S.A. Resolution #8

Condemning Hate Crimes and Hate Speech, and Supporting Students

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Originally Presented on:  | 09/20/2017 |
| Type of Action:  | Sense-of-the-Body |
| Status/Result:  | New Business |

ABSTRACT: This resolution affirms the Student Assembly’s solidarity with the Cornell community and requests the appropriate considerations and additions to the Campus Code of Conduct through the University Assembly Codes and Judicial Committee.

**Sponsored by: Tristan Magloire ’20, Mayra Valadez ’18, Alec Martinez ‘18,** and **Matthew Indimine ‘18**

**Whereas**, over the past year there has been an increase in hate-based incidents on college campuses across the country;

**Whereas**, on September 6, 2017 one or more Zeta Psi member(s) shouted “build a wall around the LLC” at the Latino Living Center;

**Whereas**, on September 15, 2017 multiple alleged Psi Upsilon members, a fraternity no longer affiliated with Cornell University, used racial slurs against a Black Cornell student and violently assaulted him and other members of his fraternity on their own property;

**Whereas**, later the same day on September 15, 2017, two or more Cornell students were captured on video using racial slurs against another student;

**Whereas**, all of these incidents appear to be clear violations of the Campus Code of Conduct, should the allegations prove true, as it is a violation of the Campus Code of Conduct to:

* “harass another person...by acting toward that person in a manner that is by objective measure threatening, abusive, or severely annoying and that is beyond the scope of free speech,”

or

* “assault or cause any physical injury to another person on the basis of disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation or affectional preference;”

**Whereas**, the Ithaca Police have arrested John P.A. Greenwood ‘20 involved on September 15 and charged said student with one count of assault in the third degree; and later the

**Whereas**, the Ithaca police are investigating the events of September 15 as a possible hate crime;

**Whereas**, pursuant to New York State Penal Law Article 485, hate crimes “do more than threaten the safety and welfare of all citizens” because they “inflict on victims incalculable physical and emotional damage and tear at the very fabric of free society,” “send a powerful message of intolerance and discrimination” and “disrupt entire communities and vitiate the civility that is essential to healthy democratic processes;”

**Whereas**, bias, discrimination, and hate crimes, by their nature, affect the fabric of the Cornell community, prevent the fulfillment of and are deeply antithetical to Cornell’s motto “I would found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study;”

**Whereas**, these recent events place the onus on Cornell University to establish and justify its members’ trust in our community;

**Whereas**, we, the Student Assembly, acknowledge that violence is not merely interpersonal, but also institutional and historic;

**Be it therefore resolved**, that the Student Assembly unequivocally condemns all forms of the kyriarchy which these racist actions are a manifestation of;

**Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly calls on all members of the Cornell community to join us in this condemnation;

**Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly charges all members of the Cornell community to consider how best to heal these harms, and how best to accord all members of our community the equal dignity and respect due to them as our peers;

Amendment: include language from Mayra

**Be it further resolved**, that the Student Assembly calls on the University Assembly Codes and Judicial Committee to expedite consideration of Campus Code of Conduct changes requested by Black Students United; by the end of the fall 2017 semester

**Be it finally resolved**, that the Student Assembly calls on the University Assembly Codes and Judicial Committee to add “documentation status” to the Code of Conduct Title III, Article II, Section A.

**Respectfully Submitted**,

Delmar Fears ‘19

*Co-Chair, Black Students United*

Traciann Celestin ‘19

*Co-Chair, Black Students United*

Tristan Magloire ‘20

*Minority Liaison at-Large Representative, Student Assembly*

Cornell DREAM Team

Mayra Valadez ‘18

*Undesignated at-Large Representative, Student Assembly*

*Co-President, First Generation Student Union*

Alec Martinez ‘18

*College of Architecture, Art, and Planning Representative, Student Assembly*

*Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly*

Matthew Indimine ‘18

*Undesignated at-Large Representative, Student Assembly*

*Founder, Mental Health Awareness Week*

Joseph Anderson ‘20

*Undergraduate Representative, University Assembly*

*Vice President, Residential Student Congress*

Jaëlle Sanon ‘19

*First Generation Student Liaison-at-Large Representative, Student Assembly*

Jesse Pollard ‘18

*College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative, Student Assembly*

