

# Charter

## Cornell University Student Assembly

*As Amended on October 27, 2016*

### **PREAMBLE**

After consultation with members of the student body, and to effect more extensive involvement in campus governance through a University Assembly and constituent assemblies' representatives of faculty, students, and employees, the President, through the authority granted him by the Board of Trustees, hereby establishes this Charter for the Student Assembly of Cornell University.

### **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Student Assembly of Cornell University (herein after referred to as the SA).

### **ARTICLE II: OBJECT**

The object of this assembly shall be to effect more extensive involvement in campus governance in the undergraduate student body. This is accomplished by charging the assembly with the authority and the responsibility to examine any matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the student community and to make proposals concerning those issues to the appropriate officers or decision-making bodies of the University.

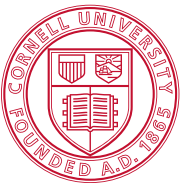
### **ARTICLE III: AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY**

#### **Section 1: Legislative Authority Over Policies**

The SA will have legislative authority over the policies of the Department of Campus Life and the Office of the Dean of Students, and will have the authority to review the budgets and actions of said departments. Additionally, the SA will have authority over its own policies and operations. Finally, no proposal of the SA shall be altered in any way without the prior consent of the SA Executive Board or the SA. If approved by the SA Executive Board, the alteration must be made public at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- A. The SA shall by majority vote have the authority to require at any time information directly from a department or a specific individual within that department concerning the budget, policies, or actions of said department. The request for this information shall be made in the form of legislation at a SA meeting.
- B. Should a request be refused, the SA by simple majority vote may request the information be given to the Vice President for Student and Campus Life who shall forward it to the SA. The Vice President for Student and Campus Life shall act unless otherwise directed by the President of the University, pursuant to Article 3, Section 6.

#### **Section 2: Actions of the Assembly**

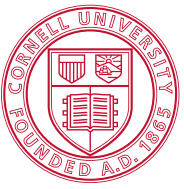


# Cornell University Student Assembly

- 31 A. Pursuant to the legislative authority and responsibilities of the SA the six principal actions of the Assembly  
32 are:
- 33 i. Legislation,  
34 ii. Internal Policy Resolution,  
35 iii. Investigation,  
36 iv. Recommendation,  
37 v. Sense-of-the-Body Resolution,  
38 vi. Referenda
- 39 B. Legislation is action of the SA to carry out its legislative and policy-making functions.
- 40 C. Internal Policy Resolutions are actions to enact internal rule changes, and to make amendments to the SA  
41 Charter.
- 42 D. Investigation is action of the SA to gain information on issues pertinent to its purview.
- 43 E. Recommendation is an action of the SA expressing the recommendation of the SA in policy areas over which  
44 the SA through its Charter may or may not have policy-making power.
- 45 F. A Sense-of-the-Body Resolution, which may or may not be directed at a particular individual, organization or  
46 event, is an expression of the opinion of the SA regarding a matter of student concern.
- 47 G. Call for a Referendum is an action of the student body to determine community opinion regarding matters of  
48 student concern.

## 49 **Section 3: Reporting of Student Assembly Actions**

- 50 A. Reporting to the President – All actions, excluding internal policy changes that do not affect the Student  
51 Assembly Charter, of the SA will be reported by the SA President to the University President. The SA will  
52 respond to any requests for information from the University President on its actions. The University  
53 President may also request reconsideration of legislation proposed by the SA. Such a request must be filed  
54 within thirty days of notification of the legislation. The SA will take action on such a request, and, if the  
55 legislation is upheld, the SA will inform the University President. If the legislation is upheld and if the  
56 University President still deems the action to be defective, the University President may veto the action of the  
57 SA. The University President will review all actions of the SA that have been reported to him or her and  
58 provide a written response to those actions within 30 days. The University President, when appropriate, may  
59 also designate another member of the university administration to provide an additional written response to  
60 an action of the SA.
- 61 B. Reporting to Other Bodies – The SA will report in writing its actions to the GPSA, Employee Assembly, and  
62 the Faculty Senate, in conjunction with reporting of the actions to the President of the University. The  
63 actions will be reported following each meeting by a SA member designated by the SA.
- 64 C. Annual Report - The SA will present an annual report at or after the last SA meeting of the spring term to the  
65 President of the University and the student population. The report will include a summary of the SA's work  
66 during the preceding year and, in addition, describe any unresolved issues that are expected to arise in the  
67 future. All members of the Cornell community will have access to this report. The report must be approved  
68 by either a majority vote of the members present at the final meeting of the spring term or by a majority vote  
69 of the voting membership of the Student Assembly electronically prior to being presented to the University  
70 President.



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### 71 **Section 4: Objection to Actions**

- 72 A. Objection of SA Actions by Another Assembly – Should another Assembly object to an action of the SA, at  
73 its next business meeting, the SA will review the objection and either modify the original position to account  
74 for the objections of the other constituency(ies) or will reaffirm the original action. The SA shall report to the  
75 objecting body(ies) within five working days of reviewing the objection.
- 76 B. Objection by SA of another Assemblies Actions – If the SA determines by a two-thirds vote that the action  
77 of another constituency body impacts its constituency, comparable procedures for the reconciliation of the  
78 differences will be pursued.

### 79 **Section 5: University Calendar**

- 80 A. The Provost will consult with the SA in the formulation of the University Calendar. The SA may review and  
81 ask for reconsideration of the calendar before it becomes final. In addition, the SA may propose changes in  
82 the calendar to the Provost.
- 83 B. The Provost shall make the calendar available for comment at least thirty days before public announcement  
84 of the final calendar.

### 85 **Section 6: Presidential Information**

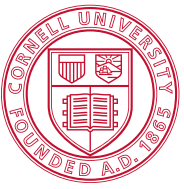
86 The SA may request and obtain specific information from the President of the University regarding any subject which  
87 it deems of general student concern. If such a request is made, and said information is not furnished, the University  
88 President will report to the SA the reasons why said information cannot be furnished within two regularly scheduled  
89 SA meetings following the denial of the request. The SA will not request information falling into the following  
90 categories: salary or wage records of specific individuals, academic or financial records of specific individuals, medical  
91 or categorical (race, sex, age, etc.) records of specific individuals and information otherwise defined as confidential or  
92 restricted by law.

### 93 **Section 7: President's Report**

94 The President of the University or his/her appointee will make a report in writing to the SA at the end of each  
95 semester. This report will be due at the beginning of the last SA meeting of each semester. This report will include: 1)  
96 the status of all policies and departments affected by campus governance legislation during the semester, 2) the status  
97 of all SA legislative actions awaiting Presidential consideration, and 3) progress reports requested by the SA leadership  
98 on any past legislative action(s).

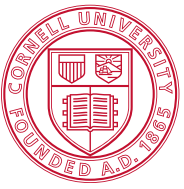
### 99 **Section 8: Public Hearings, Forums, and Referenda**

- 100 A. The SA will have the authority and responsibility to conduct public hearings, forums, and referenda  
101 concerning topics of current student interest, and to determine in other appropriate ways student needs and  
102 opinions.
- 103 B. At two times during the course of the fall and spring semesters, a student or student group (referred to as the  
104 “submitter”) may submit a referendum of any topic of current student interest to the Student Assembly



