

#### **Bylaws** 1 Cornell University Student Assembly 2 As amended on May 2, 2024 3 **ARTICLE I:** Ex-Officio Members 4 **Section 1: Ex-officio Membership** 5 6 Ex-officio membership grants members of the Cornell community (student, alumni, faculty, staff, administrator, 7 etc.) full-debating privileges but not voting privileges. These positions are granted to community members to 8 either provide a perspective from another governing body or to enhance the overall operations of the Student 9 Assembly. 10 **Section 2: Ex-Officio Executive Committee Positions** 11 A. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell community to serve as the 12 Executive Archivist. 13 The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell community to serve as the B. 14 Parliamentarian. 15 C. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve as 16 Director of Elections. 17 D. The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve as the 18 Student Advocate. 19 The SA can grant an ex-officio position to any member of the Cornell Community to serve as the E. 20 Director of Student Government Relations. 21 **Section 3: Organizational Liaisons** 22 A. The SA shall grant one member chosen from each constituency of the Greek Tri-Councils. This will 23 grant an ex-officio position to one member of the Multicultural Greek and Fraternal Council, 24 Panhellenic Association, and InterFraternity Council. 25 The SA will grant one executive member from Residential Student Congress an ex-officio position as В. 26 an organizational liaison. 27 C. The SA will grant one member from Cornell Undergraduate Veteran Association an ex-officio 28 position as an organizational liaison. This liaison must represent the interests of the United States and 29 its allies.



- D. The SA will grant one liaison, an undergraduate with an interest in computing and technology an exofficio position as titled IT Governance Liaison.
- 32 E. The SA will grant member from the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SCCA) an ex-officio position titled "Student Athlete Representative".
- F. All Student Assembly Byline organizations shall be granted one ex-officio member seat with the title (name of byline organization) representative.

### **Section 4: Shared Governance Liaisons**

- 37 A. Student Trustees. The SA will grant the Student Trustees ex-officio positions as shared governance liaisons for the duration of their terms.
- B. Undergraduate University Assembly Members. The SA will grant both student-elected University
   Assembly members ex-officio positions for the duration of their terms.

# 41 ARTICLE II: OFFICERS

### 42 Section 1: Officers

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- 43 The officers of the SA shall be a President, an Executive Vice President, a Vice President of Internal Operations, a
- 44 Vice President for Finance, a Vice President of External Affairs, a Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion, a
- Director of Elections, a Parliamentarian, and an Executive Archivist. These officers shall perform the duties
- prescribed by this Charter and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the SA.

# 47 Section 2: Election and Appointment of Officers, Time of Election/Appointment

- The SA will, as soon as possible after the spring election, hold an organizational and planning meeting in
- 49 executive session. At this meeting, the voting members will elect from among themselves the offices of Vice
- President of Internal Operations, Vice President for Finance, a Vice President of External Affairs, a Vice
- President of Diversity and Inclusion. At this meeting or a meeting soon after, the voting members will elect from
- 52 the Cornell community (student, employee, faculty, alumnus living in Ithaca) the office of Director of Elections.
- Self-nomination will be in order in each of the elected offices. Elected officers should be approved by a majority
- vote of SA members present at organizational meeting. Additionally, at this meeting or a meeting soon after the
- 54 vote of 5A memoers present at organizational meeting. Additionally, at this meeting of a meeting soon after the
- members will affirm the appointments of Parliamentarian and Executive Archivist. The offices of Parliamentarian
- and Executive Archivist will be appointed by the SA President. Each nominee for the respective offices shall be
- 57 subject to majority approval of the SA voting members. The newly elected officers will undertake the
- 58 responsibilities of their position at the start of their term on the SA. Elections for officers shall be by secret
- ballots. SA voting members may have one vote for each position to be filled but may not vote for any one
- 60 individual twice on any ballot.



### 61 Section 3: Terms of office

- Officers shall serve for a term of one year or until their successor is elected and is administered the oath of office.
- Following the next regular or special Student Assembly elections.

## 64 Section 4: Recalling officers

- Two-thirds vote of the voting membership of the SA may vote to recall any officer of the SA from his or her
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# 67 ARTICLE III: OFFICER DUTIES

### 68 Section 1: President

- The responsibilities of the President are as follows:
- 70 1. Attend and chair all SA meetings.
  - 2. Attend all Assemblies' leadership meetings and meetings with Executive staff.
- 3. Submit agenda items for leadership meetings after soliciting topics from Assembly members.
  - 4. Serve as the primary Assembly correspondent with the administration, the media, and the student body.
    - 5. Correspond with the University President following each Assembly meeting enumerating all actions that are passed and are under the University President's purview and to solicit his or her response.
    - 6. Correspond with the Deans of the College of Agriculture and Life Science; College of Architecture, Art, and Planning; College of Arts and Sciences; College of Engineering; School of Hotel Administration; College of Human Ecology; School of Industrial and Labor Relations, College of Business; following each Assembly meeting enumerating all resolutions that are passed and under the purview of each individual college and school and to solicit their responses.
    - 7. Supervise all elected officers and ensure they are discharging their responsibilities.
    - 8. Attend all open sessions of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Trustees Executive Committee held in Ithaca and report back to the Assembly on said meetings.
    - 9. Appoint Assembly Parliamentarian and Executive Archivist.
    - 10. Write and present annual SA report by the end of the term.
- 11. Consult with the Director of Elections regarding elections' advertising as long as the President is not eligible for reelection.

