

Cornell University Student Assembly

Cornell University Student Assembly

Agenda of the Thursday, October 19, 2017 Meeting
4:45pm-6:30pm in Willard Straight Hall: Memorial Room

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

II. Open Microphone

III. Announcements & Reports

- a. VP Park – Communications Committee Update
- b. Rep Egharevba – Academic Policy & Steve Forbes
- c. Rep Schott – International Financial Aid Update

IV. Annual Sustainability & Climate Action Update (5:00pm)

V. Byline Reports

- a. Class Councils
- b. Welcome Weekend Committee
- c. Orientation Steering Committee
- d. SAFC

VI. New Business

- a. Resolution 12: Calling for Development of a Strategic Plan
- b. Resolution 13: Amending FARC Guidelines

VII. Adjournment

VIII. Executive Session



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Originally Presented on:	10/19/2017
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #12 Calling for the Development of a Strategic Plan

ABSTRACT: This resolution calls for the University to create a strategic plan.

Sponsored by: Joseph Anderson '20

Whereas, senior leadership recognizes the critical need to address issues of injustice, racism and bigotry, in the wake of separate incidents on or near campus this semester, and to develop and/or enhance programs and services that support **diversity** and inclusion on our campuses;

Whereas, many in our campus community are dealing with questions and concerns about recent U.S. executive actions on immigration travel bans, and DACA and undocumented students—and the current and future implications for student, faculty, and staff activities and our **international** programs;

Whereas, the Senior Leaders Climate Action Group is working to integrate **sustainability** and climate action strategies into the campus culture and strategic planning process;

Whereas, the opening of the tech campus in New York City marks the beginning of a new era of unprecedented opportunity for Cornell, which hinges upon our ability to take advantage of cross-college synergies and develop institutional capacity to act as “**One Cornell**” and create more connections among the distinct parts;

Whereas, there is an ongoing tension between our ambitious aspirations to enhance diversity, sustainability, connectivity between colleges and campuses, and global impact, and the limited availability of new resources to fund these aspirations;

Whereas, the most recent strategic plan was completed in May 2010 and set forth specific objectives and actions for the university for the period of 2010-2015;

Whereas, this plan has not been updated to reflect the changing environment for higher education in general and for Cornell in particular;

Whereas, the strategic plan will guide institutional decisions about where to invest resources (i.e., time, effort, and money);

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly formally requests that the president and provost of Cornell University initiate a strategic planning process to begin in fall 2017 and be completed by spring of 2018;

Be it further resolved, that the university administration should partner with all assemblies and ensure that faculty, students, and staff share in the strategic planning process and have a meaningful role in shaping the final strategic plan;



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Be it further resolved, that all assemblies will have the ability to appoint members to the strategic planning advisory council in the process of crafting the new strategic plan;

Be it finally resolved, that the university administration should formally present a status update on the strategic plan to the University Assembly by October 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Anderson '20

Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 3-0-2, 10/15/2017



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Originally Presented on:	10/19/2017
Type of Action:	Legislation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #13

Amending the Financial Review Committee Guidelines

ABSTRACT: This resolution clarifies sections of the guidelines of the Financial Aid Review Committee to reflect the current status of the Students Helping Students Fund, the Summer Experience Grant, and the Office of Financial Aid and Student Employment.

Sponsored by: Mayra Valadez '18

Whereas, the Financial Aid Review Committee of the Student Assembly oversee the Students Helping Students Fund and the Summer Experience Grant;

Whereas, sections of the Financial Aid Review Guidelines do not reflect current practices of the Committee;

Whereas, the Guidelines frequently refer to the "Financial Aid Office," which should be referenced as the "Office of Financial Aid and Student Employment"

Whereas, the former Chair of the Financial Aid Review Committee, Franklin Yang, and SA Vice President of Internal Operations, Matthew Henderson, sponsored Academic Year 2014-2015 S.A. Resolution 69, which outlined that "the Financial Aid Review Committee carry out evaluations of the Students Helping Students Fund charter every year to ensure that the fund is up to date and consistent with the needs of the students of the time;"

Whereas, amendments to the Financial Aid Review Committee Guidelines require majority approval of the Committee and majority approval of the Student Assembly;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly approve the amendments made to the Guidelines for the Financial Aid Review Committee, attached in the appendix of this resolution;

Respectfully Submitted,

Mayra Valadez '18

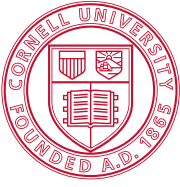
*First Generation Students Liaison At-Large Representative, Student Assembly
Chair, Financial Aid Review Committee*

Margaret Lee '19

Member, Financial Review Committee

Tristan Magloire

*Minority Students Liaison Representative At-Large, Student Assembly
Member, Financial Aid Review Committee*



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45 Derec Rollins '20
46 *Member, Financial Aid Review Committee*
47
48 Christopher Schott '18
49 *International Students Liaison Representative At-Large, Student Assembly*
50 *Member, Financial Aid Review Committee*
51
52 Dale Barbaria '19
53 *College of Engineering Representative, Student Assembly*
54 *Vice President of Internal Operations, Student Assembly*
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57 *Reviewed by: Financial Aid Review Committee, 4-0-1, 10/13/2017*



Financial Aid Review Committee Guidelines

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As Amended April 23, 2015

ARTICLE I: MISSION

Students Helping Students Fund and Summer Experience Grants are ~~is-a~~ programs ~~first~~ established by the Cornell University Student Assembly in conjunction with the Office of Financial Aid and Student Employment ~~in order to~~ for the purpose of assisting undergraduate students in financial need.

ARTICLE II: SOURCE OF FUNDING

The Students Helping Students Fund is a self-sustaining endowment that was created via contributions from the Undergraduate Student Activity Fee. The Student Assembly and the Financial Aid Review Committee, herein referred to as FARC, are responsible for assessing the need for further contributions to the fund from the Undergraduate Student Activity Fee.

ARTICLE III: OVERSIGHT OF FUNDS

Section 1: Legislative Authority Over Policies

- A. The Student Assembly and FARC are responsible for determining how the fund is used and reserves the right, depending on the effectiveness and usage of the fund, to make changes in the Students Helping Students Fund categories 41 that are offered to Cornell University undergraduate students.
- B. The Student Assembly has delegated responsibility for the Students Helping Students Fund to FARC. FARC is responsible for reviewing the guidelines of the fund and for making decisions regarding the approval of grants.
- C. On a day-to-day basis, the Financial Aid Office, under the direction of the director of Financial Aid or ~~his/her~~ ~~their~~ designee(s), will manage the fund.

ARTICLE IV: Fund Categories

Section 1: Emergency Grants



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- A. Purpose: – The fund provides assistance to students with necessary emergency expenses incurred that cannot be funded by other means. Allowable expenses include (but are not limited to): travel expenses relating to emergency situations (like the death ~~or sudden change of the documentation status~~ of a relative); extra basic living expenses needed due to fire, destruction, or natural disaster; replacement of stolen goods (not lost due to negligence); and emergency medical or dental expenses not covered by insurance. SHS funds are not designed to cover standard expenses included in the budgeted cost of attendance for the academic year, non-emergency expenses, expenses that are extravagant or non utilitarian, and so forth.
- B. Eligibility: In order to qualify for funding the applicant must be a registered, matriculated Cornell undergraduate student.
- C. Evaluative Criteria: Applicants who demonstrate financial need and whose expense fits the purpose stated above will be approved, given sufficient fund availability. Medical history and other information not pertinent to the application will not be released to the Committee. The Committee may not consider the student's employment status as a factor for approval.
- D. Selection Process: FARC is responsible for approving grants anonymously on a rolling basis. Grants that are less than \$1000 must be approved by a majority vote of voting committee members present. Grants greater than or equal to \$1000 must be approved by a two-thirds vote of voting committee members present. Due to their time sensitive nature, votes may be conducted via email.
- E. Grants: Funds will be distributed by the ~~Financial Aid Office~~ Office of Financial Aid and Student Employment. There is no predetermined number of grants or dollar amount per grant.

Section 2: Summer Experience Grants

- A. Purpose: To provide students with the opportunity to obtain career-related experience in the summer that is unpaid or minimally paid. Allowable expenses include (but are not limited to): housing, transportation for work, food, and cost of ~~uniforms~~ clothing. Prohibited usage of the Summer Experience Grants includes (but is not limited to): substitution for income, ~~personal expenses~~, and transfer of funds to other students.
- B. Eligibility: In order to qualify for funding the applicant must be a registered, matriculated Cornell undergraduate student who has a verified opportunity that has been approved by Career Services. ~~Students who have been awarded the Grant in the past are not eligible to apply again.~~
- C. Evaluative Criteria: Criteria will be set ~~jointly~~ by Career Services ~~with final approval coming from~~ and FARC. Career Services shall set up and administer the application process and nominate finalists for the fund. ~~A member of Career Services will meet with Student Assembly college representatives to review applicants who are nominated.~~ FARC will then approve or deny these finalists. Awards will be made on case-by-case basis with the primary determining factors being quality of the internship in relation to career goals and financial need.



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- D. Selection Process: FARC is responsible for approving or denying grants that are nominated by Career Services anonymously on a rolling basis. Grants ~~that are less than \$1500~~ must be approved by a majority vote of voting committee members present. ~~Grants greater than or equal to \$1500 must be approved by a two-thirds vote of voting committee members present.~~ Due to their time sensitive nature, votes may be conducted via email.
- E. Grants: Funds will be disbursed by the ~~Financial Aid office~~ Office of Financial Aid and Student Employment. There is no predetermined number of grants or dollar amount per grant. ~~No student may receive more than \$3000 total in Summer Experience Grant(s) from Students Helping Students during their undergraduate career at Cornell.~~ The maximum award per student is \$3,000.
- F. Commitment: Students who receive funding must sign a contract to commit to the full duration of their specified program. Funding will be withheld from any recipient who is unable to participate in the specified summer opportunity after approval but before receipt of funding. Likewise, if the summer opportunity ends prematurely, funding will be pro-rated according to the duration of participation. Failure to comply with other terms as stated in the contract may result in cancellation of the grant or in the recipient being billed by the University for any or all amounts already received.

Reflections: All students who receive Summer Experience Grants must provide a reflection on their experience. This will be submitted ~~by qualtrics survey as either a short presentation to the general body of the Student Assembly or a 2 page typed reflection 125 (1 in margin, double-spaced, 12 pt font) to FARC.~~ This reflection will provide an overview of what the student did over the summer and how it impacted the student's career aspirations (e.g. was it positive and enlightening or was it negative?). Responses ~~can~~ will be published unless the student requests otherwise. ~~All written materials are to be due by the third Student Assembly meeting in the fall. All presentations of responses will be during the fourth Student Assembly meeting in the fall semester.~~

ARTICLE V: AMENDMENTS TO THESE GUIDELINES

These guidelines may be amended with the majority approval of FARC and majority approval of the Student Assembly.