Haris Hassan ‘18

*Vice-President of Diversity and Inclusion, Student Assembly*

Lavanya Aprameya ‘19

*President, Haven: LGBTQ+ Student Union*

Brianna Barrett ‘18

*President, Multicultural Greek Letter Council*

Caitlin Gleason ‘18

*President, Panhellenic Council*

Drew Lord ‘18

*President, Interfraternity Council*

Christopher Hanna ‘18

*Co-Founder, Amnesty International at Cornell*

Salma Shitia ‘18

*Founder, Cornell Welcomes Refugees*

*President Emeritus, Arab Student Association*

Shaibyaa Rajbhandari ‘18

*President, Cornell for Nepal*

Shivani Parikh ‘19

*President, South Asian Council*

Samir Durvasula, MEng ‘18

*Ex Officio, South Asian Council*

Omar Din ‘19

*College of Human Ecology Representative, Student Assembly*

*Board Member, Muslim Educational & Cultural Association*

Ehab Ebeid ‘19

*President Emeritus, Muslim Educational & Cultural Association*

Hadiyah Chowdhury ‘18

*President, Islamic Alliance for Justice*

Caroline Shone ‘18

*President, Cornell Hotel Society*

Dara Canchester ‘18

Kyonne Rowe ‘18

*Member, The Black & Latino Men’s Alliance*

Brigid Lucey ‘18

*President, Cornell Chorus*

John Schafer ‘18

*President Emeritus, Cornell Glee Club*

Clara Eizayaga ‘18

*President, Cornell Mortar Board*

Daniel Fayad ‘18

*Co-President, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), Cornell Chapter*

Chris Arce ‘19

*Co-President, Puerto Rican Students Association*

*Executive Board Member, Christian Union at Cornell*

Ana Jimenez

*Organizer, Cornell Organization for Labor Action*

Isabel Josephs ‘18

*Co-President, Red Key Athlete Honor Society*

*Co-Captain, Varsity Field Hockey*

Samantha McIlwrick ‘18

*Co-President, Red Key Athlete Honor Society*

*Co-Captain, Varsity Field Hockey*

Mazen Ibrahim ‘19

*Treasurer, Arab Student Association*

Sreejata Munsi ‘18

*President, Class of 2018 Council*

*President, Cornell University Class Councils*

Noah Chovanec ‘18

*Executive Vice President, Class of 2018 Council*

*Former School of Industrial and Labor Relations Representative, Student Assembly*

Beatrice Jin ‘18

*Member, Asian Pacific Americans for Action*

Piragash Swargaloganathan ‘19

Kianna Early ‘18

*President, Residential Student Congress*

Sofia Da Silva ‘18

*Co-President, First Generation Student Union*

Kada Hyde ‘18

*Co-President, The Black Women’s Support Network*

Mahfuza Shovik ‘19

Jason Gurtman ‘18

*President, Alpha Phi Omega - Gamma Chapter*

Sosna Gellaw ‘20

*Vice President, Ethiopian-Eritrean Student Association*

Anum Hussain ‘19

*Vice President, Committee for the Advancement of Muslim Life*

Mishcat Ibrahim ‘19

*Treasurer, Humanity First at Cornell*

Marisa Knox ‘18

*President, ALANA Intercultural Board*

Joe Jang ‘18

*Co-Chair, Student Activities Funding Commission*

Yashvi Gattani ‘18

*Co-Chair, Student Activities Funding Commission*

Pegah Moradi ‘19

Soumaya Zaadoud ‘20

Dean Xu ‘18

*President, International Students Unión*

Jazmin Aguilar-Romero ‘18

*Co-Chair, Science Organization of Latinxs (SOL)*

*Conference Chair, Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in the Sciences (SACNAS)*

Leighton Cook ‘18

*Chair, Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx de Aztlán (MEChA) de Cornell*

*VP of Community Relations, La Asociación Latina*

Brandon Cohen ‘18

*President, Cornell Hillel*

*Co-President Interfaith Council*

Ana Bordallo ‘18

*Co-Chair, Native American Students at Cornell (NASAC)*

Carunya (Caro) Achar ‘18

*Organizer, Cornell Organization for Labor Action*

*Ex Officio, South Asian Council*

Matt Jirsa ‘19

*VP, Cornell Minds Matter*

Danielle Eiger ‘18

*VP, Cornell Hillel*

Miguel Martinez ‘18

*Member, Cornell DREAM Team*

Nabiha Qudsi ‘18

*President, Committee for the Advancement of Muslim Life*

*Co-President, Cornell Interfaith Council*

Zoe Maisel ‘18

*Co-President, Planned Parenthood Generation Action*

Noelle LaDue ‘19

*Co-President, Inter-Cooperative Union*

Natalie Brown ‘18

*President, Cornell Democrats*

*Reviewed by: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 5-0-1, 09/19/2017*