### **Section 2: Executive Vice President**

The responsibilities of the Executive Vice President are as follows:



- 90 1. Attend all SA meetings and act as Chair in the absence of the President.
- 91 2. Chair the Executive Committee

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- 92 3. Assume the office of President should a vacancy arise.
  - 4. Serve as Assembly correspondent in the absence of or on behalf of the President.
  - 5. Attend all Assemblies' leadership meetings and meetings with Executive Staff.
- Submit agenda items for leadership meetings after soliciting topics from Assembly members and be
   responsible for the creation of the weekly agenda for Assembly meetings.
  - 7. Coordinate and assist the undergraduate student UA delegation.
  - 8. Supervise and assist all ad-hoc committees.
    - 9. Track actions of the Assembly to ensure final disposition and confirm correspondence with appropriate units when Assembly actions impact them.
  - 10. Be responsible for responding to questions or comments made during Open Microphone. Issues can be delegated to other members of the Assembly.
  - 11. Oversee the Committees on Health and Wellness, Academic Affairs, the Environment, and Residential Life by assisting and advising the committee chairs, attending meetings as necessary, and holding monthly executive sessions with all committee chairs.
  - 12. Plan fall retreat for committee chairs with the Vice President of Internal Operations.
- 107 13. Coordinate and supervise new member orientation with the Vice President of Internal Operations.

# **Section 3: Vice President of Internal Operations**

- The responsibilities of the Vice President of Internal Operations are as follows:
- 1. Attend all SA meetings and act as Chair in the absence of the President and Executive Vice President.
  - 2. Assume the office of Executive Vice President should a vacancy arise.
    - 3. Chair the SA when the Assembly is in executive session.
- 113 4. Chair the Executive Cabinet.
- 5. Monitor committee membership.
  - 6. Coordinate and supervise all aspects of the SA cabinet in Willard Straight Hall.
- 7. Maintain and monitor SA attendance records and send warning notices to members who are in jeopardy of violating the Assembly attendance policy.
- 8. Oversee all SA committees by assisting and advising the committee chairs, attending meetings as necessary, and ensuring that any vacancies are filled.
  - 9. Enforce committee attendance and outreach requirements for all voting SA members.
- 121 10. Coordinate and supervise new member orientation with the Executive Vice President.
- 122 11. Supervise SA Liaisons.
- 12. Maintain relations with intercollegiate student organizations of which the SA is a member e.g. Ivy Council, SUNY Student Assembly.
- 125 13. Plan fall retreat for committee chairs with the Executive Vice President.



### **Section 4: Vice President for Finance**

- The responsibilities of the Vice President for Finance are as follows:
- 128 1. Serve as SA treasurer and report to the Assembly regarding Assembly balances in December and May.
- 129 2. Chair the Appropriations Committee.

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- 3. Propose the Student Assembly's budget in the form of a resolution by one of the first two general assembly meetings of each SA term.
  - 4. Coordinate and chair meetings of Student Activity Fee recipients and draft proposal to SA regarding establishing new fee, biannually.
    - 5. Meet with GPSA members to discuss the Student Activity Fee Guidelines, which appear as Charter appendices, at least once per semester.
- 6. Oversee the Financial Aid Review Committee and the Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund Commission by assisting and advising the committee chairs and attending meetings as necessary.

### **Section 5: Vice President of External Affairs**

- The responsibilities of the Vice President of External Affairs are as follows:
  - 1. Coordinate constituency representatives' community outreach efforts (including, but not limited to, community forums, meetings with Deans, internal school governments, etc.);
    - 2. Invite all relevant stakeholders to Student Assembly meetings, when the weekly agenda is released;
    - 3. Devise mechanisms for student organizations to become active members in the decision making process of the SA; most importantly, committees;
    - 4. Oversee the City and Local Affairs Committee and the Technology Committee by assisting and advising the committee chair and attending meetings as necessary;
    - 5. Chair the Communications and Outreach Committee;
    - 6. Consult with the Director of Elections regarding elections' advertising;
    - 7. Arrange all advertising, postering, banners, social media, etc.;
- 8. Serve as a liaison to relevant news sources;
- 9. Serve as editor of SA newsletter to be sent over email to the entire undergraduate student body at least two times/semester. The newsletter should include the current month's accomplishments and next month's plans, accompanied by the name of a contact person to whom comments and questions may be addressed. Maintain contact with Student Assembly alumni through distribution of the biannual Student Assembly newsletter to any interested alumni;

## Section 6: Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion

The responsibilities of the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion are as follows:



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- 158 1. Chair the Diversity and Inclusion Committee;
- 2. Prepare training sessions for the SA on addressing issues of diversity along with the Vice President of External Affairs;
  - 3. Meet on an as-needed basis with other administrators and staff concerning diversity initiatives;
- 4. Attend the Diversity Community meetings on a semesterly basis;
  - 5. Ensure that legislative acts of the SA are culturally inclusive;
  - 6. Provide updates on the state of diversity at Cornell and work to align the SA with University initiatives;
- 7. Work with University-sponsored programs such as the Pre-freshmen Summer Program and Diversity Hosting Month to introduce new students to the governance system of Cornell;
  - 8. Coordinate with the Vice President of External Affairs to effectively communicate with groups that advocate for underrepresented students on campus.
  - 9. Monitor and maintain all aspects of the Student Assembly website at http://cornellsa.com

#### 170 Section 7: Director of Elections

- 171 The responsibilities of the Director of Elections are as follows:
  - 1. Chair the Elections Committee and report all the activities of said committee to the general SA;
  - 2. Assume responsibility for all aspects of the Fall and Spring elections and coordinate all efforts with the Director of the Office of the Assemblies, the VP of External Affairs, and the President;
    - 3. Serve as SA correspondent for election matters;
    - 4. Ensure that the Elections Committee is successfully completing the following tasks:
      - a. Making every effort to ensure the greatest number of candidates for each available position,
      - b. Ensuring all candidates are aware of and abiding by elections, campaigning, postering, and other Assembly and University policies,
      - c. Coordinating and advertising an informal "Meet the Candidates Forum",
      - d. Coordinating and advertising opportunities for candidates to make public appearances,
      - e. Coordinating and advertising public forums specifically for candidates to discuss any ballot referenda, if such forums are deemed necessary by the Executive Board,
      - f. Contacting student organizations and informing them of the elections process and encouraging them to send delegates to elections activities in order to report candidates' stances on relevant issues to their organizations,
      - g. Ensuring that candidates have submitted pictures and statements
      - h. Making every effort to achieve the highest possible voter turnout by advertising and assisting the Office of the Assemblies in the coordination of elections days;
  - 5. Make sure, in conjunction with the VP of External Operations, that there are a substantial number of potential ballot referenda to be considered for approval by the SA, and that all approved referenda are advertised along with all elections activities described in #5 above (especially c. and e.).