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- 105 general body upon successful collection of support from at least 3-percent of the registered undergraduate  
106 student body (submitters should plan to collect at least 450 undergraduate signatures) according to the  
107 following procedure:
- 108 i. The referendum must contain a single or a series of referendum questions that are neutrally worded  
109 and call for a yes/no response. Once the submitter has started gathering signatures, the question may  
110 not be changed or modified in any way. Submitters must collect signatures (defined as a willfully  
111 submitted record of first name, last name, and NetID) exclusively from registered undergraduate  
112 students at Cornell University. Digital and print solicitation methods are permitted, provided that the  
113 referendum question and sponsoring student or student organization are clearly visible. An electronic  
114 form (ex, Google form) may be used to gather the names and NetIDs of students, but the final  
115 submission must be on the appropriate form provided by the Office of the Assemblies.
  - 116 ii. The deadlines for submission of referendums will be a date to coincide with the deadlines of the  
117 election materials for the Fall and for the Spring. All deadlines will be advertised through the SA  
118 monthly newsletter as well as the other usual publicity instruments. Once a referendum question with  
119 the appropriate number of signatures has been submitted, the SA general body will roll call vote by  
120 simple majority whether to hold the referendum. The vote will also make the provision for two  
121 collective community votes. If the SA votes by a margin of 80% or more of voting members to NOT  
122 hold the referendum, the referendum is suspended. If the SA votes by simple majority but less than  
123 80% of the vote to NOT hold the referendum, the submitter may overturn the decision of the SA by  
124 collecting the signatures of at least 10-percent of the registered undergraduate student body using the  
125 same method described in section A. 2. Once a referendum is approved or has gathered the support  
126 of at least 10-percent of the registered undergraduate student body, the following timeline will be  
127 observed:
    - 128 a. STATEMENT PERIOD. The Student Assembly Executive Vice President will put out a  
129 call for pro or con statements regarding the referendum question. Any member of the  
130 Cornell community may submit a statement. Each statement will be no longer than 300  
131 words. The statements must pertain to the topic of the referendum question. The deadline  
132 for pro or con statements will be seven (7) days from when the call was first made public.
    - 133 b. PROMOTIONAL PERIOD. Once the seven-day statement period has ended, the Student  
134 Assembly Vice President for Public Relations has a period of three (3) days to promote the  
135 referendum question and any submitted statements. The Office of the Assemblies will  
136 distribute via email to all registered undergraduate students the following: information on  
137 when and how to vote in the referendum, the referendum question, and any pro or con  
138 statements submitted.
    - 139 c. VOTING PERIOD. The Office of the Assemblies will conduct the referendum on the next  
140 business day following the conclusion of the promotional period. The voting period will be  
141 exactly 36 hours. The Office of the Assemblies will display any pro or con statements  
142 submitted during the statement period on the poll.
  - 143 iii. The Office of the Assemblies will publicly release the results of the referendum within one business  
144 day following the conclusion of the Voting Period, including the percentage of the undergraduate  
145 population that voted.



# Cornell University

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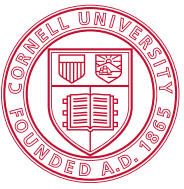
- 146           iv. If a referendum has a majority of votes in favor of the submitter, then the President of the Student  
147           Assembly will communicate the referendum question, a summary of each side of the argument, and  
148           the results of the referendum to the Office of the President in the form of a referendum action.  
149           v. The Office of the Assemblies will record and make publicly available all communication between the  
150           President of the Student Assembly and the Office of the President.

### 151   **Section 9: Authority to Appoint Delegates, Committee Members and Liaisons**

- 152           A. Two members will be selected from and by the membership of the SA to serve as voting members of the UA  
153           and to act as a liaison between the UA and the SA. Elections for the two SA voting members to the UA shall  
154           be by separate secret ballots. Elections will be conducted using a single transferable vote system. The  
155           President may not be one of the SA representatives to the UA. The remaining two undergraduate student  
156           members of the UA shall be elected by the undergraduate student body at the time of SA's spring elections in  
157           the same manner as SA voting members. Elected representatives to the UA shall serve for one calendar year,  
158           taking office June 1<sup>st</sup>. Elected representatives to the UA shall serve for one calendar year, taking office June  
159           1<sup>st</sup>. Should a seat on the UA be empty, the seat shall be declared vacant. Undergraduates may not hold a  
160           directly elected seat in both the UA and the SA during the same term.
- 161           B. If at any time during the course of an academic year, a UA member elected directly from the undergraduate  
162           student body should leave his office, then the seat shall be filled by the next highest-ranking non-winning  
163           candidate. If there should not be a next highest-ranking non-winning candidate after the special election, the  
164           seat will be filled by the undesignated at-large candidate receiving the most number of votes in the preceding  
165           spring election.
- 166           C. The SA will have the authority to appoint student members of the UA committees.
- 167           D. The SA will have the authority to appoint student members to be liaisons to departments and administrators  
168           in the University.
- 169                i. During the process of committee appointments, the following two appointments must be made:  
170                liaison to the Athletic Department and liaison to the Dean of Faculty. The liaison positions shall have  
171                the responsibility of increasing the communication between the SA and the respective University  
172                departments.
- 173                ii. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint one member to serve as  
174                Liaison to the Provost. The student will interact and work directly with the Provost on issues that  
175                affect and concern students on a regular basis during the member's term of office.
- 176                iii. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint at least one undergraduate  
177                student to serve as liaison to the Student Health Fee Advisory Committee. The liaison will be a  
178                voting member of the Committee.
- 179                iv. At the time that committee appointments are made, the SA will appoint one undergraduate student  
180                to serve as Liaison to the Student Health Plan Advisory Committee. The liaison will be a voting  
181                member of the Committee.

## 182   **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**

### 183   **Section 1: Composition**

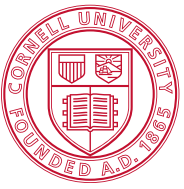


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- 184 A. General Composition – The SA will consist of 28 voting members who are registered undergraduate students  
185 at Cornell University. Up to two additional votes shall be allocated to the entire community of undergraduates  
186 as a whole present at a Student Assembly meeting on motions that express the opinion of the assembly. Such  
187 community votes shall be allowed only as provided by the Assembly in its bylaws. Eleven voting members of  
188 the SA will be elected by and from the student populations of the colleges and schools, one from each: the  
189 College of Architecture, Art and Planning; the School of Hotel Administration; the College of Human  
190 Ecology; and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Two each shall be elected from the College of  
191 Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Engineering; and three shall be elected from the College of  
192 Arts and Sciences. In addition, twelve voting members will be elected at-large by and from the University  
193 undergraduate student population as a whole; two at-large seats are to be reserved for candidates seeking the  
194 offices of President and Executive Vice President of the Student Assembly and must be explicitly designated  
195 as such; two at-large seats are to be reserved for non-constituent, undesignated at-large group candidates who  
196 do not run for President or Executive Vice President; two at-large seats are to be reserved for candidates  
197 seeking to represent minority students; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent  
198 international students; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to represent women’s issues in  
199 relation to the broader Cornell community; one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to  
200 represent First Generation College students; and one at-large seat is to be reserved for candidates seeking to  
201 represent the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer community. The two remaining non-constituent,  
202 undesignated at-large seats are to be contested by candidates running for President and Executive Vice  
203 President and by non-constituent, undesignated at-large group candidates not running for President or  
204 Executive Vice President. Five seats shall be elected by and from new students entering in the fall. Should  
205 there be no candidate running for a given seat, the seat shall be considered vacant.
- 206 B. Ex-officio Membership – All undergraduate members of the Cornell student body are considered non-voting  
207 members of the SA, and are encouraged to attend and participate in meetings. The SA may designate ex-  
208 officio membership to any member of the Cornell Community as deemed necessary for the operation of the  
209 Student Assembly
- 210 C. Specification of New Student Seats – Four new student seats shall be elected and held by new students  
211 entering in the fall semester. One additional seat shall be designated the Transfer Seat and shall be elected by  
212 incoming transfer students and held by a transfer student who has entered the university that fall.
- 213 D. Qualifications for Voting Membership - SA members elected from the various colleges and schools must be  
214 registered students in their respective colleges and schools by the beginning of the fall term of the academic  
215 year for which they were elected. SA members must resign their position if they cease to be a registered, full-  
216 time undergraduate student in their respective college. SA members elected at-large must be registered  
217 students at Cornell by the beginning of the fall term of the academic year for which they were elected. SA  
218 members must resign their position if they plan to be away from the Ithaca campus for an extended period of  
219 time (i.e. a semester). Any SA member who vacates their current seat after being elected or re-elected to a  
220 position will forfeit their new seat. The forfeited position will devolve to the next runner up, and should there  
221 be no runner-up the seat will be re-run in the fall elections.

