



## University Assembly R. 15: Adopt the Cornell University Guidelines for the Office of the Ombudsman

*Sponsor: Elizabeth Newbury on behalf of Charles Walcott  
Propose on April 28th, 2013*

- 1 WHEREAS, the original guidelines for the Office of the Ombudsman were created when the  
2 office was founded in 1969, after the Willard Straight Takeover; and  
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4 WHEREAS, those guidelines have not been updated since this initial creation and reference  
5 many out of practice actions, such as keeping records on behalf of other organizations and  
6 serving as a “rumor clinic”; and  
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8 WHEREAS, the International Ombudsman Association (IOA) outlines a Standards of Practice  
9 that keep to the heart of providing a neutral, fair and equitable office that is not biased towards  
10 any individual and organization; and  
11  
12 WHEREAS, that at the 2012 Annual report to the University Assembly, the Office of the  
13 Ombudsman advocated for an update to its guidelines to put them in compliance with the IOA’s  
14 Standards of Practice; therefore, be it  
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16 RESOLVED, that the University Assembly reviews the attached, detailed explanation of the  
17 update to the Cornell University Office of the Ombudsman’s guidelines; and  
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19 RESOLVED, the University Assembly moves to pass the attached, updated Cornell University  
20 Guidelines for the Office of the Ombudsman.  
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22 RESOLVED, the Office of the Ombudsman present to the University Assembly during its  
23 Annual Report for the 2014-2015 school year about the progress and implementation of these  
24 guidelines, as well as any issues that have arisen.  
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26 RESOLVED, the University Assembly revisit the Cornell University Guidelines for the Office of  
27 the Ombudsman after the aforementioned presentation and move to reaffirm the guidelines at  
28 such a time to address any concerns.  
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30 RESOLVED, that this Resolution and the Graduate and Professional Community Initiative be  
31 sent to David Skorton, President; and Charles Walcott, University Ombudsman.