


# Spring 2009 Undergraduate Student Elections

## Vote Any Time From 8AM, March 3 to 10AM, March 5... Eligible Voters Will Receive an Email with Instructions Today


### UNDESIGNATED AT LARGE (VOTE FOR 4)



**Jeff Rehberger (jrr96)**

If elected into the Student Assembly, you can expect me to fight diligently for a better Cornell. Drawing upon my experience from previous leadership positions, I am confident that I can help the Student Assembly accomplish a great deal over the next year. One unique aspect that I bring to the table is my invaluable experience at another university, which will enable me to draw upon comparisons for improvement at Cornell, as well as realize the great aspects of the University which need to be safeguarded. Some of the things I will work to accomplish are:

- \* Bring Outside Restaurants to Campus
- \* Expand Red Rover Wireless Internet
- \* Provide Free Printing Quota
- \* Free Bus Pass to All Cornell Students
- \* Free Membership to Fitness Centers/Get a Fitness Center for Colletown
- \* Get a Campus Pub




**Emily Cusick (egc43)**

My name is Emily Cusick, and I'm running for your SA At-Large Representative. As your Freshman Representative this year, I've worked to improve SA communication efforts and pushed for change here at Cornell. Though the current financial crisis has limited the SA, I've managed to increase outreach to the freshman class with our coffee hours, work towards simplifying the funding process for clubs and activities, and voice my opinion on residential and campus life initiatives.

In the upcoming year, I'll work to ensure that byline funding is as transparent and streamlined as possible. My commitment to open communication between the SA and the student body will continue to be my top priority. I look forward to serving the undergraduates as an advocate for change and the voice of the students of Cornell.

Vote EMILY CUSICK for your At-Large Representative. Feel free to contact me with questions or comments anytime at egc43@cornell.edu. Make your pick EMILY CUSICK!




**Chris Basil (cfb33)**

VOTE CHRIS BASIL FOR STUDENT ASSEMBLY


My name is Chris Basil and I'm a Junior Economics major with a Biological Sciences minor and a member of the Greek community. I'm also running for President on a Slate. Please read my joint statement above for more information about my qualifications for an executive position. I have served on the Assembly since freshman year, and this past year I have worked as the Executive Vice President of the Assembly, managing the day-to-day operations of the Assembly. The Financial Crisis will threaten student life during the Byline Funding Process next year and I vow to protect student interests during the coming funding cycle. Furthermore, I will advocate for improvements to student life and academics such as addressing the Ithaca Noise Ordinance, working to establish a 24-Hour Library, and prohibiting preterms on religious holidays.

Please feel free to contact me anytime at cfb33@cornell.edu.



**Becca Smith (res294)**

To me, a real leader is someone who truly cares about the people they are leading. I feel that this passion is what separates those who can get the job done and those who will truly make a difference. Since I have been at Cornell, I have taken on leadership roles by representing the freshman class, ILR students, and this year as a representative of all undergraduates. I am currently pursuing endeavors such as the creation of a freshman gorge safety tutorial. I have also been serving as the SAFC liaison, meeting weekly with faculty, administration, and other student leaders on campus to formulate a complete revision of the funding process for over 475 campus organizations. With my past leadership experiences, I am fully prepared to take action and make change. As an At-Large Representative for the 2009-2010 school year, I hope to continue my recent endeavors and will eagerly seek your own thoughts about what you think needs to be changed at Cornell. I believe that taking initiative to get things done, bringing in new ideas, and following through to make plans happen are extremely vital in being a successful leader. Vote for me, Becca Smith, and I will do everything I can to continue to improve student life at Cornell!




**Emlyn Diakow (ed266)**

Far above Cayuga's waters lay athletic fields, construction sites, research labs, lecture halls, arches for singing, delicious dining halls, compost bins, fraternities, libraries, and thousands of students. All of these and more is what makes Cornell our beloved home, but they can also frustrate us at different times.

It takes a member of the Cornell community truly connected to you to be able to represent and relate to your thoughts about Cornell. Having experience as a Student Assembly Representative, chair of the Environmental Committee, SAFC liaison, founding member of the Student Climate Action Committee, member of the Greek system, former varsity athlete, Super Seder leader, and intramural official, I have a broad awareness of life at Cornell. I've worked with the administration of my own college this year to make improvements, and now I would like to do the same for all of Cornell's undergraduates as an At-Large Representative.

Despite the tough financial climate, I am confident that I can help to develop, improve, and expand all areas of the undergraduate experience in the years to come.




**Andrew D. Brokman (adb239)**

I am running for President because I am passionate about giving you a vision of student government that's more than just passing weak resolutions and doing out money to clubs. There are many important issues out there that are simply overlooked, such as wasteful spending, the high cost of books, and the lack of free public transportation. These issues are simple and important, yet rarely discussed.


In high school I served two consecutive terms as President, planning events such as homecoming and prom while raising a total of \$30,000 (not bad for a class of less than 400). I also took the time to reach out to my classmates by utilizing opinion polls and holding open-door meetings. In the last year, I have applied these skills to my position in student government, authoring more resolutions than the vast majority of the legislature.

I am running because I want to ensure that the student government has some sort of relevance in your life. A vote for Brokman is a vote for a responsive government, one that cares about your problems and seeks to make your year at Cornell a little bit easier.



**Olamide Williams (ofw2)**

I remember reading a Cornell Daily Sun piece once that said students were apathetic to administrative issues and Assembly decisions. Being a student I understood why, it was because the members of the Assembly seem to forget why they were voted into those positions, Assembly members seem to have lost focus of who they represented. In the Assembly we are only as good as the people we represent, the student athletes, the engineers, the hotelies, the ILRies, and so on. I don't bring much to the Student Assembly, but I bring something to Cornell University, the voice of the student, the common everyday Trilium eating, Arts-Quad walking student and athlete. I am only running because the people want a reason to believe again in the Assembly, they want their concerns to be reserved at Assembly meetings and unbiased to organizational influences. What makes a good leader? A person who remembers that he has people to lead, a person who remembers why he or she was chosen to lead. I am looking to make sure that financial aid doesn't become scarce because of the national economic whirlwind, Cornell should become a leader in 'going green,' a sustainable university is the future of higher institutions.




**Elizabeth Woo (ew273)**

Going from Associated Student Body aficionado in high school to being a smudge in a body of 20,000+ was jarring. Nevertheless, I've learned to accept (& thoroughly enjoy) college for what it is and offers.

At Cornell I found two niches where I've advocated for citizens both locally and globally: (1) people at Cornell with disabilities and (2) victims of international humanitarian crises, namely North Korea.


It is my passion and privilege to be a "voice for the voiceless" and make sure real needs are heard and acted upon. Now I want to extend that passion to our student body, as a whole. Right now, Cornell is implementing a framework for Disability Access Management for Faculty, Staff, and Students! The campus is buzzing with such progress and the hope for more to come. As your representative, I plan to channel all my energy and knowledge from previous leadership experiences to give back to our community on a hill. I will listen for our student's real concerns and do everything in my time and power to push until something happens.



**Ruslan Gudnyy (rg423)**

You can expect me to fight diligently for a better Cornell. Drawing upon my experiences from previous leadership positions, I am confident that I can help the Student Assembly accomplish a great deal over the next year. One unique aspect that I bring to the table is my invaluable experience at the University of Missouri, which will enable me to draw upon comparisons for improvement at Cornell, as well as realize the great aspects of the University which need to be safeguarded. With my exceptional blend of hard work and dedication, I plan to accomplish:

- \* Wireless Internet Throughout University
- \* Bring Outside Restaurants to Campus/Improve existing Dining Facilities
- \* Free Membership to On-Campus Fitness Centers/Fitness Center in Colletown
- \* Free Printing Quota
- \* Campus Pub
- \* Better Ability to Take Courses Outside One's Major
- \* Online Waiting List for All Courses
- \* Free Bus Pass to All Cornell Students




**Jonathan Dobrin (jed88)**

The current toilet paper situation on campus is a crime against every member of the Cornell community. You pay \$25,000 every semester, and you get 1-ply toilet paper. You deserve better. Vote for Jon Dobrin for SA at-large, and you will be guaranteed nothing less than 2-ply toilet paper.

My term will be focused on improving your everyday quality of life. My past experiences as treasurer of a Greek organization, active member of Hillel and the American Jewish Committee Society, and a patron of the bathrooms at Cornell have shown me what problems Cornell students, like you and I, deal with on a daily basis.