## 222 Section 2: Election of Voting Members

223 The President, Executive Vice President, and other Undesignated at Large representatives will be elected by a single  
224 transferable voting system. Voters may rank all candidates on the ballot for each of these races. All other



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225 representatives shall be elected by a plurality voting system. Voters will cast one vote per available seat, (e.g. if three  
226 Arts and Sciences representatives are to be elected, the voter will vote for three candidates).

### 227 **Section 3: Terms**

228 All elected members are elected to a term, ending on June 1st, with no limit as to the number of terms they may serve.  
229 Prior to being seated at the beginning of their term, each member shall take the oath of office. and shall be bound to  
230 that oath for the duration of their term.

### 231 **Section 4: Advisor**

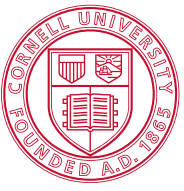
232 The University President will appoint one member of the administration to serve as consultant to the SA at its  
233 meetings.

### 234 **Section 5: Absentees**

235 Any voting members who are absent for three regularly scheduled meetings cumulatively during their term will have  
236 their position vacated. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, a member will not be counted as if they were  
237 absent for an interview for a job, graduate school, or scholarship; if they were attending a required academic event for  
238 which accommodations could not be made; if they were representing the Student Assembly in an official capacity; if  
239 they were tending to a family emergency; if they are observing a religious holiday; or if they were under the care of a  
240 physician. The Executive Committee will review each circumstance individually and will determine a decision within 7  
241 days of the request. Executive Committee may avert such a vacancy by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of seated voting  
242 members of the Executive Committee. The vote would be conducted by secret ballot. The Executive Committee  
243 should consider the reasoning for past absences, the likelihood of future absences, and the representative's  
244 supplemental actions to represent their respective constituency in making their decision. The same action must be  
245 taken if the Executive Committee wishes to avert a vacancy whenever the three cumulative absences mark is  
246 exceeded. The Director of Elections will serve as Chair for these meetings.

### 247 **Section 6: Vacancies**

248 All vacancies will be filled by seating the highest ranked non-winning candidate in the last election from the same  
249 constituency. If the highest ranked non-winning candidate declines, the seat will be offered to the next highest ranked  
250 non-winning candidate. If this procedure has been followed and the seat still remains vacant, the SA will solicit  
251 candidates from the unrepresented constituency during the first two weeks of the academic term immediately  
252 following the declaration of vacancy. If there is more than one candidate, an election will be held within the  
253 appropriate constituency, and the winner will be seated. If there is only one candidate, he or she will be seated  
254 immediately. If there are no candidates for a particular vacant seat, such seat will be labeled Undesignated and filled by  
255 the runner-up in the Undesignated At-Large election. At the time for the next election, such seat will return to its  
256 previous designation. Vacant seats shall not figure into quorums or vote counts; only filled seats may. SA members  
257 who are college representatives and who leave their college will vacate their seats. Should a seat remain vacant or be  
258 vacated following the special election and there are no non-winning candidates from that constituency to fill the  
259 position, it shall be filled by the undesignated at-large candidate receiving the most number of votes in the preceding



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260 spring election. Should an undergraduate seat on the UA remain vacant after following these procedures, the SA may  
261 appoint an individual to assume the UA seat.

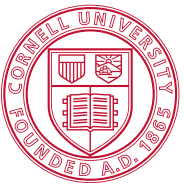
### 262 **Section 7: Recalling of Voting Members**

- 263 A. If a voting SA member is to be recalled, they may be recalled either through their constituency or through the  
264 SA. To be recalled through a member's respective constituency each of the following procedures must be  
265 followed in the given order:
- 266 i. A petition for the recall of the specific SA voting member will be registered with the Office of the  
267 Assemblies before any signatures are obtained.
  - 268 ii. Petitioning for recall shall last for a period of not more than fourteen (14) days from the registration  
269 of the petition. The required number of signatures shall be: for representatives of a college  
270 constituency - 50% plus one or 1000 from that constituency, whichever is smaller; for at-large  
271 representatives - 15% of the student body. The petition will be presented to the Office of the  
272 Assemblies.
  - 273 iii. An informational forum will be scheduled and held within not more than one (1) week of the  
274 presentation of the petition, where a discussion of the recall will occur. The SA voting member must  
275 have a reasonable opportunity to attend the forum.
  - 276 iv. A special recall election will be scheduled for and held within not more than three (3) days after the  
277 informational hearing.
  - 278 v. Should the constituency vote to remove its representative the seat shall be declared vacant.
- 279 B. To be recalled by the SA, two-thirds of the voting membership must vote in favor of recalling the SA  
280 member.

### 281 **Section 8: Responsibilities of Voting Members**

- 282 A. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies are required to make a reasonable effort  
283 to arrange at least two meetings a semester with their respective academic dean or associate dean(s) to discuss  
284 college/school specific issues and concerns. These representatives will then report back to the Student  
285 Assembly at the next regularly scheduled SA meeting briefing the Assembly on pertinent issues and  
286 occurrences that would take place as a result of these meetings.
- 287 B. SA members who represent specific college or school constituencies shall be charged with gathering  
288 information about their particular college and representing their respective constituencies, and voting  
289 according to their needs and desires.
- 290 C. All voting representatives shall host at least one forum or outreach activity with individuals from their  
291 respective constituencies and report all outcomes to the SA at the next regularly-scheduled meeting following  
292 such an activity
- 293 D. All representatives may communicate regularly with their constituents through e-mail mailing lists and  
294 listservs, which may be maintained by their respective college dean's office, the Department of Campus Life,  
295 the Office of the Dean of Students, or the Office of the Assemblies
- 296 E. Any Student Assembly member, including the Vice President for Public Relations, must submit a mass  
297 message (e-mail, advertisement, press release, etc.) to the Executive Board for approval. The Executive Board





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298 may approve a message by a majority vote and the vote may be conducted by e-mail. The e-mail records must  
299 be saved.

## 300 **ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS**

### 301 **Section 1: Proposal of Amendments**

302 This charter may be amended at any regular meeting of the assembly by a two-thirds vote of the entire voting  
303 membership, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.  
304 Amendments may be presented to the assembly by voting members or by community petition with at least 100  
305 Cornell undergraduate student signatures. Any changes made to the attendance policy after the second meeting of the  
306 term will not go into effect until the following term.

### 307 **Section 2: Presidential Approval**

308 Amendments to this Charter are subject to the approval of the President of the University. Should the University  
309 President disapprove the amendments affected by this section, the University President will present a detailed verbal  
310 or written report to the SA indicating the reasons for disapproval. The report will be presented within thirty (30) days  
311 of receipt of the proposed amendments by the University President.

### 312 **Section 3: Official Copy**

313 The Office of Assemblies shall update the official copy of the charter within five business days of receiving notice of  
314 any amendment's ratification.

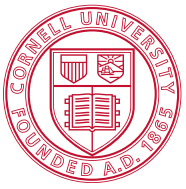
## 315 **APPENDIX A: GUIDELINES FOR THE ALLOCATION OF THE** 316 **STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE**

### 317 **Section 1: Preamble**

318 The Student Assembly (the Assembly), through the delegated authority of the President and the Board of Trustees, is  
319 charged with the allocation of the Student Activity Fee (SAF). This fee is mandatory for all undergraduate students of  
320 the University and shall be used to fund participation in, and viewing of, activities and programs that benefit the  
321 Cornell community. The SAF shall be determined during the fall semester of every odd-numbered year, and be  
322 subject to the approval of the President of the University.

### 323 **Section 2: Definitions**

- 324 A. The following terms, which appear frequently in this Appendix, shall be defined as follows:
- 325 i. Organization: a registered Independent or University organization that has authorization to receive  
326 funding.
  - 327 ii. SAFC: Student Activities Funding Commission, a committee of the Student Assembly.