## 193 Section 8: Parliamentarian



- The Parliamentarian need not be an SA member. The office of Parliamentarian holds no special voting privileges.
- The Parliamentarian also may not hold the President or Executive Vice President positions. The responsibilities of
- the Parliamentarian are as follows:

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- 197 1. Advise the President and committee chairs on questions of parliamentary procedure;
- Consult with the sponsors on new actions brought before the SA into the categories specified in Article
   III, Section 2, Item A of the SA Charter;
  - 3. Upon a specific request by an SA voting member, the Parliamentarian shall give the Assembly his/her recommendation on a parliamentary inquiry;
  - 4. The Parliamentarian shall present a workshop on parliamentary procedure and this charter to the incoming assembly, preferably before the end of the spring semester but no later than the fourth week of the fall semester;
  - 5. The Parliamentarian shall count a hand vote to discern simple majority from the gallery, where all eligible voters sit in a designated area;
  - 6. The Parliamentarian shall coordinate with the Office of Assemblies to ensure that the SA governing documents are public and reflect the changes made by the SA.

### 209 Section 9: Executive Archivist

- The Executive Archivist need not be an SA member. The office of Executive Archivist holds no special voting
- privileges. The Executive Archivist also may not hold the President or Executive Vice President positions. The
- Executive Archivist shall be responsible for verifying the novelty or precedence of any proposed action or
- legislation with Assembly members, or others, bring before the Executive Board.

### 214 Section 10: Offices of Officers

- A. Each Office is permitted to develop its own recruitment process. Relevant materials including, but not limited to, application forms, candidate lists, recruitment methodology, and a list of the selected office members shall be submitted to the Office of the Assemblies after the recruitment process has been completed.
  - a. Members of the office are not allowed to be ex-officio officers or voting members of the SA.
  - b. Each roster will be approved by majority vote by the Student Assembly.

# 221 ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

### Section 1: Regular Meetings

- Regular meeting times and places will be publicly announced at least 72 hours-prior to the scheduled meeting
- 224 date.



## **Section 2: Special Meetings**

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- A. The President may convene special meetings of the SA to consider issues of immediate and pressing concern. The President will also call a special meeting after being instructed to do so by six of the voting members of the SA.
  - B. SA meeting schedules will be constructed in such a way that SA meetings do not fall on religious holidays. These schedules will be made by the Executive Committee at the beginning of each semester. In place of regularly scheduled meetings, special meetings will be held.

## **Section 3: Organizational Meeting**

- The first meeting of the academic year shall be known as the Organizational Meeting and shall be for the purpose
- of adopting the schedule for regular meetings and approving the standing rules.

## 235 Section 4: Informal meetings

- The SA shall hold an informal meeting as events warrant at the discretion of the Executive Board. This meeting
- will be reserved for informal discussions between SA members and other interested parties, to set goals and
- priorities for the upcoming weeks. No legislation can be decided upon during these informal sessions. The
- attendance policy will remain in effect during the meeting.

#### 240 Section 5: Executive Session

- With the concurrence of two-thirds of the voting members in attendance, the SA or any of its committees may go
- into executive session during a regularly scheduled meeting only to discuss confidential matters as defined by this
- 243 Charter. No policy determinations will be made in executive session. The Student Assembly may also hold
- executive sessions for internal elections and planning purposes. Executive session shall be closed to non-voting,
- 245 non-executive members of the assembly. Community members may be invited by the assembly to participate in
- an executive session. Secret ballot votes shall be reserved for executive sessions.

## 247 **Section 6: Quorum**

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members of the SA.

### **Section 7: Community Votes**

- A. Should there only be one undergraduate ex-officio non-elected member in attendance, he or she will only be allocated one vote.
- B. The community clause may only be exercised on final votes of sense-of-body resolutions, which excludes (1) funding and budgetary decisions, (2) amendments to the SA Charter and Standing Rules, (3) the



- ability to make motions, (4) creation/dissolution of committees (5) selection of officers, committee
  members, and liaisons from the popularly elected SA (i.e. allocation of the Student Activity Fee, approval
  of Parliamentarian, Liaison to the Provost, etc.).
  - C. Prior to the final vote of a resolution, qualifying undergraduate members of the community will be permitted to cast their vote. The President will announce to the Assembly the collective vote of the gallery and liaisons prior to the casting of popularly elected members' votes on any given sense-of-the-body resolution. Both community votes will be allocated to the side that has a simple majority.
  - D. All community votes shall be submitted through a Qualtrics survey to which a Cornell University Web Authorization Portal has been applied. The link to this survey will be made easily accessible on the Student Assembly website. The relevant deliberations that occur during the assembly meeting shall be live-streamed on the same page. The page must also feature a link to the text of the legislation being voted upon. The voting shall commence at the beginning of the Student Assembly meeting at which the final vote is conducted. The voting shall end at the commencement of voting for assembly members, at which point the tally of community votes will be announced to the Student Assembly. It will be the responsibility of the Parliamentarian to work in tandem with the Office of the Assemblies in order to execute all tasks except those relevant to the live stream, which shall be the responsibility of the Student Assembly Clerk.

## Section 8: Regularly Scheduled Meetings for Purposes of the Student Assembly

## 272 Attendance Policy

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- A. Attendance at all organizational and specially scheduled meetings is required, when the Executive Committee provides SA members at least 72-hours prior notice of the meeting.
- B. Any member who fails to attend a required meeting or event shall be considered absent. Any late arrival or early departure from a required meeting will result in a half-absence. This includes Executive Sessions.

# 277 ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE BOARD

# 278 **Section 1: Composition**

- The Executive Board shall be composed of the officers of the SA. The Executive Archivist, the Director of
- 280 Elections and the Parliamentarian serve as non-voting members of the Executive Board.

#### 281 **Section 2: Duties**

- The Executive Board of the SA shall coordinate the actions of the SA to ensure its smooth operation, set the
- agenda for the Regular Meetings of the SA and inform all relevant parties of Executive Cabinet decisions.
- Additionally, the board shall send its minutes to all representatives within 24 hours of its meeting.



## 285 Section 3: Meetings

- The Executive Board shall hold meetings at least once a week during the academic year. Special meetings of the
- Board may be called by the Executive Vice President and shall be called upon the written request of four
- members of the board.

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# ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

## **Section 1: Creation and Maintenance of Committees**

- A. Committees will be established with the adoption of a committee charge to be included in these bylaws. A committee's charge must be adopted and placed in these Bylaws before its bylaws are to be considered. Committee bylaws shall be adopted with a majority vote.
- B. Any member of any SA committee or commission (except for the Appropriations committee, Executive Committee, and Elections committee) who will be an undergraduate for the entirety of the following SA term and who requests to maintain their membership during the transition from one SA term to the next may do so at the discretion of the committee's outgoing chair. The chair of the committee or commission will transmit the names of any returning members or commissioners to both the outgoing and newly elected Vice Presidents of Internal Operations by the last day of classes in May. The Vice President of Internal Operations will ensure that all returning committee or commission members are staffed and included on the appropriate listsery once the new SA term begins on June 1st and will inform each chair of any returning members or commissioners.
- C. For the purposes of communication and collaboration, the President and all Vice Presidents of the Student Assembly will serve as ex-officio non-voting members of all Student Assembly committees and commissions on which they do not serve as voting members. This policy does not apply to the Appropriations Committee, Infrastructure Fund Commission, and Elections Committee.

#### **Section 2: Review Committees**

- D. Review Committees shall review all policies, programs, and actions and shall aid in the budget/program planning process of sectors of the University that create policy directly affecting student life.
  - E. The Vice President for Student and Campus Life shall appoint a staff member to work with the chairperson of certain review committee to assure proper functioning of the committee.
- F. Undergraduate members of the review committees will be designated by the appropriate constituency bodies and by application. All non-Student Assembly members will be subject to the approval of the SA.
  - G. Review committees will discuss program assessment/planning documents with the SA during the fall semester as part of the committee's responsibility for the areas under their jurisdiction.
- 316 H. Review committees will be convened in the beginning of the fall semester by the VP Internal Operations.



- I. Furthermore, the Student Assembly review committees reserve, can, and should exercise at their discretion legislative authority over residential life policies of the University (i.e. the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students). When exercising this authority, review committees are recommended to consult the Residential Student Congress of Cornell.
- J. Committee on Dining Services The Committee on Dining Services will work to represent student interests in the Cornell food system. The committee will consist of at least one faculty member, two Dining student workers and/or Dining Student Sustainability Coordinators, two voting SA members, one graduate/professional student, and at least ten additional students. The VP of Internal Operations for the Student Assembly will recommend additional students to both the committee Chair and the Executive Cabinet for their approval. Additionally, the Director of Dining (or a designee) and the Budget Director of Dining shall serve ex-officio. The Chair, who does not have to be a SA member, will work with the Director to select relevant administrators and staff to be present at meetings. Members will collectively review the policies and initiatives of Dining Services, and make recommendations to Student Assembly and Dining Services leadership for improving existing policies or integrating new ideas.
- K. Student Health Advisory Committee: The committee will work in conjunction with Cornell Health to examine healthcare policies improve student health, wellness, and safety, and act as a form of open communication between student voices and Cornell Health administration. The committee will consist of a Steering Committee, which is made up of a SA & GPSA co-chair, committee chairs(s) from each respective sub-committee, a SHBAC liaison, an SDS liaison, and designated Cornell Health administration. The recognized subcommittees of the student Health Advisory Committee are: Patient Care, Sexual Health and Gender Services, Health and Wellness, Student Health Benefits, and the Mental Health Standing Committee. The SA co-chair will be held by a member of the SA and the committee will be under the supervision of the SA & GPSA co-chairs.
- L. Environmental Policy and Planning Commission The commission will research issues affecting the campus and its surrounding area, as well as provide recommendations for reducing Cornell's environmental impact. The Environmental Policy and Planning Commission will be charged with creating new legislation and enforcing past environmental legislation. This commission is also charged with providing environmental education and outreach in order to better inform students and the campus community about the campus's environmental impact and sustainability issues. The Environmental Policy and Planning Commission will work closely with students, administrators, student environmental organizations, the Cornell Sustainability Office, the Campus Planning Committee, the Campus Infrastructure Committee, and the City and Town of Ithaca Sustainability to better recognize and address the environmental concerns of the campus and its community as well as to encourage collaboration in working toward the creation of a more sustainable environment. The chair position can be held by any member of the Cornell undergraduate student population and the committee will be under the supervision of the Executive Vice President. The Environmental Policy and Planning Commission should coordinate and report their operations with the Campus Sustainability Office.
- M. City and Local Affairs Committee This committee will advocate on behalf of students' interest at the city and county government levels. In addition to its advocacy work, the committee will organize events



