

Cornell University  
University Assembly

**U.A. Resolution # 5**

**Promoting Community Feedback on the Proposed  
College of Business**

January 26, 2016

1 **Sponsored by: Gabriel D. Kaufman, Undergraduate; Acting CJC Chair, University**  
2 **Assembly**

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4 **Whereas,** the University Assembly (the “Assembly”) has the authority to examine matters which  
5 concern the welfare of a substantial segment of the campus community and may make  
6 recommendations thereon to the President or other appropriate officers of the university;  
7 and

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9 **Whereas,** the University Assembly is tasked with representing and voicing the interests of  
10 faculty, staff, graduates, and undergraduates; and

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12 **Whereas,** the creation of a new academic unit concerns the curriculum of undergraduates and  
13 graduates, the research and teaching opportunities of the faculty, and the consolidation of  
14 staffing units; and

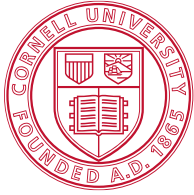
15  
16 **Whereas,** in the absence of further information and discussion, the University Assembly  
17 believes the University community cannot take an informed stance on the proposed  
18 restructuring; and

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20 **Whereas,** philanthropic donations make up a substantial portion of the University’s budget, a  
21 number of alumni have expressed their concerns over the proposed College of Business;  
22 and

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24 **Whereas,** a number of alumni have also considered reallocating their future philanthropic  
25 contributions in response to the proposal. Decreasing gifts designated for scholarships,  
26 named professorships, or for the general fund, which, if realized, would have a markedly  
27 negative effect on students, faculty, and staff, and

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29 **Whereas,** the timing of the announcement on December 14th, 2015 towards the end of the  
30 scheduled examination periods for undergraduates and graduates and shortly before the  
31 University’s winter shutdown for faculty and employees was less than ideal; and

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33 **Whereas,** the intervening period over the holiday season did not leave sufficient time for



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34 community feedback before a scheduled vote on January 28th, 2016, the first week of the  
35 Spring semester; and

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37 **Whereas**, the Faculty Senate, on December 16th, 2015, unanimously approved a motion  
38 requesting that the Cornell Board of Trustees table the vote at their January meeting; and

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40 **Whereas**, tabling such a vote until their March 24th, 2016 meeting would enable adequate time  
41 for community engagement on the proposal; therefore

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43 **Be it resolved**, that the University Assembly requests that the Cornell Board of Trustees table  
44 the motion to create a College of Business until their March 24th, 2016 meeting; and

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46 **Resolved**, that the intervening time be utilized to solicit further community feedback and engage  
47 shared governance with all University constituencies on the proposal; and

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49 **Be it Finally Resolved**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Chairman of the Board of  
50 Trustees, the University President, the Alumni-Elected Trustees, the Community-Elected  
51 Trustees, and the Provost.

**Adopted by Vote of the Assembly (9-0-2), January 26, 2016,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Battaglia".

**Matthew Battaglia**  
Chair, University Assembly