## **Faculty Senate**

October 8, 2025

#### ALL IN-PERSON ATTENDEES PLEASE SIGN-IN ON ONE OF THE SHEETS

ALL ZOOM ATTENDEES PLEASE SIGN-IN VIA THE CHAT

SENATORS: Name and Department

**FACULTY GUESTS: Name and Department** 

NON-FACULTY GUESTS: Name and Affiliation

PRESS: Name and Affiliation

# Gayogohó:no' Land Acknowledgement

Cornell University is located on the traditional homelands of the Gayogohó:no' (the Cayuga Nation). The Gayogohó:no' are members of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, an alliance of six sovereign Nations with a historic and contemporary presence on this land. The Confederacy precedes the establishment of Cornell University, New York state, and the United States of America. We acknowledge the painful history of Gayogohó:no' dispossession and honor the ongoing connection of Gayogohó:no' people, past and present, to these lands and waters.

This land acknowledgment has been reviewed and approved by the traditional Gayogohó:no' leadership.

# **Rules of Engagement**

**HYBRID FORMAT** In-person and remote attendance

**ZOOM CAPTIONING** Choose "Live Transcription" in the Zoom menu

**TO SPEAK** 2 minutes to pose a question or make a statement

Identify yourself: First name, Last name and Department

Order: Zoom first, Floor next, Back to Zoom, Back to Floor, etc.

**CHAT** Want to attend to statements on the floor; set to everyone

Do not want to disadvantage in-person attendees

Limit chat to sharing resources with each other, published 'as is' publicly on DoF website

**RECORDING** Started at 3:30PM, Video, audio, and chat posted publicly after the meeting

**THREE MICROPHONES** To ensure all perspectives are fairly represented and discussed



Comments in favor



Neither in favor or opposition



Comments in opposition

# **Approval of Zoom Transcription Minutes**

September 10, 2025

Unanimous consent requested
Raise hand (in-person or remote) for corrections only

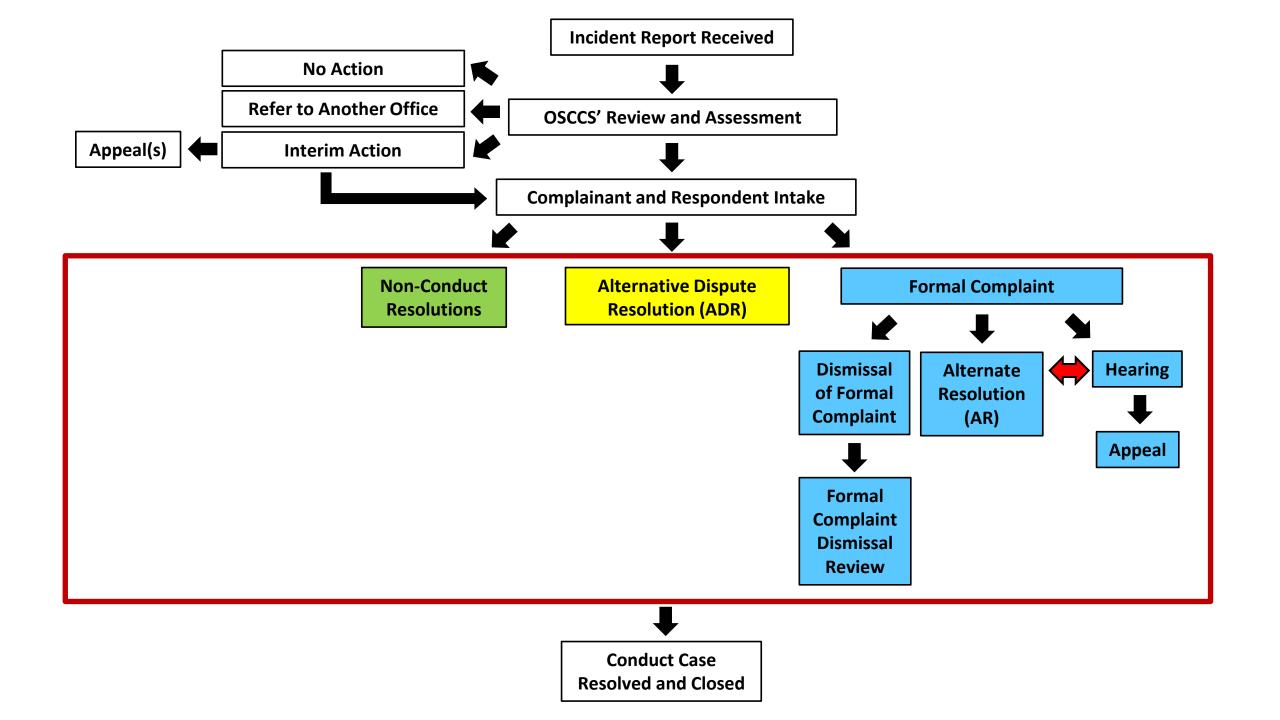
# **President Michael Kotlikoff Biomedical Sciences**



# Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards and the Review of Student Code

Vice President of Student & Campus Life Ryan Lombardi

# Overview of Cornell's Student Conduct Process







#### **No Action**

#### **Refer to Another Office**

- -Cornell Office of Civil Rights
- -Sorority and Fraternity Life
- -Housing and Residence Life



#### **OSCCS' Review and Assessment**

-Jurisdiction -Immediate protective action

-Provide resources to impacted individuals



#### **Interim Action**



**Appeal to VPSCL** 



-Individual or Designated Complainant -Student or Student Organization Respondent



**Appeal to Provost** (when Interim Action impacts academic continuity)



#### **Complainant and Respondent Intake**

-Individual or Designated Complainant -Student or Student Organization Respondent







#### **Non-Conduct Resolutions**

-Good Samaritan Protocol-Educational Conversations-Warning Letters

## Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

-Different options available -Resolution is always agreement based

#### **Formal Complaint**

-Full investigation of allegations
-Interviews with Complainant, Respondent, and Witnesses
-Gathering of all relevant information



#### 1



## Dismissal of Formal Complaint

-Complainant may request Hearing Panel to review Director's decision to dismiss



### Formal Complaint Dismissal Review

-Heard by the Hearing Panel

#### Alternate Resolution (AR)

-Negotiated agreement between Complainant and Respondent

-Pauses investigation

#### llas

#### Hearing

-Investigation
Record and
Report is
provided to
the Hearing
Panel



#### **Appeal**

-Heard by the Review Panel



**Conduct Case Resolved and Closed** 

#### **AY25 Resolution Method Breakdown**

| No Action<br>98<br>(11.61%) | Non-Conduct Resolutions<br>194 (22.98%)           |                                       | Alternative Dispute Resolution<br>418 (49.52%) |                                  |                    |   | Formal Complaint<br>68 (7.82%)    |   |                               |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| No<br>Action<br>(98)        | Good<br>Samarita<br>n<br>Protocol<br>(GSP)<br>171 | Educational<br>Conversatio<br>n<br>23 | Summary<br>Resolutio<br>n<br>221               | Resolutio<br>n<br>Meeting<br>155 | Mediatio<br>n<br>1 | Restorativ<br>e Justice<br>Conferenc<br>e<br>41 | Alternate<br>Resolutio<br>n<br>33 | Universit<br>y<br>Hearing<br>Panel<br>7 | Formal Complain ts Dismisse d |

Fake ID Bookstore theft

Low level alcohol Cannabis use Fire safety violations

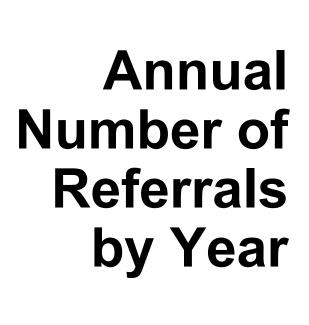
Interpersonal conflicts where restoration is possible

