Facilities Services recommits to diversity and inclusion

NANCY DOOLITTLE

On April 9, with the stroke of a pen – 20 strokes, to be exact – the new members of the Facilities Services Diversity Advisory Group signed the division’s Commitment to a Culture of Inclusion statement at a meeting on April 9, taking on the diversity leadership role that the 14 former members had held since 2009.

The first charge of the new committee, said Kyu-Jung Whang, vice president for facilities services, at the signing, will be to create action steps for each of the goals that the former committee had developed for the division’s strategic plan for diversity. The new members will also choose five diversity initiatives from the university’s strategic plan, “Toward New Destinations,” which was introduced to the Cornell community by President David Skorton Feb. 15.

Whang enumerated the former members’ accomplishments, including writing a business case for diversity and inclusion in the division, hosting brown bag lunches and a Wellness Day, establishing a website and communications, designing training for Facility Services leadership, partnering with disability accessibility leaders on campus to increase communications regarding disability accessibility, expanding the Steve Wright Bridge Award to recognize diversity and inclusion initiatives at the division level and creating the statement that the new members signed.

Former members noted that, in turn, they received such benefits as meeting people outside their immediate work area and learning about other Facilities Services areas and other perspectives.

Whang encouraged former members to continue in their support of diversity and inclusion and share what they had learned with new members. “For those of you who have served on the committees in the past, don’t feel that you cannot continue to contribute,” he said. “I encourage the new committee to reach out to the old committee, and get their advice and their thoughts. This really has to be a division-wide effort.”

Whang named the two co-chairs of the new committee, Andrea Haenlin-Mott, ADA coordinator for Facilities Services in Maintenance Management, and Maria Cimilluca, who will come to Cornell to assume the position as senior director of facilities management June 4.

“I am pleased and honored to be able to work on this committee – a tremendous amount of work has been accomplished with the former committee and the new committee is comprised of terrific people excited to proceed with this important initiative,” said Haenlin-Mott after the meeting.

“I’ve been involved with the university’s Disability Strategic Plan and the Toward New Destinations initiative and look forward to aligning the diversity and inclusion work we do here in Facilities Services with those plans as well.”

Andrea Haenlin-Mott commits to a culture of inclusion, with David Richardson and Wendy Franzese in the background.
Jamie Duong
Consultant/advisor in information technology, School of Hotel Administration

Relevant experience:
As an alumnus of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, a former ILR School employee and a current School of Hotel Administration employee, I have seen Cornell from several angles and have come to realize what works, what doesn't and what can be improved.

Community involvement on campus:
Employed by the School of Hotel Administration, I served for one year as my fraternity’s alumni board representative, served for more than a year for the Statler Sustainability Committee, and am currently serving my third year on the University Hearing and Review Board. I was previously a volunteer information technology consultant for Slope Radio, a student web-radio organization.

Special interests:
Information technologies, academic technologies, employee protections, diversity and sustainability.

Personal statement:
The recent Employee Survey noted a lack of clear communication from the central administration to the units; high employee dissatisfaction and low morale; and too many unknowns about the future of the university’s administrative organization.

As an employee-elected trustee, I would propose and support proposals that improve the situation for staff at Cornell. In order to provide faculty and students with the tools necessary to keep Cornell at the top of higher education, it is necessary that support staff be given the resources and freedom to carry out their work. To further that goal, I would also support initiatives that define clear objectives for the colleges so that they can plan for the future.

Greg Mezey
Director of Food and Beverage, Statler Hotel Banquets

Relevant experience:
Whether serving my country, university or community, I relish opportunities to meet others’ needs. My career in hospitality is service-oriented. I have always felt a responsibility to contribute to the well-being of those around me.

My work to better Cornell doesn’t end when I close my office door. I serve on boards where my involvement ranges from mentoring undergraduates to fiscal stewardship of longtime campus organizations. This, combined with my passion for everything Cornell, has developed me and brought me to a place where I know I am ready to serve you as employee-elected trustee.

Community involvement on campus:
I currently serve on several volunteer boards and have previously held many leadership positions in campus organizations. I serve as chapter councilor and member of the board of directors for the Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter on campus. I am also actively involved with my alumni class council, serving as vice president of gifts. I strive to always serve as an ambassador to Cornell, always seeking ways to better the campus through various relationships and involvement. I continually look for new opportunities and unique ways to get involved in my community and will continue to do so.

Special interests:
I enjoy cooking, traveling and volunteering my time to better my fraternity. Alongside other alumni, I provide leadership training to our undergraduates and alumni across the Northeast. I have real passion for child nutrition. I believe our children are the key to our future and we need to provide them with healthful, nutritious food. By hosting a television series, I have worked with the National Food Service Management Institute to spread this message across the country. I am also passionate about developing strong alumni relations to the various alumni groups to which I belong, while keeping them engaged in university.

Personal statement:
If elected employee-elected trustee, I will work to represent Cornell employees while ensuring the strategic success of the university and its stakeholders. The results of the recent employee survey show that it is a critical time to develop new solutions. I chose to work at Cornell because of the caliber of the employees at Cornell. As a graduate of Cornell, I can attest firsthand to the importance of our staff in delivering a world-class educational experience. Our university is built upon four key pillars: staff, students, alumni and faculty. All these elements must stand united and strong for us to achieve success.

The recent Employee Survey shows us that we have some work to do. The top priority for the president, trustees and all of us as employees should be to find short and long-term solutions to the opportunities identified by the survey. We must work with our senior leadership and the Cornell Board of Trustees to strengthen our workforce and ensure we correctly allocate resources necessary for our success.

As trustee, I will ensure we look continually for input while finding new ways to recognize employees and create opportunities for advancement. Having chosen Cornell for both my place of education and employment, I have a deeply rooted understanding of the operations and goals of the university. This, combined with my passion for Cornell, has developed me as an individual and brought me to a place where I know I am ready to serve you as employee-elected trustee.

Alan Mittman
Director, Workforce Policy and Labor Relations

Relevant experience:
as a Cornell alum, former alumni club president and Cornell Trustee Council member, experienced corporate litigation lawyer, past Employee Assembly Executive Committee member and present director of the Office of Workforce Policy and Labor Relations, I am well-prepared to advocate for employees as employee-elected trustee. In my positions since 2002, I have addressed employee concerns involving employee/labor relations, discrimination/harassment and policies affecting all colleges and units. I have worked with leadership at Weill Cornell Medical College and will work on NYC Tech campus issues soon. I have the confidence and skills to present employee perspectives to trustees to serve the university’s best interests.

Community involvement on campus:
I served as finance chair and as Personnel Committee and Executive Committee member of the Employee Assembly for two years, helping redraft its by-laws, host an energy fair and president’s address to staff and recognize outstanding employee contributions. I served as human resources crises manager, providing potential support around-the-clock for staff in need, and currently sit on the Emergency CARE...
Four candidates are running for employee-elected trustee

Fund committee, helping to raise and allocate funds for employee emergencies. I am involved with students in my work and as a house fellow at Keeton House, and I periodically contribute articles to Pawprint and the Cornell Chronicle on matters of interest to staff.

Special interests:
My life’s focus has been on family, work and a love of learning. I am a proud grandfather, married to my high school sweetheart – an accomplished writer and artist – with two children: one, a Cornell grad, now professor of art history, and one a writer for television. Returning to Ithaca in 2001, I focused on giving back to Cornell and to promote fair and equitable employment and educational practices. Outside Cornell, I taught at Tompkins Cortland Community College, served on the boards of The Kitchen Theatre and the Southern Tier Advocacy & Mitigation Project (S.T.A.M.P), and acted as mediator for the Community Dispute Resolution Center (C.D.R.C) and volunteer attorney for Prisoners Legal Services.

Personal statement:
Recently, 70 percent of us completed a staff survey and it was encouraging that 80 percent of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with working at Cornell. I agree with the president that such responses reflect loyalty and devotion to Cornell and that there is room for improvement. I will make it priority #1 to inform the president and trustees about employee feedback while advocating for changes in the four survey areas the president identified:
• Managing increased and seemingly unfairly distributed workload – I will keep our focus there.
• Feedback on supervisory performance and more participation in decisions that affect employees – employees have much expertise to add.
• Inconsistent application of policy, including schedule-flexing, wellness activities and coursework – I work on policy and I am well-situated to change it.
• Enhance career development opportunities – a goal my unit is working on.

Nothing would be worse than failing to address the survey’s key messages. As an attorney, I have advocated with executives and professionals, and I am confident in my ability as employee-elected trustee to represent and advocate for employee interests. My work on the Employee Assembly, Human Resources Council and as the university’s labor relations representative will serve me well as trustee, as I regularly consult with, and am trusted by, staff, supervisors/management, union officials and senior leadership – including vice-presidents and deansthroughout the university. As a result, I am uniquely qualified to represent our employee interests arising from the survey and elsewhere, and to advocate for us to the Cornell Board of Trustees and communicate its decisions/information.

Karl Smolenski
Research support specialist, Laboratory for Elementary-Particle Physics

Relevant experience:
I came to Cornell 25 years ago as an undergradu-
ate and started working at Noyes Cafeteria, Uris Library, and Wilson Synchrotron Laboratory. These campus work experiences as a student shaped me as much as any lecture in the classroom. I earned a master’s degree in management through the Employee Degree Program and have put it to use as a project engineer at Wilson Lab, where I’ve been involved in large-scale capital equipment and building projects involving stakeholders from across campus. Throughout my career I’ve worked with broad diverse groups of people to implement solutions to complex problems.

Community involvement on campus:
I am a member of Energy Recovery Linac team, which proposes to build a $400-million accelerator on campus; I analyzed the financial viability of the proposed West Hill wind turbine farm with graduate students from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE); and I serve as a mentor in Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) programs for summer students and the FRESH program (which offers career-exploration opportunities for Cornell first-year students during spring break) that gives science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) freshmen a look at careers on campus.

With The Learning Web, I brought local high school students to campus for research internships.
I have also introduced hundreds of visitors and local community members to Wilson Lab as a tour guide during campus events and served as a mentor to many student independent academic projects, including the FSAE race car team (a student competition organized by the Society of Automotive Engineers).

Special interests:
The CornellNYC Tech Campus offers a great opportunity to attract talented faculty and students from around the globe. We need to ensure that Ithaca and Geneva employees are a vital part of this venture. I am committed to having employees involved in the planning of the new campus at every level, contributing the spirit and culture of Cornell with their participation. Employees should be offered the chance to participate through rotating assignments or brief appointments to the new campus. The project must offer opportunity and a positive impact on our existing campuses to be successful. For more information see http://www.smolenski.co/trustee.

Personal statement:
Watching my wife graduate from Cornell was one of my proudest days. I could see in her face how important what she had achieved was to her, and how important the work all of us do is to the students we support. In the 25 years I’ve been part of the campus community, the experiences I’ve had working with great people – and the events I’ve been part of – have shaped who I am. Whether celebrating Dragon Day, cheering on the lacrosse team, or picnicking in the Plantations, it is my deep and abiding love for Cornell that best prepares me to serve as a trustee.

Moving forward from the layoffs, cutbacks, and instability of the last four years, we must provide opportunities for employee involvement and advancement. Employees are the backbone that holds campus together and keeps it running. How can we better include employees in the critical decisions that will shape the future of Cornell? Employees with decades of experience have limited openings for challenging their abilities and moving into senior positions at the university. How can we leverage the educational assets that Cornell and local colleges offer to increase the abilities of the staff? I am committed to increasing the number of staff in the Employee Degree Program to obtain the credentials needed to move into higher-paying positions. We need to ensure there are opportunities for training, self improvement and promotion available for ALL employees.
Nine candidates are running for employee assembly

Albert Capogrossi
Shift supervisor, Survey Research Institute

Community involvement on campus:
At this time I am eager to find more opportunities to be more involved on campus. In addition to serving on the Employee Assembly, I intend to serve on at least one other employee or university committee this year.

Community involvement off campus:
I am an AIDS Ride for Life supporter and have served at the Olean Soup Kitchen and on the Town of Allegany Cleanup Project.

Special interests:
I am particularly interested in social inequality, diversity, culture and statistics.