Together, we can end this 1-ply crime on Election Day (March 3-5), by bringing the toilet paper standard up to the Ivy League standard. If improving your quality of life at Cornell and Bringing Back 2-Ply (BB2P) are things you believe in, vote for Jon Dobrin for Student Assembly at-large seat.



**Gleb Drobkov (gvd7)**

Hey, I'm Gleb and I'd love to serve as your member-at-large on the Student Assembly.


My first semester has been an amazing experience, as I have been involved in a variety of different activities which have defined my perception of Cornell and its culture. I loved dressing up to perform with the Glee Club, helping with charity bake sales and career fairs as the freshman representative to the ILR Student Government, fighting for something I believe in as treasurer of the Cornell Organization for Labor Action, spending my dorm's budget on ridiculous frivolities (like speed dating lol) as Mews Hall Council president, and as I am sure many of you can relate, physically and morally dedicating myself to something greater by pledging a fraternity. I love Cornell. Compared to my hometown, DC, Cornellians are far more efficient, diverse, and ambitious which, in general, combines to make a not necessarily perfect but incredibly fun and creative group. I have come to feel at home here and I love to make others feel the same way by representing you and your interests on the board of the Student Assembly. Thanks



**Ryan Stack (rms332)**


I have decided to run for the student assembly primarily for two reasons. One reason is because I have a strong interest in government. I am constantly updating myself on the latest news on both a national and local level either by reading the paper, watching the news, or by reading politically focused books. When I graduate, I am looking to obtain a job in a government agency. Although it is slightly cliché, I think it is the responsibility of every citizen to give back to his or her country. The second reason I have decided to run is because I want to become more involved in our university. My involvement in the student assembly would not only allow me to make decisions I feel would be best for the school, but also it would give me the skills I will need for the future.

I feel I am qualified for a seat on the student assembly because I am an extremely dedicated and hard working individual. I believe that is the number one qualification for any job. I can say without any hesitation that I will always complete every task to the best of my ability. I can say that for schoolwork, athletics, extra curricular activities, and I hope I will be able to say that for a position on the student assembly.



**Tony Miller (jam325)**

My name is Tony Miller and I am running to be an At Large member of the Student Assembly. During the last year I have diligently served on the Student Assembly's Executive Board as the Vice President of Internal Operations. I have had the opportunity to affect the undergraduate community in many important ways. I spearheaded the efforts to reform the funding process that SAFC uses after carefully analyzing the current system to ensure that your Student Activity Fee money is spent efficiently and fairly. This semester I took the lead role in securing an online carpool system for Cornell students that has allowed for over 2900 shared rides, and if elected, I will move to expand this system to help conserve resources and money for all students. When Cornell administrators slashed the budgets of events like Slope Day, I worked tirelessly with everyone involved to make sure that the quality of the event did not decrease. Next year, the Student Assembly will be faced with the daunting task of setting your Student Activity Fee, and with my creative solutions to complex problems, I can assure you that I will always advocate for the best possible undergraduate experience with no decline in our quality of life.




**Murtza Fire Manzur (mkm222)**

The current toilet paper situation on campus is a crime against every member of the Cornell community. You pay \$25,000 every semester, and you get 1-ply toilet paper. You deserve better. Vote for Murtza Fire Manzur for SA at-large, and you will be guaranteed nothing less than 2-ply toilet paper.

My term will be focused on improving your everyday quality of life. My past experiences as a RA, president of a student organization, transfer student, and a patron of the bathrooms at Cornell have shown me what problems Cornell students, like you and I, deal with on a daily basis.

Together, we can end this 1-ply crime on Election Day (March 3-5) by bringing the toilet paper standard up to the Ivy League standard. If improving your quality of life at Cornell and Bringing Back 2-Ply (BB2P) are things you believe in, vote for Murtza Fire Manzur for Student Assembly at-large seat.