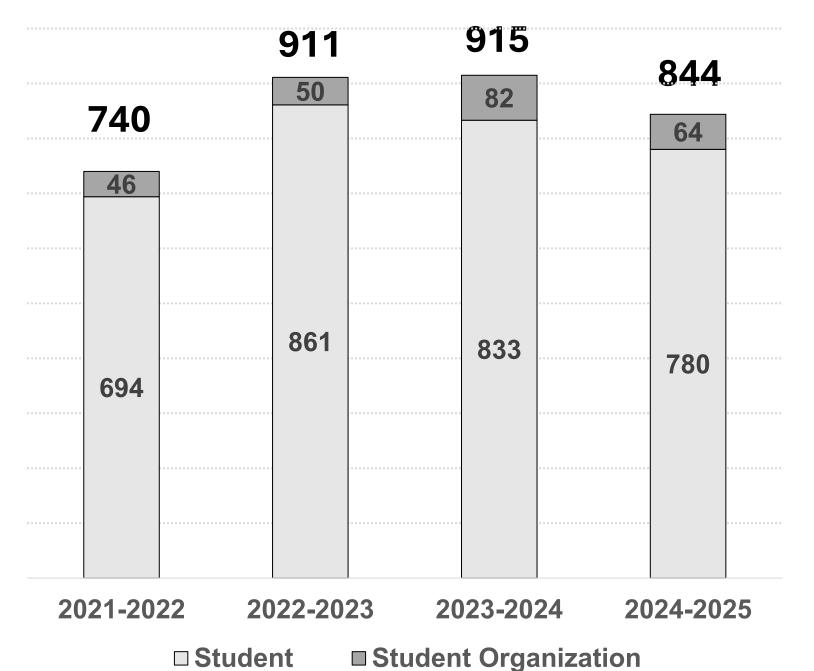
Cases with multiple stakeholders

Medium behavior concern

Interpersonal conflict where restoration is not possible

High behavior concern





# **Disposition/Case Resolution Status**

Percentages reflect cumulative resolutions from the last 4 academic years

#### No reportable outcome

- Oral Warning (71.97%)
- Deferred probation (0.72%)\*

#### Reportable but not beyond a student's graduation

- Written Reprimand (22.19%)
- Probation (2.64%)
- Deferred suspension (1.16%)\*

#### Permanently reportable outcome\*\*

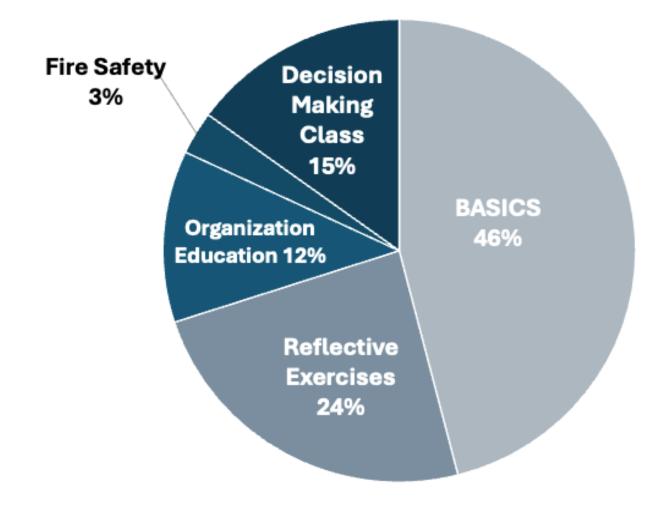
- Suspension (0.22%)
- Deferred dismissal (0.06%)\*
- Dismissal (0.06%)

<sup>\*</sup>Deferred status triggers a specific sanction (i.e., probation, suspension, or dismissal) for subsequent violation of the Code.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Transcript notation removal requests for suspensions can be made per University Registrar policy. Dismissals are permanently reportable.

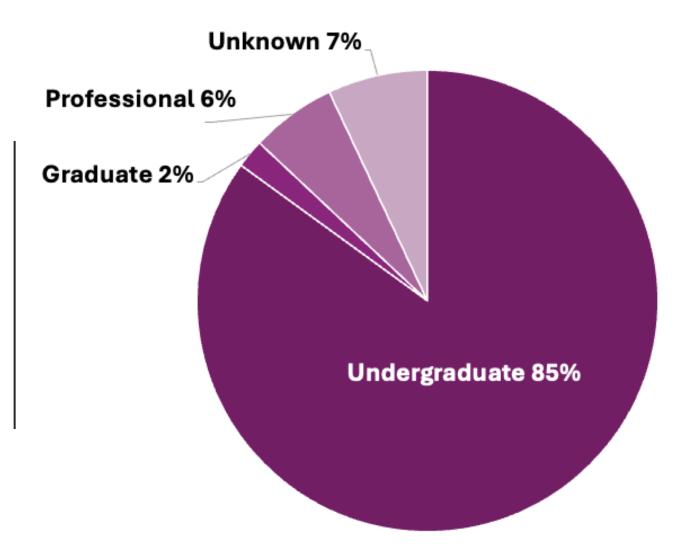
# Most Common Educational Sanctions

Total for the past 4 academic years



# Individual Respondent Status

Total for the past 4 academic years



# AY2025 Top Reported Behaviors

- Alcohol-related behavior (under-age drinking) (238)
- Theft (Bookstore) (88)
- Drug-related behavior (cannabis use) (46)
- Unauthorized entry (39)
- Assault and Endangerment (38)
- Disorderly Conduct (37)
- Misconduct Related to Student Organizations (37)
- Failure to Comply (33)
- Misrepresentation (fake IDs) (32)
- Disruption of University Activities (25)