# Cornell University

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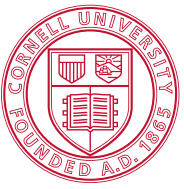
- 328           iii. New applicant: an organization that did not receive funding in the previous two funding cycles.
- 329           iv. Returning applicant: an organization that did receive funding in the previous two funding cycles.
- 330           v. Funding cycle: a two-year period of time spanning from the start of the third quarter of an even-
- 331           numbered year to the end of the second quarter of the next even-numbered year (e.g. July 1, 2006 to
- 332           June 30, 2008).
- 333           vi. Petition: document to collect signatures that includes the name of the organization, its mission
- 334           statement, and monetary request. All petitions must be registered with and prepared by the Office of
- 335           the Assemblies.
- 336           vii. By-line funding: line item funding that comes directly from the SAF and not from an intermediary
- 337           source, such as the SAFC.
- 338           viii. Appropriations Committee: a committee of the Student Assembly as outlined in Bylaw 7.6.a.1.

### 339   **Section 3: Eligibility**

- 340           A. To receive byline funding applicants must:
  - 341               i. directly and primarily serve/benefit the entire undergraduate Cornell community
  - 342               ii. allow all students equal access to services and/or participation
  - 343               iii. request as part of their annual operating budget at least \$0.50 per student, per year, from the SAF
  - 344               iv. if a new applicant, present a petition of fifteen hundred (1500) registered undergraduates to the
  - 345               Student Assembly
- 346           B. Except at the discretion of the Assembly and with approval of the President, organizations must also:
  - 347               i. be a registered organization
  - 348               ii. be student-directed and student-led
  - 349               iii. possess a University operating account with internally controlled funds
  - 350               iv. have a Cornell-employed advisor with oversight of its account
  - 351               v. be previously funded by either the SAFC, the Student Assembly, or a University department/unit

### 352   **Section 4: Procedure**

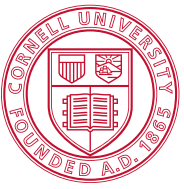
- 353           A. Application
  - 354               i. The Office of Assemblies shall make application materials available for all interested applicants at
  - 355               least 3 weeks before the deadline.
  - 356               ii. By noon on April 25 or the first business day thereafter in the semester preceding a fee-setting year,
  - 357               each applicant must submit, using forms that are hosted on the website of the Office of the
  - 358               Assemblies, a preliminary application including:
    - 359                   a. name of applicant,
    - 360                   b. a preliminary request in dollars per student per year,
    - 361                   c. checklist statement regarding eligibility criteria,
    - 362                   d. current primary and secondary contacts for the organization including email and phone
    - 363                   contact information, and,
    - 364                   e. if a new applicant, petitions bearing the signature of fifteen hundred (1500) undergraduate
    - 365                   students registered in that semester.



# Cornell University

## Student Assembly

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- iii. At least one week before the deadline for final application submission, the Vice President for Finance shall convene mandatory meetings for the Presidents, Treasurers, and Advisors of all applicants
    - a. the Appropriations Committee shall review each applicant’s application and approve the detail of each applicant’s financial statements.
    - b. applicants shall notify the Vice President for Finance if their final request will differ from their preliminary request.
    - c. The Vice President for Finance can grant an extension for all organizations if there is a delay in the availability of application materials.
  - iv. By noon on Friday of the third week of the fall semester in which classes are held in a fee setting year, each applicant must submit in print and digitally in a single file, using forms provided by the Office of the Assemblies, a final application including:
    - a. mission statement, of the organization or program, not to exceed one page,
    - b. written organization profile, not to exceed three pages, including:
      - 1. officers,
      - 2. number of members, and
      - 3. description of activities, programming, and events conducted in the present cycle,
    - c. summary of request for funding, not to exceed two pages, including a final funding request, and describing how the applicant intends to use funding and summarizing any changes if the applicant is a returning applicant,
    - d. financial statements for the past two academic years, the current academic year, and financial projections for the two following years based on requested funding levels during the funding cycle, and
    - e. an analysis of the current academic year’s financial statements showing hypothetical spending on each budget item in an organization’s financial statements if the organization received 10%, 25%, and 35% less funding than its current allocation<sup>2</sup>.
  - v. Applicants may submit materials in excess of specified numbers of pages only with written permission by the Vice President for Finance.
  - vi. The Office of the Assemblies will make received application materials available for public viewing online. Any pages containing confidential information must be explicitly stamped “confidential” and clearly identified to distinguish them from the publicly viewable portion of the application.
- B. Preliminary Report by Appropriations Committee
- i. By the last day of classes in the academic year preceding a fee-setting year, the Vice President for Finance will report each request received and the total amount of requests received in dollars per student per year to the Assembly, the Vice President for Student and Campus Life, and the President of the University.
  - ii. Before the deadline for final applications, the Vice President for Finance will report to the Assembly on the eligibility of each applicant, identifying:
    - a. any new applicants that do not meet one or more eligibility criteria, and
    - b. any returning applicants that do not meet one or more eligibility criteria which the Assembly may not waive.
  - iii. The Assembly may waive those eligibility requirements it is empowered to waive on a per organization basis for any organization for the remainder of the semester. Such organizations may



# Cornell University

## Student Assembly

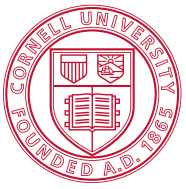
408 then proceed through the appropriation process, provided they meet all other eligibility criteria not  
409 waived by the Assembly.

### 410 C. Appropriation Process

- 411 i. Within one week after the deadline for final applications, the Appropriations Committee (the  
412 committee) shall convene to review applications.
- 413 ii. For each applicant deemed to be eligible or for which eligibility criteria are waived by the Assembly,  
414 the committee will:
- 415 a. arrange a hearing where the applicant may address questions of the committee,
  - 416 b. decide whether to fund the applicant in any amount, and,
  - 417 c. if it decides to fund the applicant, adopt an allocation in dollars per student per year of no  
418 less than fifty cents and no more than the request submitted by the applicant (this guideline  
419 can be waived for the Student Activities Funding Commission's allocation).
- 420 iii. At each meeting of the Assembly immediately preceding such a meeting of the committee, the Vice  
421 President for Finance will report the date, time, and location of the meetings as well as the names of  
422 applicants the committee intends to review.
- 423 iv. At each meeting of the Assembly immediately following such a meeting of the committee, the Vice  
424 President for Finance will introduce a written report, including:
- 425 a. name of applicant,
  - 426 b. amount requested by applicant,
  - 427 c. amount of allocation recommended by committee,
  - 428 d. rationale explaining committee's recommendation, and
  - 429 e. a brief response from the applicant, including any request to appeal to the Assembly. The  
430 Vice President for Finance may set a deadline for the applicant to submit a response,  
431 provided the deadline is no less than one business day after the applicant receives notice of  
432 the committee's decision.
- 433 v. The Vice President for Finance must inform each applicant of the time and location of any meeting  
434 where the report is to be presented or reviewed and must advise each applicant to send a  
435 representative who may answer questions of assembly members.
- 436 vi. If an applicant chooses to appeal the committee's recommendation, the Assembly will reconsider the  
437 recommendation of the committee. The Office of Assemblies will provide several copies of complete  
438 application materials at any meeting where the assembly considers appeals.
- 439 vii. The Vice President for Finance will also file minutes of the committee's meetings with the Office of  
440 the Assemblies.
- 441 viii. The committee will submit its final recommendation, including individual allocations, to the  
442 Assembly in the form of a legislative at least two weeks before the end of the fall semester.

### 443 D. Student Assembly Appropriation Process

- 444 i. The Assembly shall not adopt the recommendation of the Appropriations Committee at the same  
445 meeting that it is proposed.
- 446 ii. The Assembly shall provide notice to all applicants at least one full day in advance at any meeting  
447 where legislation related to its funding is discussed.
- 448 iii. The President of the Assembly will transmit its recommendation to the President for consideration  
449 by the last day of finals of the fall semester, including:
- 450 a. the total amount of SAF recommendation,



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 451 b. the allocations of each by-line funded organization, and  
452 c. a short description of each organization.

### 453 **Section 5: Specifications**

- 454 A. Members of the Assembly or the Appropriations Committee must disclose to the Vice President for Finance  
455 any personal affiliations with applicants and must recuse themselves from any business related to such  
456 applicants to prevent conflicts of interest.  
457 B. Members of the Assembly and of the Appropriations Committee must sign a confidentiality statement and  
458 submit it to the Office of the Assemblies before they are seated in the fall semester of a fee-setting year.