**Nikki Junewicz (nj43)**

VOTE NIKKI J. FOR SA

Hi! I'm Nikki Junewicz and I would be truly honored to have the opportunity to continue to serve you on Student Assembly. I have worked to relay information to students as the Vice President for Public Relations on the Executive Board. I started a regular SA Newsletter, created an open list serve for students to receive updates via e-mail, and am currently developing a survey to gauge which issues you care about most. If elected, I will continue to work to get student's voices heard. I believe that my dedication and enthusiasm for Cornell will help me effectively represent undergrads by listening to their concerns and making real changes. Listed below are a few issues I would like to address:

- \* Extend library hours on weekends to accommodate student's academic schedules
- \* Protect Cornell's diverse and extensive student groups during the funding process
- \* Develop an off-campus leasing policy in Colletown


Please feel free to contact me anytime at nj43@cornell.edu



**Jonathan Y. Barentine (jyb6)**

I'm a Navy brat from Pittsburgh, a solidly liberal city. My father's a neoncon, but my momma loves Obama. So I've spent my whole life navigating political arguments, acting as both mediator and umpire. As a result, I came to respect patience, civility, and the role of listener, and learned that while it may be thoroughly entertaining to argue, results require cooperation and even concession. Dealing with heated household political discussions has a lot to do with why I love philosophy and government. Both disciplines call for critical and element deliberation, and relate to the virtues that, thanks to my upbringing, I have come to hold dear - like ardor for all things social, intellectual, and civic.


I cannot imagine that any of who I am, as I've just described myself, will change when I join the Assembly. I'll preserve my commitment to the values I care for the most, and I'll be the better representative for it. I can't promise I'll deliver extra days off, hockey tickets, or shorter salad lines at the Terrace, but I can guarantee you will not regret voting for me. And I'll never stop listening to you or working to make your voice heard, for the betterment of the school as a whole.



**Scott Purdy (smp75)**


I have a broad range of experience that makes me the best candidate for the at-large representative position. As Parliamentarian, attending the SA and SA Executive Committee meetings this year, I have learned the processes that ensure a successful assembly. Being a founding member, President, and former VP for Finance of my fraternity, I have gained strong executive and financial experience that have prepared me for the leadership roles and decision making responsibilities as your representative on the SA. I am also a member of the Ivy Council, team lead for the Web Operations group at CIT, and I take courses in engineering and management. So what does all of this mean? It means that I have experience in a wide range of positions that will allow me to enact positive changes such as:

- \* Enhancing the quality of life through support for Slope Day, a campus pub, student groups, and Greek life.
- \* Ensuring that Cornell is affordable to all students while still providing the best education and collegiate experience possible.
- \* Promoting transparency throughout student government and the university administration.
- \* Protecting the environment and the financial future of Cornell through green initiatives.




**Andy Gindy (ajg249)**

In 2007, Newsweek named Cornell "The Hottest Ivy" (even though it's never warm here). Are we still that "Hot"? Look at the news: a moratorium on student groups, a disastrous Slope Day funding loss, a 20% drop in our endowment, a hiring freeze (including TAS), a building freeze, limited class offerings... We are the most diverse and unique group of students in the world, and yet we are denied some of the most basic of student services. The Student Assembly needs a new, fresh face. Someone who will bring energy, charisma, and passion. Someone who understands that the cost of your books and your course packs is outrageous, that you should have free TCAT access, and that when you are printing papers on campus, it should be free. The Student Assembly needs someone who understands your basic needs. I am a proud member of Cornell's Greek system, an involved Hotelie, a former flag football coach (yes, we won every game), and I hate the cold just like you do (as a native of Los Angeles, it's been rough). As a natural entrepreneur and a genuine leader, I'm looking to channel the same enthusiasm and drive I have always brought to everything I undertake to make life at Cornell better for you.



**Rammy Salem (rms84)**


I love representing you, and I love working my butt off so you don't have to. Believe it or not, there is a science to all of this. I actually uncovered, and by uncovered I mean totally made up, a list of requirements of a great SA representative. This works out great for me because I think I meet all these requirements flawlessly. The list is as follows: Friendly. I estimate that I am friends with about 8% of you. I want to be friends with all of you. I believe in representation of everyone's ideas, and using my voice to have your voice heard. The next requirement, experience. I have been on the SA for six semesters running; my opponents have really cool posters. The last requirement is hard-working. I could tell you how hard-working I am, how good a leader I am, but I would rather show you through the best way I know how to express myself, through action. A vote for me is a vote for real solutions to real problems. I've tackled issues ranging from ensuring that there is soap in every residential bathroom to voting to establish a cheaper mode of transportation for students during the holidays. Believe me, I would rather die of hunger than eat from the bowl of mediocrity. I've been there before, I let me represent you in the future.