# **AY25 Temporary Suspension Disposition**

| Full Temporary Suspension (Students) (10) |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Modified on appeal                        | 2  |  |  |  |
| Modified by OSCCS prior to resolution     | 3  |  |  |  |
| Modified per resolution of conduct case   | 4  |  |  |  |
| Remains in place                          | 1 (student is currently on a leave of absence) |  |  |  |

| Non-Academic Temporary Suspension (Students) (11) |   |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Modified on appeal                                | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| Modified by OSCCS prior to resolution             | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| Modified per resolution of conduct case           | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| Remains in place                                  | 0 |  |  |  |  |

#### **Codes and Procedures Review Committee**

Marla Love, Robert W. and Elizabeth C. Staley Dean of Students, Chair

#### **Students**

\*Nicholas J. Brennan, PhD (graduate) student, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly representative

\*Zora de Rham '27, undergraduate student, Student Assembly representative

Guy-Lee King '26, MBA (professional) student, SC Johnson College of Business

Jennica Yoo '27, undergraduate student, Architecture, Art, and Planning (RA representative)

Quinn Rinkus '26, undergraduate student, College of Engineering

#### **Faculty**

Ashleigh Newman '06, Associate Clinical Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, former Faculty Senator Michelle Whelan, Clinical Professor of Law & Associate Dean for Inclusion & Belonging, Law School

#### **Staff**

Stephanie Baldwin, Robert G. Engel Director, Sorority and Fraternity Life
Christina Liang, Senior Associate Dean of Students and Director, Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards
Jenn Michael, Senior Director Student Experience, Architecture, Art and Planning
Ryan Lombardi, Vice President for Student and Campus Life, ex-officio

<sup>\*</sup>required constituent, per the Student Code of Conduct

#### **Code and Procedures Review Timeline**





# Resolution Concerning Excessive and Unreasonable Delay in the Conduct of Disciplinary Hearings and Providing for Reform of Procedures under the Student Code of Conduct

Senator Richard Bensel, Government

# Resolution Concerning Excessive and Unreasonable Delay in the Conduct of Disciplinary Hearings and Providing for Reform of Procedures under the Student Code of Conduct

Professor Richard F. Bensel

Whereas excessive and unreasonable delays in cases where a student or student organization has been temporarily suspended are a violation of due process and individual rights as a member of the Cornell community.

Whereas Sriram Parasurama was temporarily suspended by the central administration on October 16, 2024, for his participation in a protest at the Statler Hotel on September 18, 2024.

Whereas Sriram Parasurama's disciplinary hearing was held approximately 250 days later, on June 23, 2025.

Whereas during the eight months intervening between the protest and the disciplinary hearing the central administration imposed a temporary suspension on Sriram Parasurama under which he was denied access to University facilities and was unable to pursue his studies.

Whereas Chapter VIII Title A of the Student Code of Conduct Procedures states that a temporary suspension may be imposed only when available less restrictive measures are reasonably deemed insufficient to protect the Complainant or the University community.

Whereas the complainant in Sriram Parasurama's case was Scott Grantz, a Lieutenant in the Cornell University Police Department, who was unlikely to need protection.

Whereas the two corporations, L3Harris Technologies and Boeing. which were the focus of the protest in which Sriram Parasurama participated are neither part of the University community nor do they require protection.

Whereas only two witnesses, one of them an officer employed by the Cornell University Police Department and the other the manager of the Statler Hotel, presented evidence in the hearing in support of the central administration's prosecution of Sriram Parasurama, evidence that could have been presented immediately after the protest had occurred.

Whereas for all these reasons the manner in which disciplinary proceedings were conducted were a flagrant violation of the central administration's own regulations.

Whereas "justice delayed is justice denied," all students should be given a prompt hearing after they have been charged under the Student Code of Conduct and, until they have been given that hearing, they should not be punished by the University.