- that foster a sense of engagement in the Ithaca community for Cornell students. The chair position can be held by any member of the Cornell undergraduate student population and the committee will be under the supervision of the Vice President of External Operations.
- N. Academic Policy Committee The committee will advise the Student Assembly on all academic matters at Cornell. Committee members will research, review, recommend, and develop projects to improve academic life for the student body. This committee will work closely with the Dean of Students and the Faculty Senate to ensure that students' concerns related to academic policy are voiced effectively to university officials. The chair position can be held by any member of the Cornell undergraduate student population and the committee will be under the supervision of Executive Vice President.
- O. Financial Aid Review Committee The committee will examine the financial aid policies of Cornell University. It shall also be responsible for the administration of the Student Helping Students grant. The committee shall consist of a chair, up to two SA members, between five and ten undergraduate students, at least four-fifths of whom receive some form of institutionalized financial aid. The Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment, the Directors of Financial Aid, the Associate Director of Financial Aid for Customer Service and Community Relations, a counselor from the Office of Financial Aid, two faculty members, and the Vice President for Student and Academic Services shall serve as ex-officio non-voting members. This committee will be under the supervision of the Vice President for Finance.
- P. International Students Affairs Committee- This committee will research and investigate issues affecting international students and provide recommendations to the Student Assembly. The committee will be responsible for engaging, liaising, and communicating with the various cultural organizations that represent and advocate for the rights and needs of international students. The International Students Affairs Committee will be charged with creating a platform that allows undergraduate students, both domestic and international, to collaborate to craft legislation that provides additional support to international students and international student organizations. The committee shall consist of: up to two chairs and at minimum three SA members. The Vice-President of Diversity and Inclusion and Vice-President of External Affairs shall serve as ex-officio members to the committee. The International Students-Liaison At-Large Liaison will be required to serve on this committee. Any undergraduate is eligible to serve in the committee. Membership to the International Students Affairs Committee will be determined by an application process. The committee will be arranged at the discretion of the chairs.

# **Section 3: Operational Committees**

- A. Operational Committees shall maintain the proper functioning of the internal organization of the SA, and shall therefore facilitate the full expression of the SA's responsibilities to the Cornell student body.
- B. Operational committees shall be convened in the beginning of the fall semester, or when the committee's function prescribes, by the Committee on Committee Structure (or its successor body) in coordination with interested SA voting members.
- C. **Appropriations Committee** The Appropriations Committee of the SA is the financial branch of the SA. It reviews all requests for SA funding as well as the policies and guidelines regarding the Student



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Activity Fee and those organizations, which receive funding from it. The Committee shall consist of 8 voting members of the SA, to be selected by the Assembly at large during their organizational meetings; the VP Finance, who shall serve as Chair; and 8 undergraduates at-large to be selected by the Executive Cabinet, at least one being a freshman; and 1 new student voting member of the SA, to be selected internally by the Assembly at large following the Fall election. The Director of the Office of the Assemblies or their designee shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member. No SAFC Commissioners shall serve as voting members of the Committee. Quorum shall be defined as a simple majority of all voting members. A designee of the chair shall take minutes at all meetings.

- D. Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund Commission The SAIF Commission (SAIFC) of the SA is responsible for evaluating applications for funding through the SAIF. The rules governing the operation of the SAIFC are contained in Appendix C of the SA Charter. The Commission shall consist of at least 12 and no more than 17 commissioners. The commissioners must include five voting members of the SA, consisting of a Chair, who will be the Vice President of Infrastructure of the SA, three Assembly members elected during the Assembly's Spring organizational meetings, and one New Student voting member of the SA, internally elected by the Assembly following the Fall election. The remaining commissioners will consist of at least seven and no more than twelve undergraduate students who are either returning commissioners or are selected from a pool of applicants and approved by the Executive Cabinet, with the exact number of commissioners to be set at the discretion of the Chair of the Commission and the Staffing Committee of the SA. No SAFC Commissioners shall serve as voting members of the SAIFC (with the exception of the Vice President for Finance). No more than 2 of the voting Student Assembly members on the SAIFC may also be voting members of the Appropriations Committee and no more than 4 of the total voting members on the committee may be voting members of the Appropriations Committee. Our um shall be defined as a simple majority of all staffed voting members. Upon request, a written summary of the meeting will be provided by the chair. The Vice President for Finance and Vice President of External Affairs shall serve ex-officio as non-voting members of the Commission. The Director of the Office of the Assemblies or their designee shall serve as an exofficio non-voting member. The Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund Commission should consult and collaborate with the Campus Sustainability Office on projects related to sustainability. Additionally, The Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund Commission should consult and collaborate with Campus and Community Engagement and/or the Dean of Students Office on long-term projects.
- E. Communications and Outreach Committee The Communications and Outreach Committee helps to bridge the disconnect between campus and the Student Assembly. The Assembly strives to foster collaborative student activities, as well as inform the student body about the Student Assembly initiatives, meetings, and resolutions. The committee will ensure a direct and ever present link between students active in campus government, the administration, and students at-large and will relay student interest to the SA. The committee will assist in furthering the outreach efforts of the assembly by aiding in the coordination of SA-sponsored events including, but not limited to conducting polls, referenda, community outreach forums, designated constituency events, and hearings. The committee will also assist in coordinating efforts and devising strategies to involve more non-voting members in the decisions and



