

Jeremy Orloff: WCM Student Fellow Candidacy Statement



Hi there! I'm running for Student Fellow to represent every Weill Cornell Medicine student. No matter what degree you are pursuing or which campus you are from, I want to listen to your ideas and your stories. Learn more about me and my platform at jeremyorloff.com/studentfellow or contact me at jeo2018@med.cornell.edu.

Why I'm running: Collectively, the administration, the Board of Fellows and the entire student body must assess and learn from our response to Covid-19. The pandemic has had an impact on every aspect of student life - from the curriculum to housing and healthcare - and brought new urgency to anti-racism initiatives. I want to help the administration and the Board of Fellows understand and learn from the student experience during and in the aftermath of the pandemic.

My platform and ideas:

- **Increased Communication and Transparency:** Proactive communication remains crucial as we continue to operate in a semi-remote learning environment. Poor communication compounds isolation and anxiety. To do my part, I will host regular office hours (convenient for both New York and Doha) and create a newsletter updating you on the activities of the board and the administration. This will also serve to promote inter-program and inter-campus collaboration and community building.
- **A Permanent WCM Covid-19 Memorial:** As future healthcare leaders we must acknowledge and honor the work and sacrifices of healthcare workers, researchers and students, especially at our own institution. I would hope to lead this effort with input and ideas from students in every program.
- **Housing:** The new building on 74th street must be designed to allow for adequate social distancing in the event of a future contagious outbreak. Housing needs to be affordable, safe and accessible. For older students, we need to provide better family housing and spaces suitable for children.
- **Mental Health and Wellness:** Students must have immediate access to qualified counseling and therapy. Recognizing the increased burden of the last year on those resources, no Weill Cornell student should be asked to wait weeks or longer to get the care they deserve.
- **Graduate Student Workplace:** We must ensure that graduate students are given appropriate workplace protections and human resources.
- **Shorter Terms for Student Fellows:** I will advocate for changing the role of student fellow to a two-year term. This will make many more students eligible to hold the position.
- **Student Committee Members:** More students should be given the opportunity to sit on committees and subcommittees of the Board of Fellows as non-voting members. This will give the board much more exposure to the diversity of our student body and more students the chance to voice their perspectives.

About me:

My connection to Weill Cornell is deeply personal. I have experienced this campus from the perspective of a caregiver to an ill family member, as a student researcher and employee during my postbac, and now as a first-year medical student. I would be honored to be a representative for every student at Weill Cornell.

Currently, I serve as a HID1 Curricular Representative. I also help to lead Q! The Queer Health Alliance. Outside of school I sit on the board of the New York City Anti Violence Project, a nationally recognized organization that combats both violence within, and hate violence against, the LGBTQIA+ community.

I was born and raised in New York City. I graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 2013 where I studied political science and history. After college I went to work at a local NYC government relations firm, advising companies and organizations as they navigated city approval. Later, I did a postbac at Columbia University.