

Resolution 3: Calling on Cornell University to Provide More Accommodations to Students with COVID-19

Abstract: This resolution calls upon the university to provide more hybrid and online accommodations for Graduate and Professional Students who are unable to attend class because of mandatory COVID-19 quarantines.

Sponsored by: Preston Hanley

Reviewed by: Executive Committee, 09/22/2021

Whereas, on August 11, 2021, Cornell University announced a new policy severely restricting health-related accommodations for faculty and instructional staff, stating, “[T]he university will not approve requests, including those premised on the need for a disability accommodation, to substitute remote teaching for normal in-person instruction”.

Whereas, the administration has affirmed that their “goal remains to do everything we can to preserve both the student educational experience and the well-being of our whole community.

Whereas, students are unable to participate in strictly in-person instructed classes when placed in mandatory quarantine or isolation.

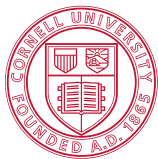
Whereas, Cornell University as of 9/20/21 has 40 active student cases, with a current daily average of nearly 8 cases.

Whereas, COVID-19 cases of Cornell University reached a semester high 57 confirmed COVID-19 cases on August 28th upon the return of Cornell students to campus.

Whereas, the Faculty Senate and Student Assembly have passed similar resolutions in an effort to provide more accommodations to students affected by these isolation and quarantine measures.

Be it therefore resolved, Cornell University during this unprecedented spike of COVID-19 cases must accommodate isolated and quarantined students in an effort to facilitate a safe and inclusive learning environment for its students.

Be it further resolved, Cornell University must distribute and provide audio or video recording devices for classrooms not otherwise equipped with audio or video recording capabilities to allow instructors to record lectures for students.



Cornell University
Graduate and Professional
Student Assembly

- 30 **Be it finally resolved,** Cornell University must require professors and lecturers to adopt the
31 following student accommodations:
- 32 1. Provide recorded lectures to be made available on Canvas
 - 33 2. Offer a temporary virtual learning option for students who are in isolation/quarantine
34 and unable to attend in-person lectures and discussions
 - 35 3. Offer make up in person exams for students in isolation/quarantine
 - 36 4. Offer additional zoom office hours
 - 37 5. Alter attendance and participation grading requirements to accommodate
38 quarantined/isolated students who are unable to attend in-person lectures and
39 discussion
- 40 Respectfully Submitted,
41 Preston Hanley
42 *President, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly*
43 Damien Sharp
44 *Executive Vice President, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly*