defense, Education, and Veterans Affairs (VA), the Principles of Excellence are guidelines for educational institutions receiving funding from the VA. A school that wishes to be recognized as a Principles of Excellence school must email the VA, at principles.excellence@va.gov.

The Principles of Excellence guidelines are as follows:



1. Provide students with a personalized form covering the total cost of an education program.
2. Provide educational plans for all military and Veteran education beneficiaries.
3. End fraudulent and aggressive recruiting techniques and misrepresentations.
4. Accommodate Service members and Reservists absent due to service requirements.
5. Designate a point of contact to provide academic and financial advice.
6. Ensure accreditation of all new programs prior to enrolling students.
7. Align institutional refund policies with those under Title IV, which governs the administration of federal student financial aid programs.

<http://www.cvent.com/events/8-keys-to-veteran-s-success/event-summary-9d85142eae7e422786691f9a4e0f3c50.aspx?RefID=8%20Keys%20to%20Success>



ACADEMIC CALENDAR & VA CERTIFICATION



FY Quarter Three - Spring 2022

-  Instruction Ends Spring 2022
21MAY2022
-  Certify Veterans Fall 2021
28MAY2021


FY Quarter One - Fall 2021

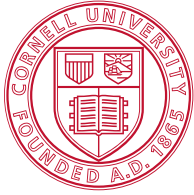
-  Instruction Begins Fall 2021
26AUG2021
-  Certify New Veterans Fall 2021
27JUL2021

FY Quarter Two - Fall 2021

-  Instruction Ends Fall 2021
18DEC2021
-  Certify New Veterans Fall 2022
26DEC2021
-  Certify Veterans Fall 2022
27OCT2021

FY Quarter Four - Spring 2022

-  Instruction Begins Spring 2022
25Jan2022



U.A. Resolution #29

Thanking Dean of Faculty Charles Van Loan for Outstanding Service to Shared Governance

May 11th, 2021

1 **Sponsored by:** David Dunham, President, Graduate & Professional Student Assembly;
2 **Thomas Fox, Ranking Member, University Assembly; Logan Kenney, Chair, University**
3 **Assembly; Pilar Villablanca Thompson, Vice Chair of Operations, University Assembly**
4

5 **Whereas,** Dean of Faculty Charles Van Loan has served honorably during his tenure as Dean
6 from 2016 until 2021, undertaking many substantial initiatives in the service of the
7 Cornell University community; and
8

9 **Whereas,** Dean Van Loan has regularly engaged the community when addressing questions of
10 campus-wide concern, having always sought the perspectives of students and employees
11 while representing faculty interests; and
12

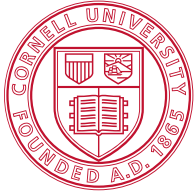
13 **Whereas,** from 2017-2018, Dean Van Loan co-chaired the Consensual Relationships Policy
14 Committee, which worked across constituent and disciplinary boundaries to develop
15 improved policies toward relationships between faculty and students; and
16

17 **Whereas,** from 2018-2019, Dean Van Loan chaired the Committee on Academic Title-Holder
18 Representation, which worked across constituents to address the clear status, rights and
19 representation of more than one thousand academic title holders across campus which
20 was passed in a March [2019](#) vote by the University Faculty; and
21

22 **Whereas,** since 2020, Dean Van Loan has led the Faculty Senate in developing proposals for the
23 creation of an Antiracism Center at Cornell ([Working Group C](#)), as well as educational
24 requirements for students ([Working Group S](#)) and faculty ([Working Group F](#)), which has
25 demonstrated substantial contributions toward engaging anti-racism efforts in our
26 community; and
27

28 **Whereas,** Dean Van Loan has demonstrated crucial leadership during the 2020-21 coronavirus
29 pandemic, defending the voice of faculty in the university's decision to hold a hybrid
30 instruction modality in the 2020-21 academic year.
31

32 **Be it therefore resolved,** that the University Assembly sincerely thanks Dean Charles Van Loan
33 for his outstanding and unbiased service to shared governance and cross campus



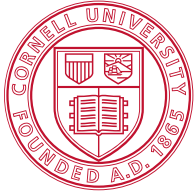
Cornell University University Assembly

34 constituents; and

35

36 **Be it finally resolved**, that the University Assembly recognizes and expresses gratitude for Dean
37 Van Loan's meaningful contributions to the university.

No signature block is present until the resolution has been disposed of by the Assembly (Passed, Failed, Withdrawn, etc.) Then a block with the certifying member (customarily Chair/Vice-Chair) verifying the authenticity and vote tally of the resolution.



Cornell University
University Assembly

U.A. Resolution #30

Postponing the University Assembly Organizational Meeting Until All Constituent Groups Have Had the Opportunity to Fill their Seats

[05/10/2021]

1 **Sponsored by:** Logan Kenney, Chair, University Assembly; David Dunham, President,
2 Graduate & Professional Student Assembly; Charles van Loan, Dean of Faculty; Pilar
3 Villablanca Thompson, Vice Chair of Operations, University Assembly
4

5 **Whereas**, all constituent groups of the University Assembly must be equally represented (Article
6 IV Section 4.1 point A of the Charter of the University Assembly), and at this time, the
7 Student Assembly has only staffed two out of five positions for that constituent group;
8 and
9

10 **Whereas**, elections cannot feasibly be held without proper representation of all constituent
11 groups; and
12

13 **Whereas**, the current University Assembly Executive Board cannot extend their terms over the
14 summer due to their appointments or time at Cornell University ending.
15

16 **Be it therefore resolved**, the University Assembly shall postpone the organizational meeting of
17 the University Assembly to May 25, 2021; and
18

19 **Resolved**, the University Assembly respects fairness and equality in shared governance and asks
20 all constituent groups finalize their membership before this date; and
21

22 **Be it finally resolved**, the chair must utilize all available options to hold an expeditious and fair
23 election.

No signature block is present until the resolution has been disposed of by the Assembly (Passed, Failed, Withdrawn, etc.) Then a block with the certifying member (customarily Chair/Vice-Chair) verifying the authenticity and vote tally of the resolution.