Something unusual about self:
I have a knack for considering all possible viewpoints despite what may seem obvious. I am native to Ithaca and like to practice Brazilian Jiu Jitsu in my spare time.

Personal statement:
My background is in society and applied research, with experience gained in both the classroom and on the job at Cornell’s Survey Research Institute for the past five years. One day I hope to be in a position facilitating people, culture, society and humanity through public administration. I believe I possess the necessary skills to be successful in this endeavor right here at Cornell and now. My naturally inquisitive approach to problem solving enables me to be a visionary, holistic, forward thinker and leader. I am highly approachable and easy to get along with. I think, I listen, I act.

I have been very fortunate to have received training and opportunities throughout my life and at Cornell. However, awareness without action does very little. I am ready to start giving back to the university. I want to listen to your concerns and your needs. I believe the idea of “Reimagining Cornell” should be extended to something that is ever-evolving, not just a strategic plan set forth in times of greatest need.

Bill Esty
Bailey Hall operations manager

Community involvement on campus:
I am responsible for the organization of all events that happen in Bailey Hall. I am also a member of the Employee Assembly and its Communications Committee and of the University Assembly’s Public Safety Advisory Committee.

Community involvement off campus:
I consult with area theaters from time to time.

Special interests:
I enjoy cooking, hiking with my son and dogs, sailing and vegetable gardening.

Something unusual about self:
I come from a long line of Esty’s who settled New England and eventually came to Ithaca. Esty Street, Esty Hill and the crypt in the City Cemetery are all ancestors.

Personal statement:
Through my involvement at Bailey Hall, I have a unique exposure to students, faculty and staff from all over campus. This gives me a broad spectrum of points of view on ways in which campus life can be improved.

I have decided to seek re-election because I feel as if the past seven months of my Employee Assembly tenure has been too short an amount of time to get any ideas or actions rolling.

Bill Smith
Administrative assistant, Arts and Sciences Office of Admissions and Advising

Community involvement on campus:
I currently serve on the Alumni Board of Directors (“ISWZA”) for the Lambda Chi Alpha - Omicron Zeta chapter fraternity at Cornell University. Last year I served as the homecoming chairperson, coordinating events, lodging and meals for about 60 alumni and their families. As a resident of Ithaca, I also serve as the graduate advisor for the 81 undergraduate members of Lambda Chi Alpha. In addition, I very recently became a member of the Communications Committee on the Employee Assembly and look forward to contributing as an active member in the future.

Community involvement off campus:
Prior to working for Cornell, I served a one-year term as an AmeriCorps Paralegal with Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS), a nonprofit law firm assisting low-income residents of the community with civil legal issues, located downtown in the Dewitt Mall. Working for NLS, I had the opportunity to conduct various outreach programs at community events sponsored by organizations such as Loaves and Fishes of Tompkins County and Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga County.

Special interests:
I recently took up running (you might see me plodding along Route 13 during rush hour). I also enjoy reading, and unfortunately, the New York Mets.

Something unusual about self:
I graduated from Cornell in May 2010 with a major in Communication and a minor in Africana Studies. While an undergraduate, I entertained (or thought I did) the Cornell community as a member of the Humor Us!, a sketch comedy group. Additionally, I am an Eagle Scout hailing from Troop 25 of Suffern, NY, and worked for eight summers at Camp Runachqua on the Ten Mile River Scout Reservation in Sullivan County, NY.

Personal statement:
Since September, I have been working in the Arts and Sciences Admissions and Advising Office, and am very thankful to work with such a bright, dedicated and personable group of individuals. I especially enjoy the high level of interaction with students, faculty and staff members that comes with working at Cornell University.

As an undergraduate at Cornell, I took pride in maintaining an active role in the Cornell community: serving as vice president of the Lambda Pi Eta Communication Honor Society, social chair of my fraternity, as well as a College of Agriculture and Life Sciences ambassador, communication peer advisor and orientation leader. As a young professional, I would very much like to give back to Cornell from the perspective of a staff member. I am excited about this opportunity, and believe that my organization, communication skills and approachability make me ideally suited to serve as one of your Continued on next page
representatives on the Employee Assembly, I would be truly honored to represent my co-workers and fellow staff members at Cornell University. Thank you for your time!