- events of the SA. The Assembly plans recreational events for students. The SA Vice President of External Affairs will serve as Chair of the Committee.
  - F. Elections Committee The committee will coordinate and implement regularly scheduled and special elections of the SA and directly elected undergraduate representatives to the UA. The SA Director of Elections shall serve as chair with a vote only in the event of a tie. The committee consists of ten voting members, of whom less than half may also be members of the SA. At one of the first two SA meetings of each academic year, the Executive Cabinet will present a slate of proposed members to the SA for confirmation, which the SA must approve or disapprove in its entirety. The Executive Cabinet may fill any subsequent vacancies without confirmation by the SA. No person may be a candidate in an election supervised by the committee in the same academic year when the person served as a voting member of the committee. All committee meetings will be closed. Only voting members will be permitted to attend the meetings unless specifically invited by the Director of Elections. This committee will be chaired by the Director of Elections of the Student Assembly.
  - G. Executive Cabinet The committee shall staff any vacant committee positions the Student Assembly (SA) is empowered to staff during meetings in early fall. The committee shall re-evaluate the committee application outreach plan at the end of every spring term. The committee shall also evaluate SA committees' end of the year report and determine if the SA committee and/or their composition need to be changed. The committee shall be charged with creating and enforcing an attendance policy for all committees. The membership of this committee shall include the SA's President, Executive Vice President, Vice President for Finance, Vice President of External Affairs, Vice President of Internal Operations, Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion, and all SA committee chairs. Ex-officio membership shall be granted to the Director of the Office of Assemblies. The VP Internal of Operations shall serve as chair. The VP of Internal Operations shall be responsible for consulting with chairpersons of committees and recommending candidates for vacant committee positions to the Executive Cabinet. The Executive Cabinet shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Student Assembly Staffing Committee, as referred to in other documents.
  - H. There shall be a Committee on Internal Operations.
    - a. The committee shall have jurisdiction over resolutions concerning policy in the following areas: the governing documents of the Assembly, rules and procedures, attendance and voting policies, and the operation and maintenance of committees. The committee shall be responsible for organizing all orientations and retreats, overseeing the operation of committees of the Assembly, advising on procedures related to the conveyance of resolutions, and adopting a manual of style.
    - b. The Vice-President for Internal Operations shall serve as chair of the committee. In addition to the chair, there shall be between four and eight members of the committee, one of whom shall be Parliamentarian. Each officer of the Assembly shall be permitted to vote on all matters considered by the committee, regardless of their membership on the committee

# **Section 4: Diversity**

A. **Diversity and Inclusion Committee** – The committee shall serve as the body through which the SA, the diversity councils of the undergraduate schools and colleges, the Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives

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(OADI), and the Center for Intercultural Dialogue coordinate their efforts to promote awareness and understanding of the increasing importance of diversity and create an environment that brings together diverse perspectives and fosters diversity of thought. The charge of the Diversity and Inclusion committee will be to:

- a. To be a meeting grounds for interested students to meet members of the administration to brainstorm, formulate and lead implementable policies in the field of diversity and inclusion.
- b. To review the efforts of the Diversity Committee and diversity councils of the colleges.
- c. To provide a brief report of its progress to be presented by the Vice President of Diversity & Inclusion to the SA General Body by the final meeting in the fall semester, as well as a full report to include (but not limited to) the goals of the academic year, the strategies devised for achievement of these goals, the progress of UDC initiatives, college- specific initiatives, obstacles, and potential goals for the next academic year to be presented in the same manner at the final meeting of the spring semester.
- d. Composition
  - i. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee will aim to be a collective voice of the diversity of backgrounds, cultures, ethnicities, gender identities, races, religions, and sexual orientations represented at Cornell.
  - ii. Non-SA student representation: student members of the committee may be recruited from institutions and organizations such as the diversity councils of the colleges, Women's Resource Center, Center for Intercultural Dialogue, ALANA, Haven Executive board, Cornell Outdoor Education, International Student Union and any member of the Cornell student body who is interested in diversity initiatives.
  - iii. Student Assembly representation: SA LGBTIA+ Liaison at-large, Women's representative, International representative, both Minority Liaisons, First Generation Students Representative, Students with Disabilities Representative, and the Vice President of External Affairs are required to be members of the committee.
- e. Structure
  - i. The Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion of the Student Assembly will chair the Diversity and Inclusion committee.
- B. Campus Pulse Committee This committee shall serve as a programmatic body to increase the availability of resources to address pressing needs of the Student Body. It will also work to combat all forms of bias including but not limited to, sexism, racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism, homophobia, and transphobia through programmatic implementation and workshops for the Cornell Community.
  - Composition: The composition of the committee shall be as follows:
    - i. Four elected representatives of the Student Assembly other than the following.
    - ii. The Womxn's Issues Liaison of the Student Assembly
    - iii. The LGBTQIA+ representative of the Student Assembly
    - iv. The President of HAVEN or their designee
    - v. The President of the Interfaith Council or their designee

