



Student Assembly R. 19: Encouraging Community Standards & Accountability

Sponsors: Nicholas Vasko on behalf of Carmen Martinez and Juliana Batista on behalf of Gabriela Lopez
Propose on November 4th, 2013

1 Whereas, the Student Assembly is charged with the authority and the responsibility to examine
2 any matters which involve the interests or concern the welfare of the student community, and to
3 make proposals concerning those issues to the appropriate officers or decision-making bodies
4 of the University;

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7 Whereas, the University has embraced the guiding principles of “Any person, any study” and
8 “Open doors, Open hearts, Open minds,” and has further worked to foster an inclusive
9 community through Toward New Destinations;

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12 Whereas, there has been a continued trend of unfortunate bias incidents, sexual assaults, and
13 group misconduct, coupled with an inconsistent response structure;

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16 Whereas, the University created the Group Misconduct website to document “group or team
17 violations of the Campus Code of Conduct, or infractions of other university or community
18 policies”;

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21 Whereas, being a research institution, the University has the resources to both create and
22 encourage innovative educational programs and materials for the members of the community
23 in order to foster an inclusive environment;

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26 Whereas, over 6,000 members of the Cornell community have completed Respect@Cornell;

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29 Be it therefore resolved, that the recent Cornell Athletics bias incident involving Ezra’s Army be
30 documented on the Group Misconduct website.

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33 Be it further resolved, that all current staff members in all units of the University be required to
34 complete Respect@Cornell by the end of the 2013-2014 academic year, and that all
35 subsequent hires complete the program as part of the orientation process.

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38 Be it further resolved, that all graduate teaching assistants be required to complete
39 Respect@Cornell.

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Be it further resolved, that the various academic units of the University encourage faculty members to complete Respect@Cornell.

Be it finally resolved, that the University work with all constituent assemblies to revisit and revise community standards, work to enhance related existing programs and structures, and to encourage a culture of civility and community responsibility.

Respectfully Submitted,

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SA Undesignated At-Large Representative

Juliana Batista '16
SA Vice President of Outreach

Carmen Martinez '14
Movimiento Estudiantil Chican@ de Aztlan, Co-Chair

Gabriela Lopez '15
Movimiento Estudiantil Chican@ de Aztlan, Political Chair

(Reviewed by: Committee on Inclusion & Diversity Initiatives on 11/3/2013)