### 459 **Section 6: “Check-off” or “Pay-extra” Options**

460 Neither a check-off option nor an option to pay an amount in addition to the established SAF for specific programs  
461 or services will be allowed for purposes of exempting a student from paying the full amount of the SAF. Exceptions  
462 may be considered if recommended and approved by the Student Assembly and approved by the President of the  
463 University.

### 464 **Section 7: Voting**

465 Proxy votes shall not be permitted for decisions of the Student Assembly regarding the SAF during the SAF allocation  
466 process. The Student Assembly must approve the appropriations committee decisions by a majority of the voting  
467 membership of the Student Assembly and can overturn an appropriations committee decision by a two-thirds (2/3)  
468 vote of Student Assembly members present at the meeting.

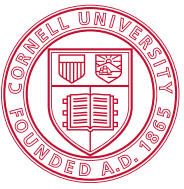
### 469 **Section 8: Freedom of Information**

470 Unless otherwise noted, all documents regarding the SAF shall be considered public and shall be available to members  
471 of the Cornell community for review within 24 hours of their request. All deliberations regarding allocations and  
472 authorization shall be conducted in open session unless otherwise required by university policy or law. If a closed  
473 session is necessary to review or discuss confidential materials, discussion in such session must be limited only to  
474 those materials and no vote may be taken regarding the disposition of the request itself. Confidential materials may be  
475 disclosed publicly only at the discretion of authorized university personnel.

### 476 **Section 9: Conference with GPSA**

477 If a disparity arises in funding levels between the GPSA and SA of an organization that is funded by both, the  
478 financial officers of each body will meet to discuss the discrepancy and recommend action to their respective bodies.

### 479 **Section 10: Default**



## Cornell University Student Assembly

480 If the Assembly does not adopt a recommendation in the fall semester of a fee setting year, its recommendation shall  
481 be presumed to be that all individual by-lines revert to the same level as in the current funding cycle with the  
482 following exception:

- 483 1. Should an applicant's newly approved allocation be less than that of the current cycle, the applicant shall  
484 receive the lower allocation.

### 485 **Section 11: Amendments**

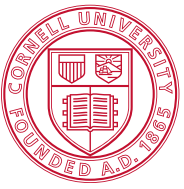
486 Appendix A may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Student Assembly. In order to ensure consistency and  
487 fairness to the applicants and student body at-large, no amendments to this appendix may be adopted during the fall  
488 semester of a fee-setting year.

### 489 **Section 12: Review**

490 The SA and the GPSA and a representative of the President of the University shall review these guidelines and the  
491 procedures established in accordance therewith at least every four years in a non-fee-setting year (e.g. 2014-2015,  
492 2018-2019). This review shall be conducted with strict adherence to the guidelines set forth by the Board of Trustees  
493 in Attachment A: Criteria for Setting and Allocating the Student Activity Fee (03/01/99).

### 494 **Section 13: Criteria for Setting and Allocating the Student Activity Fee from the** 495 **March 1, 1999 Delegation of Authority**

- 496 A. Pursuant to a letter dated March 1, 1999, the President of the University has delegated responsibility for the  
497 setting and allocation of the Student Activity Fee to the Student Assembly (SA) and the Graduate &  
498 Professional Student Assembly (GPSA) within the following guidelines:
- 499 B. The SA and the GPSA shall each amend their respective charters to include the criteria for the setting and  
500 allocation of the Student Activity Fee, including the guidelines set forth herein and which criteria shall be  
501 reviewed by and meet the approval of the President of the University.
- 502 C. The Student Activity Fee for undergraduate students and for graduate and professional students shall be set  
503 every two years for a period of two years by the SA and the GPSA, respectively.
- 504 D. The amount of the Student Activity Fee shall be determined by the last day of classes in the fall semester of  
505 the fee-setting year by the SA and the GPSA, after substantive input and active participation in the fee-setting  
506 process by their constituencies. In the event the SA or the GPSA is unable to meet this deadline, the  
507 applicable Student Activity Fee will default to the amount and allocation currently in effect during the fee-  
508 setting year. The final report must be sent to the President of the University by the last day of finals of the fall  
509 semester.
- 510 E. In general, in order to be considered for funding from the monies collected through the Student Activity Fee,  
511 an organization must meet the following criteria:
  - 512 i. Register as a student or university organization with the Student Activities Office
  - 513 ii. Allow students equal access to the services being provided by the organization or participation in the  
514 organization's activities



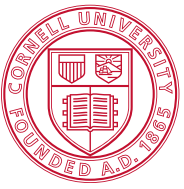
# Cornell University Student Assembly

- 515                   iii. Operate primarily for students by students with funds disbursed through a university operating  
516                   account  
517                   iv. Have an advisor to assist with oversight of the university operating account.
- 518 F. Funding from the monies collected through the Student Activities Fee may be provided directly to an  
519 organization, which applies for and receives “by-line” funding status, outside of the established Student  
520 Activities Funding Commission or Graduate and Professional Student Activities Funding Commission  
521 processes. In addition to the general criteria set out above, an organization wishing to receive by-line funding  
522 must demonstrate:
- 523                   i. Its activities are of direct and primary benefit to the entire Cornell community represented by the  
524                   respective assembly; and  
525                   ii. It has a demonstrated budgetary need equivalent to at least 50 cents per student per year.
- 526 G. The SA and the GPSA may also elect to provide by-line funding for other programs and services, which are  
527 not registered organizations (e.g., Students Helping Students, club insurance) but whose organizational  
528 structure and programs and services are consistent with the criteria outlined above for by-line funded  
529 organizations. Such funding would require the approval of the respective assembly and the President of the  
530 University.
- 531 H. The SA and the GPSA will ensure that an appropriate balance is maintained between funds allocated to by-  
532 line funded organizations and the Student Activities Funding Commission or Graduate and Professional  
533 Student Activities Funding Commission, respectively. The SA and GPSA shall allocate no less than 35% of  
534 their respective Student Activity Fees to the applicable Finance Commission for disbursement among non-  
535 by-line funded organizations.
- 536 I. The SA shall ensure that the Student Activity Fee is an even dollar amount without change. The SA shall be  
537 permitted to increase the Student Activities Funding Commission's allocation above their request to reach an  
538 even dollar amount.
- 539 J. Neither a check-off option nor an option to pay an amount in addition to the established Student Activity  
540 Fee for specific programs or services will be allowed for purposes of exempting a student from paying the full  
541 amount of the Student Activity Fee, due to the funding instability inherent in administering such a system.  
542 Exceptions may be considered if recommended and approved by the respective assembly and approved by  
543 the President of the University.
- 544 K. These guidelines and the procedures established in accordance therewith shall be reviewed by the SA and the  
545 GPSA and a representative of the President of the University at least every four years in a non-fee-setting  
546 year.

## 547 **APPENDIX B: STUDENT ASSEMBLY GUIDELINES FOR FUNDED** 548 **ORGANIZATIONS**

### 549 **Section 1: Preamble**

550 Each organization that receives funding from the Student Assembly (SA) through the Student Activity Fee (SAF) is  
551 subject to Guidelines set by the Assembly in consultation with the Graduate & Professional Student Assembly  
552 (GPSA), these organizations, and the Cornell student body.