511	vi.	The President of ALANA or their designee
512	vii.	The President of GJAC or their designee
513	viii.	Two community members as chosen by the Student Assembly by application to the
514		committee
515	ix.	One representative of the Dean of Students as a voting member
516	х.	One representative from Cornell Health as a voting member
517	xi.	The director of the Gender Justice and Inclusivity Center as a voting member
518	b. Charge	:: The charge of the committee shall be as follows:
519	i.	Implementing anti-bias programming, and community conversations which will work
520		towards increasing empathy and cross-cultural dialogue between individuals and groups
521		on the Cornell Campus
522	ii.	Implementing programming and infrastructure to address pressing needs of the campus
523		community.
524	iii.	Planning, scheduling and running required student assembly anti-bias and transparency
525		trainings for members of the Student Assembly
526	iv.	Work with the Intergroup Dialogue Project and other similar organizations to provide
527		spaces for dialogue among diverse groups and people on the Ithaca campus.
528	c. Operat	ion: The operations of the committee shall be as follows:
529	i.	It shall be the responsibility of the Womxn's Issues Liaison, in consultation with the Vice
530		President of DEI, and the Director of the Gender Justice Advocacy Center to oversee the
531		start of the committee each academic year. In the event that a Womxn's Issues Liaison is
532		not elected in the Spring, it shall be the charge of the President of the Student Assembly,
533		in consultation with the Vice President of DEI and the Director of the Gender Justice
534		Advocacy Center, to start this committee.
535	ii.	A chair of this committee shall be elected internally.
536	iii.	The committee shall meet at least once every two weeks
537	iv.	The committee shall put a monthly memo about their work which will be distributed to
538		the greater campus community via the Student Assembly newsletter.
539	Section 5: Extern	al Committees
540	A. Office of the S	tudent Advocate
541		and Responsibilities
542		Student Advocate – the responsibilities of the Student Advocate are as follows:
543	1.	1. Attend and chair all office meetings
544		<ol> <li>Correspond with Student Assembly to affect office priorities</li> </ol>
545		3. Create training programs for caseworkers and staff
546		4. Monitor the collection of data in the office
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- 5. Develop relationships with University offices and coordinate informational material
- ii. Chief of Staff the responsibilities of the Chief of Staff are as follows:
  - 1. Supervise office staff and ensure cohesion
  - 2. Ensure that all cases are met with an appropriate and timely response
  - 3. Create training programs for caseworkers and staff
  - 4. Develop relationships with University offices and coordinate informational materials
  - 5. Write and present an office report at the end of each semester
- iii. Director for Student and Campus Life the responsibilities of the Director for Student and Campus Life are as follows:
  - 1. Oversee caseworkers handling student issues pertaining to residency, discrimination, harassment and student-related conduct violations.
  - 2. Create informational material relating to these issues.
- iv. Director for Academic Affairs the responsibilities of the Director for Academic Affairs are as follows:
  - 1. Oversee caseworkers handling student issues pertaining to professor-related conduct violations, grade and enrollment disputes.
  - 2. Create informational materials relating to these issues.
- v. Director for Student Finance the responsibilities of the Director for Student Finance are as follows:
  - 1. Oversee caseworkers handling student issues pertaining to financial aid disputes and student-employment.
  - 2. Create informational materials relating to these issues.
- vi. Director of International Student Affairs the responsibilities for the Director of International Student Affairs are as follows:
  - 1. Oversee caseworkers handling student issues pertaining to international student affairs.
  - 2. Create informational materials relating to these issues.
- vii. Caseworkers the responsibilities of Caseworkers shall be as follows:
  - 1. Follow the supervision of their Director.
  - 2. Participate in the office's training process.
  - 3. Respond to questions and inquiries sent via email by students or in person in a timely manner.
  - 4. Refer students to the appropriate office within the University to handle their complaint.
- b. Recruitment of the Student Advocate Members
  - i. The outgoing Office of the Student Advocate shall nominate a new Student Advocate as well as staff members each year, to be discussed and approved by the Student Assembly

586	b	efore the end of the academic year. The first student advocate shall be appointed by the					
587	SA President and confirmed by the Student Assembly and begin staffing the remainder of						
588	the office to be confirmed again by the Student Assembly.						
589	B. Office of Student	t Government Relations					
590	a. Name, M	ission, and Affiliation					
591	i. N	lame – the name of the office shall be the Office of Student Government Relations					
592	(8	abbreviated to OSGR).					
593	ii. N	fission – the mission of OSGR shall be to advocate on behalf of current and future					
594	Si	tudents for the accessibility, affordability, and quality of Cornell University.					
595	iii. A	ffiliation – The Office of Student Government Relations shall be affiliated as an					
596	e	xternal executive office of the Cornell Student Assembly.					
597	b. Roles and	Responsibilities					
598	i. D	Pirector of the Office of Student Government Relations – the responsibilities of the					
599	D	Pirector of the Office of Student Government Relations are as follows:					
500		1. Chair all Office meetings and attend all SA executive board meetings					
501		2. Correspond with the Student Assembly to affect office priorities					
502		3. Create training programs for directors and other office members					
503		4. Appoint additional members of the office as appropriate					
504		5. Oversee the budget of the office					
505	ii. D	Deputy Executive Director of Student Government Relations — the responsibilities of					
506	th	ne Deputy Executive Director of Student Government Relations are as follows:					
507		1. Oversee the recruitment of additional members of the office.					
508		2. Perform other activities as determined by the Director.					
509	iii. D	Pirector of Local Relations – the responsibilities of the Director of Local Relations are as					
510	fe	bllows:					
511		1. Understand and act upon student needs and requests					
612		2. Maintain and foster communications with appropriate institutions, entities, and					
513		individuals					
514	iv. D	Director of State Relations – the responsibilities of the Director of State Relations are as					
515	fe	bllows:					
516		1. Understand and act upon student needs and requests					
617		2. Maintain and foster communications with appropriate institutions, entities, and					
518		individuals					
519	v. D	Pirector of Federal Relations – the responsibilities of the Director of Federal Relations					
520	a	re as follows:					
521		1. Understand and act upon student needs and requests					
622		2. Maintain and foster communications with appropriate institutions, entities, and					
523		individuals					

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- vi. Voting Members of OSGR the responsibilities of Voting Members of OSGR are as follows:
  - 1. Understand and act upon student needs and requests
  - 2. Collaborate and support the Directors of Local, State, and Federal Relations as needed
- c. Recruitment of Office of Student Government Relations members
  - i. The outgoing Executive Director of the Office of Student Government Relations shall nominate a new Director of the office as well as new Directors of Local, State, and Federal Relations to be discussed and approved by the Student Assembly at the end of each academic year.
- d. Funding
  - i. Funding for the OSGR shall be appropriated during byline funding years from the Student Assembly. OSGR funds shall be used for trips to local offices, Albany and Washington, DC. Additionally, funds will be used for the upkeep and maintenance of administrative expenses and the implementation of lobbying and advocacy events. The Director of the office shall control the budget of OSGR. In preparation for byline funding years, the Director shall work with the Student Assembly's Vice President of Finance to provide updates and calibrate the appropriations asks of the Student Assembly.