**John Lee (jl648)**

As a junior in the college of Human Ecology, executive board member of Cover Africa, and Director of Service Learning for the Cover Ghana Cover Africa Malaria Initiative (and also voted "best dressed" by Cornell Daily Sun), I want to bring my experience and dedication to you as your representative. As the foundation and spirit of the student body, the Student Assembly exists as one of the only outlets to relay our wishes and goals to the administration. Its access and legitimacy give it the ability to make broader changes in student life. Therefore, there must be absolute accessibility and transparency with the assembly and the student body. I hold great empathy for those who have felt incapacitated to pursue their clubs, activities, and sports. Therefore, I propose a reevaluation of the current policies on new clubs and funding. With greater focus on establishing more applicable guidelines to club funding, I believe that the student assembly can continue to support existing clubs while encouraging new clubs to form. By making it easier to establish new clubs, I believe that you will once again find an outlet for your agency. Together, we will stand for our right to be active!

### ARTS AND SCIENCES (VOTE FOR 3)




**Jon Rau (jdr252)**

Hi, my name is Jon Rau, and I'm running for Arts and Sciences representative to the Student Assembly. As a freshman majoring in Economics and Government, I look forward to getting involved in student leadership at Cornell. As we endure this financial crisis, I will do my best to ensure that our undergraduate experience is not compromised. With my previous experience in student government throughout high school, I plan to dedicate all of my efforts toward improving the quality of life up on the Hill. As your representative, I plan to:

- \* Work toward making course evaluations public
- \* Improve outreach events in Arts and Sciences
- \* Strive to improve networking opportunities for undergraduates

Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions at jdr252@cornell.edu.


Vote Jon Rau for your Arts and Sciences representative!



**Adam Raveret (arr73)**

My name is Adam Raveret and I am a very capable representative because of my familiarity to leadership positions. In high school I served as a board member for numerous clubs as well as the captain for my school's soccer and gymnastics teams. I am currently playing club soccer and am involved in my fraternity. My desire and commitment to improve student life and student governance at Cornell is my purpose for running for Student Assembly. Some of the many things that I hope to accomplish as YOUR representative are:

- \* Work with the various departments on campus to ensure the students' interests are the first priority during this financial crisis
- \* Create a more eco-friendly campus
- \* Ensure that the Student Activity Fee is allocated fairly and properly
- \* Work to create a campus pub for socialization
- \* Continue to improve SAFC and the funding of student organizations to make funding more accessible to student groups
- \* Work with the Registrar and college Deans to improve course enrollment and arts and science specific issues. But most of all I will be there to SUPPORT you, WORK with you, and LISTEN to you. I know that with your help we can make a difference and improve student life at Cornell.




**Natalie Raps (nrr25)**

Natalie RAPS for Student Rep

Hi, my name is Natalie Raps and I am running for Arts and Sciences Representative. After serving a year as freshman representative on the Student Assembly I know firsthand the issues facing the university. Specifically, I want to help make Course Enroll more efficient and make sure that Arts & Sciences students understand all of their academic requirements and their counseling options. Since libraries are such an integral part of the Cornell community, I will try to make our campus safer by creating a late night shuttle that takes students from the libraries to their homes. Also, as I have been doing for this past year, I will continue to listen to students' needs by setting up Coffee Hours in Olim cafe in which anyone can come and discuss their concerns or ideas that they have for Cornell. The impact that the SA can make on our lives as students is truly stunning and it is something that I would love to be apart of again if elected.

Please feel free to email me anytime at nrr25@cornell.edu and vote RAPS for Student Rep.



**Scott Flanz (smf229)**

Scott Flanz for Arts and Sciences Representative.

Fall semester was both exciting and eye opening and although I've come to see Cornell as my home, there are still a few things that I believe would make it a better environment. Having served in student government before Cornell, I believe that I have the experience to be a superb representative. I have learned to be both accessible to the student body and effective in transforming those ideas into working policies. As Arts and Sciences Representative I would advocate changes such as:

- \* Ensuring the financial protection of student groups
- \* Declassifying course evaluations
- \* Working towards establishing campus pub

Vote Scott Flanz for Arts and Sciences Representative!

More info at: <http://assembly.cornell.edu/Elections>