# Cornell University Student Assembly

## 553 Section 2: Student Assembly's Role and Obligations

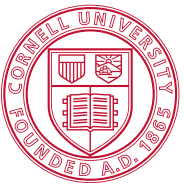
- 554 A. **SA Charge:** As the student-elected governing body at Cornell University, the SA shall seek out and voice  
555 effectively the interests and concerns of the student body.
- 556 B. **Notice of Current Governing Documents:** The SA shall provide each by-line funded organization, the  
557 Director(s) of Student Activities, Campus Life, the GPSA, and the Dean of Students with a current copy of  
558 these Guidelines, as well as the SA Charter and the SA Appropriations Committee Charge and Guidelines  
559 each year.
- 560 C. **Notice of Pending Legislation:** Each by-line funded organization, the Director(s) of Student Activities,  
561 Campus Life, the GPSA, and the Dean of Students shall be notified of any SA, SA Appropriations  
562 Committee, or other meeting in which legislation concerning or affecting Fee recipients is pending.
- 563 D. **Outreach:** The SA Vice-President for Finance shall, wherever possible and as often as possible, attend  
564 meetings of each organization throughout the year.
- 565 E. **Enforcement, Violations & Penalties**
- 566 i. The SA Vice-President for Finance shall be charged with investigation of all accusations regarding  
567 violations of these guidelines and will report such findings to the SA.
- 568 ii. If the SA determines that an organization has committed a violation, the SA may impose a fine,  
569 reduction or revocation of the organization's by-line funding allocation. In order for a fine,  
570 reduction, or revocation of funding to occur, a two-thirds majority of the SA must concur. Reasons  
571 for a fine, reduction, or revocation of funding include, but are not limited to, violation of these rules,  
572 violation of campus policies, or violation of contract. Any money garnered from a fine on an  
573 organization shall be placed in the Special Projects Fund of the Student Assembly. If a reduction or  
574 revocation of funding affecting the remainder of the funding cycle occurs, the University shall  
575 attempt to reduce the SAF to reflect the lower amount. Excepting that, the money shall revert to the  
576 Special Projects Fund.

## 577 Section 3: General Guidelines

578 All recipients of the SAF shall adhere to the following guidelines:

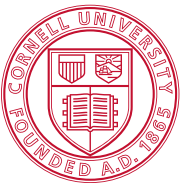
- 579 A. **Eligibility:** SAF allocations are to be used primarily for the benefit of undergraduate students. Organizations  
580 that have the capability to be student run and led shall be primarily student run and led.
- 581 B. **Event Ticketing:** For all events (concerts, lectures, films, etc.) funded by the Fee allocations and for which  
582 admission is charged:
- 583 i. Cornell students shall receive a reasonable discount per event to reflect their prior contribution via  
584 the SAF.
- 585 ii. Cornell students shall receive the first opportunity to purchase tickets or (otherwise should have a  
586 substantial amount of tickets reserved for student use).
- 587 iii. The Appropriations Committee or the Executive Committee shall have the ability to request that  
588 organizations publish a report to the SA on the amount of money received for an event, where that  
589 money has been allocated, and how much money was spent on the event.
- 590 C. **Attendance Tracking:** Each By-line Funded Organization shall, whenever possible, provide accurate  
591 attendance figures. Such figures may be acquired through a number of measures including swiping Cornell





## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 592 ID's, using a ticketing system, keeping a sign in sheet, or having someone at the door count entrants. For  
593 events that are expected to exceed a capacity of 100 attendees, organizations are required to track attendance  
594 through a ticketing system or using Cornell ID Scanners. For organizations unable to purchase their own  
595 scanners, scanners will be available to rent through the Office of the Assemblies. For events where tracking  
596 attendance would provide an unnecessary burden to organizations, a brief written statement explaining why  
597 attendance was not taken is required.
- 598 D. **Public Promotion & Engagement:** Each organization shall regularly advertise its existence and encourage  
599 student participation at its meetings, which shall be open to the public.
- 600 E. **Capital Expenditures:** SAF allocations are meant to serve as a “current account.” No organization shall use  
601 its Fee allocations for major capital equipment purchases costing more than \$500 without the express  
602 approval of the SA. Organizations shall request approval in their annual fall report to the SA. A major capital  
603 equipment purchase shall be defined as anything having a useful life of two years or more.
- 604 F. **Funds Partitioning:** SAF money will preferably be held in a separate University account for accounting and  
605 reporting purposes. Otherwise all expenditures from SAF money shall be authorized by the Organization in  
606 accordance with its governing documents.
- 607 G. **SA Liaisons:** The SA shall have the option of appointing a Student Assembly member to serve as a non-  
608 voting liaison to each organization or, where appropriate, to its Executive Board. If an organization feels their  
609 liaison is failing in their duty, a new liaison may be appointed.
- 610 H. **Off-Year Reporting:** During the fall of even-numbered calendar years each organization shall provide the  
611 Appropriations Committee with a written account of the use of its fee allocation and operations for the  
612 previous academic year, and an oral summary of its activities, including usage statistics and future  
613 programming plans. The SA Vice President for Finance will conduct an unofficial vote regarding the  
614 committee's recommendation on whether or not the organization should receive an increase in funding, a  
615 decrease in funding or maintenance of funding at its current level. The SA Vice President for Finance shall  
616 then provide a written summary report of these meetings to the SA.
- 617 I. **New Organization Reporting:** Organizations receiving By-Line funding for the first time in the current  
618 funding cycle shall report each semester to the Appropriations Committee on their operations and finances.
- 619 J. **Conferences:** Organizations may send Executive Board member(s) to one annual conference, if desired. The  
620 Appropriations Committee must approve organization's conference expenditures and each organization must  
621 demonstrate to the committee that conference attendance will benefit the Organization's ability to achieve its  
622 mission statement. Organizations shall request approval in their annual fall report to the SA. All conferences,  
623 teambuilding, banquet, training, and other social expenditures for organization members, in sum, shall be no  
624 greater than \$4,000 or 10% of the organization's by-line allocation, whichever is less. This rule shall not apply  
625 to SAFC-funded organizations.
- 626 K. **Governing Document Approval:** All organizations must submit any changes in the Organizations' bylaws,  
627 constitution, or other governing documents to the SA for its approval.
- 628 L. **Non-discrimination:** All organizations receiving Student Activity Fee funds directly or that receive such  
629 funds indirectly from a by-line funded organization shall not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived  
630 age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex,  
631 sexual orientation, veteran status, or any combination of these factors when determining its membership and  
632 when determining the equal rights of all general members and executive board members, respectively, which  
633 shall include, but are not limited to, voting for, seeking, and holding positions within the organization.  
634 Additionally, all organizations receiving funding from the Student Activity Fee and that serve as a funding



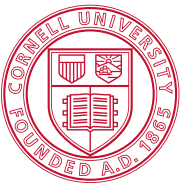
# Cornell University Student Assembly

- 635 source for other organizations on campus shall not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived age, color,  
636 disability, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual  
637 orientation, veteran status, or any combination of these factors when awarding funding.
- 638 i. Notwithstanding these requirements, a club sport may make requirements based on competitive  
639 athletic skill which may result in a club sport of one or predominantly one gender. Organizations may  
640 also make requirements based on vocal range or quality which may result in a chorus or choruses of  
641 one or predominantly one gender. Organizations that participate in activities with governmental age  
642 restrictions may also make appropriate requirements on the basis of age.
  - 643 ii. Organizations may also enforce uniform standards of belief or conduct as a prerequisite for obtaining  
644 some or all rights of general members and executive board members, respectively, so long as said  
645 standards are protected by the 1st Amendment of the United States Constitution in the context of a  
646 public university and do not impede enforcement of Appendix B, Section II, subsection E.
  - 647 iii. Each organization receiving Student Activity Fee funds directly from the Student Assembly shall  
648 include a “Non-discrimination Clause” section in its bylaws, constitution or other governing  
649 documents reflecting this policy.

## 650 **Section 4: Organization Specific Guidelines**

651 Furthermore, individual organizations shall adhere to the following additional Guidelines:

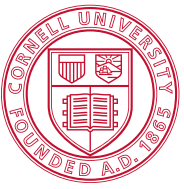
- 652 A. ALANA Intercultural Board
  - 653 i. \$2.05 shall be used to fund ALANA’s member organizations as outlined in the ALANA constitution
  - 654 ii. \$3.00 per student per year of the ALANA allocation shall be used to fund the MCFAB program each  
655 year.
  - 656 iii. MCFAB shall seek to bring multiple acts to campus representing different musical genres.
  - 657 iv. \$1.90 per student per year of the ALANA allocation shall be contributed toward funding umbrella  
658 organizations as outlined in the ALANA constitution. Umbrella organizations may not apply for  
659 SAFC funding.
  - 660 v. \$1.10 per student per year of the ALANA allocation shall be contributed towards ALANA’s own  
661 administrative costs and programming needs such as general body meetings and other intercultural  
662 programming
- 663 B. Athletics & Physical Education
  - 664 i. The Athletics Department shall provide, at no cost, a Big Red Sports Pass (BRSP) to each  
665 undergraduate student. \$7.00 per student per year of the total annual Athletics allocation may be  
666 spent towards providing the BRSP.
  - 667 ii. In collaboration with the Sports Marketing Group, the Athletics Department will promote Cornell  
668 Athletic events to the entire Cornell community. \$3.00 per student per year of the annual Athletics’  
669 allocation may be spent towards providing marketing and promotions. Athletics shall further  
670 promote increased autonomous student leadership in the Sports Marketing Group during the 2016-  
671 2018 funding cycle.
  - 672 iii. The BRSP shall provide free admission to all varsity sports excluding Men’s Varsity Ice Hockey.
- 673 C. Class Councils



# Cornell University

## Student Assembly

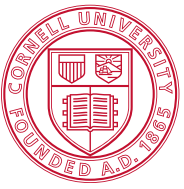
- 674 i. The Class Councils allocation may be divided between the four class years in proportions determined  
675 by the organization.
- 676 D. Collegiate Readership Program
- 677 i. Newspapers shall be distributed from the Monday of the week prior to the first full week of classes  
678 to the last day of exam week during each fall semester and from the first day of class to the last day  
679 of exam week during each spring semester. These distributions periods do not include Fall Break,  
680 Thanksgiving Break, or Spring Break.
- 681 ii. The CRP liaison shall prepare and present a report to the SA at the end of each year with  
682 information regarding readership and an analysis of the current distribution locations. Any proposed  
683 changes in locations or proportions must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the SA.
- 684 iii. The CRP liaison shall yearly provide a list of publications available through CRP that are deliverable  
685 to Ithaca and allow the SA to change the publications that are purchased.
- 686 E. Community Partnership Board
- 687 i. The Board shall use Activity Fee money for the funding of projects. Administrative expenses shall be  
688 paid by the Board's parent body, the Public Service Center, or other non-activity fee sources of  
689 funding.
- 690 ii. Projects funded are to be decided by the Board. Those projects are to be included in the annual  
691 report to the SA.
- 692 F. Convocation
- 693 i. At the time of the selection of Convocation Committee membership, all members of the SA and  
694 student-elected trustee(s) that belong to that class year will be invited to participate as full voting  
695 members of the Convocation Committee.
- 696 ii. Convocation shall seek to announce speaker selection first at a Student Assembly meeting.
- 697 G. Cornell Cinema
- 698 i. Cornell Cinema shall not increase student ticket prices without the express approval of the SA.
- 699 ii. Cornell Cinema shall strive to promote autonomous student leadership.
- 700 H. Cornell Concert Commission
- 701 i. The Concert Commission shall seek to produce at least one act each semester in Barton Hall, Lynah  
702 Rink, or similar venue.
- 703 ii. The Concert Commission shall strive to put on one free concert during the academic year.
- 704 iii. The Concert Commission shall strive to do at least one event in the Bears Den every year.
- 705 iv. The Cornell Concert Commission shall send a report to the Appropriations Committee any time a  
706 concert loses more money than expected detailing the loss and the impact it will have on future  
707 operations.
- 708 I. Cornell University Emergency Medical Service
- 709 i. CUEMS may save no more than \$25,000 per each two-year funding cycle toward the purchase of a  
710 new vehicle.
- 711 J. Cornell University Programming Board
- 712 i. The Cornell University Program Board shall use its SAF allocation to bring widely known speakers to  
713 campus. Such speakers should have diverse following, within the university, and in the Board's best  
714 opinion, should be able to attract a large attendance by students and community members.
- 715 K. CU Tonight Commission



# Cornell University

## Student Assembly

- 716 i. CUTonight shall seek to promote non-alcoholic, late night social programming, on campus, open to  
717 the entire Cornell community.
- 718 ii. CUTonight shall send at least one representative to every funded event with the intention of  
719 reviewing the event
- 720 iii. CUTonight shall develop an appeals process whereby student organizations applying for funding  
721 have the opportunity to present why they believe the commission overlooked funding.
- 722 L. Orientation Steering Committee
- 723 i. The Assistant Dean of Students in New Student Programs shall continue to supervise the planning  
724 and implementation of all August and January orientation activities.
- 725 ii. By the last meeting of the Spring Semester, OSC shall present a report to the SA detailing planned  
726 activities for the upcoming Orientation week
- 727 iii. The president of the SA and the senior Student Elected Trustee must be invited to address the new  
728 students at the President's New Students Convocation each year. If the Cornell University President  
729 limits the OSC to two speakers, the president of the SA must be invited.
- 730 iv. Attendance at Welcome Weekend events shall not be mandatory for Orientation volunteers.
- 731 v. OSC shall increase funding for both transfer and January Orientation programming.
- 732 vi. OSC shall allocate \$1.12 of their allocation towards programs designed to educate new student about  
733 consent and sexual assault
- 734 M. Outdoor Odyssey
- 735 i. Outdoor Odyssey shall maintain their need-based financial aid program for students who apply for  
736 pre-orientation trips.
- 737 ii. Outdoor Odyssey shall conduct a review during the 2016-2018 Funding Cycle of the demographics  
738 of those who attend
- 739 N. Senior Days
- 740 i. SAF-funded Senior Week events will charge no admittance fee and will be open to all seniors.
- 741 O. Slope Day Programming Board (SDPB)
- 742 i. The allocation for the SDPB shall be used exclusively for programming and publicity for an event at  
743 the end of the spring semester.
- 744 ii. The SDPB shall organize a non-alcoholic Slope Fest event concurrent to Slope Day.
- 745 iii. SDPB shall offer all undergraduate students free admission to Slope Day, unless expressly permitted  
746 by the SA.
- 747 iv. The Slope Day Programming Board shall work with the Cornell Administration to achieve the best  
748 possible event for all Cornell students.
- 749 v. The Slope Day Programming Board shall collect demographic information from all Slope Day  
750 entrants. These statistics shall be reported to the SA and GPSA the Fall Semester following Slope  
751 Day.
- 752 vi. The Slope Day Programming Board shall seek to announce artist selection first at a Student  
753 Assembly meeting.
- 754 P. Slope Media Group
- 755 i. Slope Media Group shall establish durable goods inventory management procedures, which must  
756 include details about anticipated storage locations, authorized persons to possess or handle  
757 equipment, device security, and theft.
- 758 Q. Student Activities Funding Commission



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 759 i. SAFC shall publish and make publicly available a written account of the organizations requesting  
760 funding, the amount requested, the amount rewarded, and the amount spent.  
761 ii. Criteria for funding of undergraduate student organizations may not be altered or waived without the  
762 express approval of the SA.  
763 iii. The SAFC shall reserve at least 1 dollar per student per year for a special projects fund. Monies held  
764 in this fund will be allocated first for appeals of the SAFC's funding decisions to the SA.  
765 iv. Each organization funded by the SAFC will be required to include the following SAF logo or  
766 statement on all fliers, posters, promotions, programs, and literature "Funded in part by the Student  
767 Activities Funding Commission".
- 768 R. Welcome Weekend  
769 i. Welcome Weekend shall seek to hold events during the first two weeks of each semester.
- 770 S. Willard Straight Hall Student Union Board  
771 i. All events funded by WSH SUB must either take place in Willard Straight Hall or the surrounding  
772 environments and be directly associated with the purpose and mission of WSH.
- 773 T. Women's Resource Center (WRC)  
774 i. The Women's Resource Center shall collaborate with the Student Assembly Women's Liaison  
775 Representative, Community Life on safety, health, and other topics pertinent to women on campus.  
776 ii. \$0.50 per student per year of the WRC allocation shall be used for the development and operation of  
777 the Big Red Shuttle late night shuttle service. The Women's Resource Center will be responsible for  
778 coordinating the management and operation of the Big Red Shuttle late night shuttle service.

