



Cornell University University Assembly

U.A. Statement Condemning Hate Crimes

October 17, 2017

1 **Sponsored by: Anna Waymack, Executive Vice Chair of the University Assembly**

2
3 **On Behalf Of: UA Executive Committee (G. Kaufman, J. Kruser, R. Howarth)**

4
5 We recognize that this current moment is placing particular stress upon the Cornell community,
6 although the topics now coming forward reflect longstanding biases. We acknowledge and
7 applaud the statements of the constituent assemblies. We are appalled by the recent violent and
8 racist actions and we unequivocally condemn hate crimes. By their very nature bias,
9 discrimination, and hate crimes harm the fabric of the Cornell community. They are deeply
10 antithetical to Cornell's motto: "I would found an institution where any person can find
11 instruction in any study."

12
13 The difficult balance between academic freedom and inclusivity, as each pertains to speech, has
14 yet to be perfected. In response to the current conversations, we charged our Codes and Judicial
15 Committee with this timely issue. We welcome input from all constituents going forward,
16 pledging our own sincere efforts to listen and to heal these harms.