Whereas the implementation of the Student Code of Conduct by the central administration has repeatedly infringed upon freedom of expression and the individual rights of students and thus necessitates thorough reform.

Whereas thorough reform of the Student Code of Conduct and practices associated with its implementation should only be considered in a fully democratic process involving all members of the Cornell community in which the central administration plays only an advisory role.

### Be it therefore resolved...

Be it therefore resolved that the Faculty Senate censure the central administration of Cornell University for the prejudicial and discriminatory prosecution of Sriram Parasurama.

## Be it further resolved...

Be it further resolved that the Student Code of Conduct should be revised in order to ensure that students cannot be unfairly treated by the central administration in disciplinary proceedings.

Be it further resolved that the Faculty Senate believes that the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards which oversees enforcement of the Student Code of Conduct should be independent of the central administration.

Be it further resolved that the Faculty Senate proposes that the Student Code of Conduct be revised by freely-elected members of the University Assembly, the Student Assembly, the Faculty Senate, and the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly.

Be it further resolved that a committee composed of three freely-elected members of each of these bodies revise the Student Code of Conduct and that the revision be approved by each of these bodies.

# Sketch of the Administrative Structure of Interim Suspensions

President of Cornell University: Michael Kotlikoff



Vice President of Student Conduct and Community Standards Ryan Lombardi





Appointment of Complainant to Act in the "Institutional Interest" of the University



Complaint



Director of the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards: Christina Liang



**Interim Suspension Issued** 

# Sponsors: Faculty Senators

Richard Bensel

Oumar Ba

Sandra Babcock

Anne Marie Brady

Michelle Trillium Crow

Laurent Dubreuil

**Tobi Hines** 

Harold Hodes

Tracy McNulty

Chris Monroe

Paul Ortiz

Iris Packman

Hayden Pelliccia

Maria Gonzalez Pendas

Noah Tamarkin

Andrew Yen

# Sponsors: Other Faculty

Begum Adalet

Catherine Appert

**David Bateman** 

Kate Bronfenbrenner

Derek Chang

Reyna S. Cohen

Raymond B. Craib

Iftikhar Dadi

Ileen DeVault

Shimon Edelman

Shannon Gleeson

Dan Hirschman

Risa L. Lieberwitz

Corinna Loeckenhoff

Beth Lyon

Joseph Margulies

Ken Roberts

Nerissa Russell

Chantal Thomas

# **Subsidiary Motion** Dean of Faculty Eve De Rosa, Chair of the University Faculty Committee

# **Subsidiary Motion**

**Motion.** The University Faculty Committee recognizes that the resolution raises serious concerns about administrative accountability and procedural delays. To determine whether these concerns reflect broader systemic issues, we recommend referral of the matter to a standing committee for review following proposed revisions by the sponsors. Therefore, the University Faculty Committee moves that:

- 1. The sponsors consider revising the resolution by October 13, 2025
- Upon receipt of the revised resolution or on October 14, the Committee on Academic Programs and Policies (CAPP) shall conduct a review and provide feedback by October 27, in preparation for consideration at the November Faculty Senate meeting.

# **Subsidiary Motion**

#### **Recommended Revisions:**

- Split the resolution into two distinct components:
  - One focused on censure of Central Administration.
  - One focused on process improvements to the Student Code of Conduct.
- Refine the "Whereas" clauses to provide background context without prematurely stating conclusions.
- Acknowledge the formal review process underway by the Office of Student and Campus Life and offer
  constructive suggestions that may inform or enhance that process.
- Incorporate the relevant data from the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS)
  regarding the number and duration of formal hearings would help contextualize concerns about
  procedural delays and support evidence-based recommendations.

# **Senate Q&A** Vote on subsidiary motion

# **Senate Announcements and Updates**

Eve De Rosa, Dean of Faculty, Chair of the University Faculty Committee; Psychology Adam T. Smith, Associate Dean of Faculty, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee; Anthropology

## **Senate Announcements and Updates**

- We will use the Faculty Forum on October 22, 2025 to discuss:
  - Resolution Condemning the Cancellation of Professor Eric Cheyfitz's Classes and Threats of Further Severe Disciplinary Action
  - 3:30-4:30PM
  - This will be a hybrid format in Schwartz Auditorium and Zoom.



#### Good of the Order



Adjournment