### C. Office of Ethics

- a. Name, Mission, and Affiliation
  - i. Name the name of the office shall be the Office of Ethics.
  - ii. Mission the mission of the Office of Ethics shall be to pursue any necessary ethics concerns of SA members and directly elected undergraduate representatives to the UA. The Office will evaluate all requests submitted by community members that are against any SA members, SA committees, or directly elected undergraduate representatives of the UA.
  - iii. Affiliation –The Office of Ethics shall be affiliated as an external executive office of the Cornell Student Assembly.
- b. Roles and Responsibilities
  - i. Director of the Office of Ethics:
    - 1. Director of the Office of Ethics will chair all Office of Ethics meetings.
    - 2. Director of the Office of Ethics shall only vote in the event of a tie.
  - ii. Voting Members of the Office of Ethics:
    - 1. The Office of Ethics shall consist of seven voting members.
    - 2. All voting members shall serve for the duration of one academic year unless their term is renewed by the incoming Director of the Office of Ethics.
    - 3. Voting members can be removed before their term expires by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the Office.

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- 4. All voting members shall be non-Student Assembly and non-University Assembly members of the Cornell undergraduate student population.
- 5. Voting members may not seek SA or UA office for the academic year following their term of service in the Office of Ethics.
- c. Recruitment of the Office of Ethics Members
  - i. The first seven voting members shall be appointed individually by any SA member and confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the Student Assembly.
    - A week-long period in between nominations and appointments shall be dedicated to giving SA voting members the opportunity to speak one-on-one with each nominee.
  - ii. The first slate of voting members must select the Director of the Office of Ethics internally by a simple majority of the Office before the end of the semester.
  - iii. Before the conclusion of each academic year, the outgoing voting membership of the Office of Ethics must select the Director of the Office of Ethics internally by a simple majority vote of the entire voting membership of the Office.
  - iv. The Director of the Office of Ethics shall decide upon the voting membership of the incoming Office before the conclusion of each academic year.
- d. Vote of Confidence
  - i. The Student Assembly will assess the work of the Office of the Office of Ethics during the previous academic year and conduct a vote of confidence by one of the first three general assembly meetings of each SA term.
  - ii. In the event of a failed vote of confidence, steps (i) and (ii) outlined in the Recruitment of the Office of Ethics Members section shall be repeated.
  - iii. In addition to the annual vote of confidence, an additional vote of confidence can be called at any point during the academic year.
- e. The Student Assembly Code of Ethics
  - i. Before the conclusion of the 2021-2022 academic year, the Office of Ethics will be charged with creating a Student Assembly Code of Ethics that must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire voting membership of the Student Assembly.
  - ii. The SA Code of Ethics should include, but is not limited to, including:
    - 1. An expansion of the language outlined in the Student Assembly Standing Rules, Section 2: Ethical Standards and Attendance Policy, Section A;
    - 2. An overview of possible ethical conduct offenses;
    - 3. The process of determining a violation of ethics;
    - 4. The process of recommending the appropriate disciplinary action to a third party.
  - iii. The Office of Ethics will be charged with interpreting and applying the guidelines set forth in the SA Code of Ethics.



# 700 ARTICLE VII: COMMUNITY RIGHTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY

701	Section	1:	<b>Community</b>	<b>Rights</b>
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- The SA and its committees shall respect and protect the rights of individual members of the Cornell community.
- All members of the community, who do not otherwise have an appointed or elected position on the student
- assembly, have the right to add a resolution to the Student Assembly Agenda as a sponsor (without the
- requirement of having a member of the assembly being a sponsor) after gaining the approval of a Student
- Assembly committee through a majority vote or after procuring the written signature of at least a majority of
- seated SA members and presenting it to the SA President or their designee for verification at least 48 hours before
- the meeting at which the resolution is to be introduced. Resolutions that appear on the agenda using either of
- these methods may not have more than 3 sponsors who are not Student Assembly members of Student Assembly
- 710 committee chairs.

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## **Section 2: Confidentiality**

- When a subject under discussion or examination requires the use of personal confidential information, all
- reasonable efforts shall be made to safeguard the confidentiality of this information. Confidential information is
- meant to include any and all information that, if publicly exposed, would endanger the privacy, safety, or security
- of any member of the Cornell community (students, faculty, and staff), or constitute a breach of any individual
- right guaranteed by the University, the State of New York, or the federal government.

# 717 Section 3: Infringement of Confidentiality

- If any member or group of the University feels that any action of the SA or its committees is infringing upon that
- person's or that group's rights under this Article, then that person or group may appeal to the Judicial Codes
- 720 Counselor (JCC) to determine whether probable grounds exist for a complaint. By majority vote, the SA may
- suspend any actions related to an appeal to the JCC until the JCC makes a final ruling on the appeal.

# 722 ARTICLE VIII: PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

## **Section 1: Public Events and Campus Forums**

- The SA shall conduct at least one public event or forum per semester at alternating locations on campus. These
- public events or forums shall include administrators related to a particular topic of current student interest.

# 726 Section 2: Mandatory Anti-Bias and Transparency Training



- As the pursuit of anti-discrimination is a standard for the Cornell Community, all voting and ex-officio members
- of the Student Assembly, as well as committee members, are required to attend and participate in an annual anti-
- bias and transparency training. This training shall be offered multiple times throughout the summer and first
- semester of the academic year. The training will be facilitated by the Campus Pulse Committee and contain at
- 731 least the following topics:

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- A. Recognizing implicit bias, this shall at a minimum be along the guidelines set forth by the UCLA Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Implicit Bias Video Series.
  - B. The importance of diversity in the work of the Student Assembly
- 735 C. Working with stakeholders
  - D. Methods to increase relationships and transparency with the Cornell community
- The proper channels for the reporting of bias and harassment, at the Assembly level through the Office of Ethics and at the University level through OSCCS and Title IX.
- Failure to complete such training is grounds for removal from the assembly, attendance will be cataloged by the Vice President of Internal Operations

# **ARTICLE IX:** PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the SA in all
- 744 cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Charter, Bylaws, Standing
- Rules, and any special rules of order the SA may adopt.

## 746 ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

- These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the assembly by a two-thirds vote of the members
- present, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting. Amendments
- may be presented to the assembly by voting members and by community petition with at least 100 Cornell
- 750 undergraduate student signatures.