

Cornell University  
University Assembly

**U.A. Resolution # 8**

**Request for Documents Relating to Mental Health**

*January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

1 **Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson, Undergraduate; Chair of the Campus Welfare**  
2 **Committee**

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4 **Whereas**, on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Cornell President Martha Pollack responded to a request to  
5 form an independent externally led task force to investigate mental health concerns and  
6 practices at Cornell;

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8 **Whereas**, in her response President Pollack mentioned that “we reviewed our most recent  
9 external assessment provided by the JED Foundation along with their subsequent visit to our  
10 campus this past summer. We will continue ongoing engagement with the foundation to ensure  
11 we are providing holistic support”;

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13 **Whereas**, on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Cornell Vice President for Student and Campus Life Ryan  
14 Lombardi provided a statement to the Cornell Chronicle detailing three areas related to mental  
15 health services “that need further attention”;

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17 **Whereas**, this article in the Cornell Chronicle references “the 2017 external assessment and  
18 campus visit summary by the JED Foundation”

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20 **Whereas**, Vice President Lombardi additionally states to the Cornell Chronicle “From these  
21 reviews, we identified three areas that need further attention” indicating that information within  
22 the JED Foundation review is being used by Cornell to supplement Cornell’s mental health  
23 framework and initiatives;

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25 **Whereas**, while both President Pollack’s and Vice President Lombardi’s statements reference  
26 results of an external assessment from the JED Foundation, no associated documents from this  
27 review and visit to Cornell’s campus last summer have been shared with the public;

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29 **Whereas**, these documents should be made available to the public so that appropriate  
30 stakeholders and interested community members can review the findings;

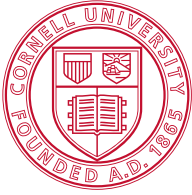
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32 **Whereas**, sharing these documents with the Cornell community allows the public to not only  
33 determine how Cornell identified the three areas that require further attention but also may  
34 provide insight into why President Pollack rejected an independent review on Cornell mental  
35 health practices”;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://thesophiefund.org/2018/01/13/cornell-says-no-to-independent-review-of-mental-health-policies/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://news.cornell.edu/stories/2018/01/cornell-reviews-its-mental-health-approach-looks-ahead>



## Cornell University University Assembly

37 **Be it therefore resolved,** that the documents from the most recent external assessment provided  
38 by the JED Foundation along with the documents from their subsequent visit to Cornell's  
39 campus this past summer be released to the public

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41 **Be it finally resolved,** that administrators and staff involved in reviewing the JED Foundation  
42 assessment and identifying areas within Cornell's mental health framework and initiatives that  
43 require further attention attend a University Assembly meeting to answer public questions.  
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