



Originally Presented on:	2/13/20
Type of Action:	Internal Policy
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #33

Changing The Name of the “LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large” Position to “LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large”

ABSTRACT: The purpose of this resolution is to amend the Student Assembly bylaws to ensure that more marginalized communities are fairly and accurately represented.

Sponsored by: Uche Chukwukere '21, Gavin Martin '20, Tomás Reuning '21

Whereas, The Cornell Student Assembly should be constantly striving to be a more diverse and inclusive governing body that constantly makes necessary changes to its governing documents that reflect the necessary efforts that are being made;

Whereas, The position of LGBTQ Liaison At-Large was created to represent the interests of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer communities as it pertains to Cornell’s campus;

Whereas, It is important to recognize the history and path-paving future of the LGBTQIA+ community and the impacts that they have had on our society and on Cornell’s campus. The term LGBTQ+ is an initialism that has been in mainstream existence since 1996¹ and has been used as a way to highlight and include the different groups and members of the LGBTQIA+ community and continue the path for increased representation amongst this group;

Whereas, Lesbian refers to homosexual womxn in relation to their sexual identity and behavior or used as a descriptor for womxn homosexuality or same-sex attraction;

Whereas, Gay refers to homosexual men in relation to their sexual identity and behavior or used as a descriptor for men homosexuality or same-sex attraction;

Whereas, Queer is an umbrella terms coined for gender and sexual minorities that are not heterosexual or cisgender and is used to describe a non-normative and sexual and gender identities and politics;

Whereas, In an effort to attempt to be more inclusive of other gender and sexual minorities we must recognize the increasing movement to use LGBTQIA+ as an umbrella term to refer to the LGBTQIA+ community and support the initialism bestowed upon this community;

Whereas, LGBTQIA+ is an umbrella term to represent Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Genderqueer, Pansexual, Questioning, Two-Spirit, and etc. individuals;



Cornell University Student Assembly

44 **Whereas**, Intersex refers to someone whose combination of chromosomes, gonads, hormones,
45 internal sex organs, gonads, and/or genitals differs from one of the two expected patterns²

46 **Whereas**, Asexual refers to person who is not sexually attracted to anyone or does not have a
47 sexual orientation;

48
49 **Whereas**, “A” does not stand for “Ally” as it has conventionally co-opted as for the acronym. It
50 is important to recognize that allies do not have the same experiences as individuals who
51 identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Genderqueer,
52 Pansexual, Questioning, Two-Spirit, and etc;

53
54 **Whereas**, It is important that we increase the autonomy of all individuals who are a part of this
55 community and show unwavering support and allyship by taking part in analyzing the
56 inclusivity of the seats that exist on the Cornell Student Assembly;

57
58 **Be it further resolved**, The position of LGBTQ+ Representative At-Large should be changed to
59 “LGBTQIA+ Representative At-Large”;

60
61 **Be it finally resolved**, Amending Article IV: Membership , Section 1: Composition, General
62 Composition –

63
64 The SA will consist of 28 voting members who are registered undergraduate students 184
65 at Cornell University. Up to two additional votes shall be allocated to the entire
66 community of undergraduates as a whole present at a Student Assembly meeting on
67 motions that express the opinion of the assembly. Such community votes shall be allowed
68 only as provided by the Assembly in its bylaws. Eleven voting members of the SA will
69 be elected by and from the student populations of the colleges and schools, one from
70 each: the College of Architecture, Art and Planning; the School of Hotel Administration;
71 the College of Human Ecology; and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Two
72 each shall be elected from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College
73 of Engineering; and three shall be elected from the College of Arts and Sciences. In
74 addition, twelve voting members will be elected at-large by and from the University
75 undergraduate student population as a whole; two at-large seats are to be reserved for
76 candidates seeking the offices of President and Executive Vice President of the Student
77 Assembly and must be explicitly designated as such; two at-large seats are to be reserved
78 for non-constituent, undesignated at-large group candidates who do not run for President
79 or Executive Vice President; two at-large seats are to be reserved for candidates seeking
80 to represent minority students; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking
81 to represent international students; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking
82 to represent women’s issues in relation to the broader Cornell community; one at-large
83 seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent First Generation College
84 students; and one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent the
85 **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer**, **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,**
86 **Intersex, Asexual, Genderqueer, Pansexual, Questioning, Two-Spirit, and etc** community.
87 The two remaining non-constituent, undesignated at-large seats are to be contested by



Cornell University Student Assembly

88 candidates running for President and Executive Vice President and by non-constituent,
89 undesignated at-large group candidates not running for President or Executive Vice
90 President. Five seats shall be elected by and from new students entering in the fall.
91 Should there be no candidate running for a given seat, the seat shall be considered vacant.
92

93 And, that henceforth, the previously named “*LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large*” shall be renamed the
94 “*LGBTQIA+ Liaison At-Large*”—as to be referred to in texts (such as public statements, posts,
95 or liaisons with organizations) and all current and future iterations of the Cornell Student
96 Assembly’s Governing documents—
97

98 **Respectfully Submitted,**
99

100
101 Uche Chukwukere ‘21
102 *Undesignated Representative At-Large, Student Assembly*
103 *Former LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
104

105 Gavin Martin ‘20
106 *Vice President for Research & Accountability, Student Assembly*
107 *College of Arts and Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*
108

109 Tomás Reuning ‘21
110 *LGBTQ+ Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
111

112
113
114 *(Reviewed by: Executive Committee, x-x-x,)*