### 779 **Section 5: Duration and Supersession**

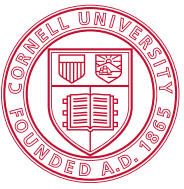
- 780 A. Once approved by the SA, these Funding Guidelines shall take effect on July 1, 2016 and shall expire on June  
781 30, 2018, unless amended or renewed by the SA. These rules require a two-thirds majority of SA members  
782 present to be amended.
- 783 B. These Funding Guidelines supersede all previous legislation of the SA and its predecessor bodies, as well as  
784 all charters, constitutions, bylaws, and other legislation of all SAF recipients and other student organizations.
- 785 C. Guidelines for organizations that also receive funding from the GPSA may be amended only after  
786 consultation with the GPSA.

## 787 **APPENDIX C: GUIDELINES FOR THE ALLOCATION OF THE** 788 **STUDENT ASSEMBLY INFRASTRUCTURE FUND**

### 789 **Section 1: Preamble**

790 The Student Assembly (the Assembly), is charged with the allocation of the Student Assembly Infrastructure Fund  
791 (SAIF). Applications for funding provided by the SAIF must be reviewed every semester by the SAIF Committee and  
792 are subject to overview by the Appropriations Committee.

### 793 **Section 2: Sources of Funding**



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794 On the first of September of every year, 1.974% of the outstanding balance of the SAF endowment fund be  
795 withdrawn and transferred into the budget of the SAIF under the Student Assembly budget.

### 796 **Section 3: Closing of Account at Year End**

797 On the first of June of every year, any outstanding amount in the budget of the SAIF under the Student Assembly  
798 budget be transferred back into the SAF endowment fund

### 799 **Section 4: Definitions**

800 The following terms, which appear frequently in this Appendix, shall be defined as follows:

- 801 A. Organization: a registered Independent or University organization that has authorization to receive funding.
- 802 B. Application: the request to receive a funding gift from the SAIF for a project or initiative.
- 803 C. Applicant: any individual student, group of students, organization, or group of organizations who submits an  
804 application to receive a funding gift from the SAIF.
- 805 D. SAFC: Student Activities Funding Commission, a committee of the Student Assembly, as outlined in the  
806 Student Assembly Bylaws.
- 807 E. Byline funding: line item funding that comes directly from the SAF as described under Appendix A of the  
808 Student Assembly Charter.
- 809 F. Appropriations Committee: a committee of the Student Assembly, as outlined in the Student Assembly  
810 Bylaws.

### 811 **Section 5: Purpose**

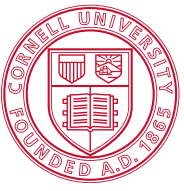
812 The purpose of the SAIF is to financially support projects and/or initiatives that improve infrastructure or facilities  
813 on campus that contribute to the undergraduate experience of Cornell students.

### 814 **Section 6: Eligibility**

815 To be eligible to receive a funding award from the SAIF, an application for a project or initiative must:

- 816 A. be developed and organized by Cornell undergraduates;
- 817 B. allow all students equal access to services;
- 818 C. be an initiative located on the Ithaca campus of Cornell University;
- 819 D. not be deemed one that the applicant could reasonably receive full funding for in a manner conducive to its  
820 timeline through any combination of other funding sources on campus, including byline funding or the  
821 SAFC;
- 822 E. not have previously requested and received a funding gift from the SAIF for the same purpose.

### 823 **Section 7: Permitted Applications**



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824 The following applications represent some, but not all, of the eligible projects or initiatives that, if they are not among  
825 the list of prohibited applications, may receive funding gifts from the SAIF:

- 826 A. a renovation of a room or building
- 827 B. the construction of new infrastructure (ex. Bike racks, electrical outlets, water fountains)
- 828 C. an opportunity to increase the size of a capital goods expenditure to receive an unforeseen benefit (i.e. a  
829 planned renovation by the administration could be substantively expanded via student support); and
- 830 D. a project or initiative that needs initial start-up funding before it can become eligible for other sources of  
831 funding on campus.

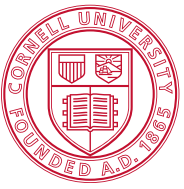
### 832 **Section 8: Prohibited Applications**

833 The following applications are prohibited from receiving funding gifts from the SAIF:

- 834 A. an application that did not receive funding or failed to get reimbursed from other sources due to an error on  
835 behalf of the applicant;
- 836 B. requests to help an applicant avoid running a deficit resulting from a lack of adequate planning;
- 837 C. an application to cover the costs of a regularly occurring project or initiative; and
- 838 D. an application that directly or indirectly subsidizes the cost of tuition of an individual student.

### 839 **Section 9: Procedure for Determining Funding Gifts**

- 840 A. Release of Application
  - 841 i. The chair of the SAIF Commission (SAIFC) is responsible for submitting the application to receive  
842 funding from the SAIF to the Office of the Assemblies by the first day of classes each fall.
  - 843 ii. The Office of the Assemblies shall make the application provided by the chair of the SAIFC available  
844 to all eligible applicants by the first day of classes each semester.
  - 845 iii. The chair of the SAIFC shall create a publicity plan, in conjunction with the Vice Presidents of  
846 Public Relations & Outreach of the Student Assembly, that will detail how the SA will make all  
847 students aware of the SAIFC. This plan shall be approved by the SA at the first meeting of the Fall  
848 semester.
  - 849 iv. The chair of the SAIFC is responsible for releasing a timeline by the first day of classes each semester  
850 consisting of the deadline for applications, when those applications will be reviewed by the SAIFC,  
851 and when those funding gifts will be announced.
  - 852 v. The chair of the SAIFC may choose to hold additional SAIFC meetings to evaluate all received  
853 applications that have not yet been reviewed in addition to, but not in place of, the dates released in  
854 the timeline on the first day of each semester.
- 855 B. Funding Gift Evaluation Process
  - 856 i. For each application, the SAIFC will:
    - 857 a. arrange a hearing where the proposers of the application may address questions of the  
858 committee,
    - 859 b. determine if the application is eligible to receive a funding gift from the SAIF,



## Cornell University Student Assembly

- 860 c. decide what funding gift an eligible application should receive, if any, by voting on the  
861 funding gift requested by the applicant and all funding gifts proposed by voting members of  
862 the SAIFC in decreasing order, beginning with the largest funding gift, and / or approving:  
863 1. the first funding gift that receives a 4/5 majority of voting members present and is  
864 more than 75% of the percentage of the available funding in the SAIF at the  
865 beginning of that academic year,  
866 2. the first funding gift that receives a 2/3 majority of voting members present and is  
867 more than 50% of the percentage of the available funding in the SAIF at the  
868 beginning of that academic year,  
869 3. the first funding gift that receives a majority of voting members present and is less  
870 than 50% of the percentage of the available funding in the SAIF at the beginning of  
871 that academic year,
- 872 ii. After the SAIFC evaluates an application, the chair of the SAIFC must issue a written report which  
873 includes the:
- 874 a. name of the applicant,  
875 b. project or initiative requested in the application,  
876 c. date that the SAIFC reviewed the application,  
877 d. funding gift requested by the applicant,  
878 e. funding gift granted by the SAIFC and what that funding gift is as a percentage of the  
879 available funding in the SAIF at the beginning of that academic year, and  
880 f. rationale explaining the SAIFC's decision
- 881 iii. All funding gifts granted by the SAIFC must be approved by the Dean of Students before becoming  
882 finalized.
- 883 iv. If the applicant has a University operating account with internally controlled funds and oversight by a  
884 Cornell-employed advisor, the Vice President for Finance will transfer the funding gift approved by  
885 the SAIFC into their account. If the applicant does not have an account that meets these eligibility  
886 requirements, the amount of the funding gift will be separated from the remaining balance of the  
887 SAIF and expenses will be processed like all others under the Student Assembly budget.
- 888 v. At each meeting of the Assembly immediately following a finalized funding gift, the report associated  
889 with the application must be included in the meeting's agenda.
- 890 vi. The chair of the SAIFC will file any reports or minutes of committee meetings pertaining to the  
891 SAIF with the Office of the Assemblies.
- 892 vii. The chair of the SAIFC shall regularly report to the Assembly on the progress of projects and shall  
893 inform the Assembly of any setbacks the Commission faces in implementing its projects