According to the bylaws of the university, the “...functions of the University Faculty shall be to consider questions of educational policy which concern more than one college, school or separate academic unit, or are general in nature...”

Responsibility of: Committee on Educational Policy. The committee considers matters of general educational policy relating to instruction that concern more than one college, school or separate academic unit, including, but not limited to grades and grading policies, preliminary and final examination policies, the academic calendar, and the class schedule and hours of instruction. It reports to the Faculty Senate.


Professor Abby Cohn, Linguistics, introduced a resolution that grew out of a dialogue between the chairs of the Academic Integrity Hearing Boards of the various schools and colleges and the Educational Policy Committee.

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of instructors and students alike for students to fully understand the requirements and obligations for successful completion of a course, and

WHEREAS, adhering to academic integrity, as specifically defined in Cornell’s Code of Academic Integrity, is a fundamental requirement for all students at Cornell, and

WHEREAS, there is course-specific interpretation as to when students may work together and so forth,

BE IT RESOLVED, that all instructors are strongly urged to include an explicit statement on their syllabi or other course organizational material, regarding the interpretation of academic integrity in the context of that particular course.

The Code of Academic Integrity and Acknowledging the Work of Others is found in the Policy Notebook for the Cornell Community and also on the web at (http://theuniversityfaculty/cornell.edu/policies/pol_main.html).
In lieu of writing their own syllabus statement, faculty may use the following generic, comprehensive statement on academic integrity, with an optional extension for courses that incorporate collaborative work:

“Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student’s own work. [Optional: For this course, collaboration is allowed in the following instances: list instances.]”

Following discussion, the resolution was adopted by a vote of 41-22.