Curtis Ferguson II

Associate director for Hotel Administration Undergraduates, Hotel School

Community involvement on campus:
I am an active member on committees dealing with diversity on campus. I attend the monthly Men of Color Colleague Network Group meetings, and I attend many student group activities around campus.

Community involvement off campus:
I am a mentor for a scholar of the Point Foundation; class agent for my alma mater, Oberlin College; and an active member of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA). Additionally, since being at Cornell, I have taken a class every semester.

Special interests:
I am particularly interested in civic engagement, intercultural competency and issues around diversity.

Something unusual about self:
I have dedicated my life to being a civic educator. As a civic educator, I recognize that knowledge is socially constructed and that the way we learn requires a diversity of opinions. When working in groups, I am committed to making sure that all voices are heard and viewpoints are considered before making a decision.

Personal statement:
My name is Curtis Ferguson, II, and I am running for reelection. During my first term on the Employee Assembly (EA), I was an active member on the EA, and I aided in the creation and execution of the Employee Survey. With more than 70 percent of employees responding to the survey, it is imperative that the results and concerns of the staff are heard and acted upon. I am a person who is not satisfied with simply discussing the concerns and achievements of staff members; rather, I am committed to an action-oriented approach that includes accountability.

If I am reelected to the Employee Assembly, I hope to achieve these following goals:
• Meet with all the deans and division heads to discuss the results of the Employee Survey
• Develop an action plan to encourage more non-exempt staffing and work on the Employee Assembly
• Work with the university administration to ensure that staff are represented in the new diversity strategic plan.

I hope to exceed your expectations in service and excellence if you allow me to continue my membership in the Employee Assembly. Vote for me!

Eric Lee

Medical technologist, Animal Health Diagnostic Center

Community involvement on campus:
I was the employee representative to the executive board at the New York State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the Vet College.

Special interests:
An outdoorsman, I enjoy hunting, fishing, working out and hiking.

Something unusual about self:
I am a fun-loving, easygoing individual who loves video games and fantasy board games. I am also an avid traveler of the world, visiting many parts of Europe and Japan. I have attended wrestlemania twice.

Personal statement:
I have been a part of the Cornell community for five years and, in that time, I became the first employee representative to the executive board for the Animal Health Diagnostic Center at the Vet College. I attended the executive board meetings, representing the ideas and concerns of the staff and working directly with upper levels of management. I hope to bring what I have done and learned to the rest of the Cornell community, working not only with staff but the upper levels of management, listening directly to the people we all work with to understand their ideas and concerns and be the voice that brings those to the forefront. For those of us who are far from main campus, it’s easy to get compartmentalized; I hope to change this, because we are all affected by what happens in our community. With your April vote, we can open a dialogue and impact the community for the better.

Joe Ambrosetti

Director, CEMBA Program, Executive Education, Johnson School

Wherever I have lived and worked during my professional career, I firmly believe in getting involved within my community, both on- and off-campus, making a positive impact for our work and home environment. My family and I recently moved to Ithaca and I look forward to continuing this belief by becoming a member of the Employee Assembly. I will work diligently with my involvement by helping craft and articulate important policy changes that will improve, enhance and promote the quality of our work life for everyone within the Cornell community.

See my LinkedIn profile at http://www.linkedin.com/in/josephambrosetti.

Michelle Stefanski Seymour

Ambulatory technician, Cornell University Hospital for Animals

Community involvement on campus:
I help the Vet College assist in providing high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter services to animals in need in the region through an expanded collaboration with Ithaca’s Shelter Outreach Services (SOS).

Community involvement off campus:
I am involved in the McLean Fire Department’s Ladies Auxiliary and St. Mary’s School, in Cortland, N.Y.

Special interests:
I am interested in advances in medicine, healthcare reform and continuing education.

Something unusual about self:
I believe it is possible to multi-task.

Personal statement:
I have experienced the dynamics of Cornell...
University over time and appreciate the many benefits and opportunities that are extended to the employees. I have worked for the Veterinary College since 1993 and also attained a nursing degree from Tompkins Cortland Community College in 2006. I would like to share my experience to help others continue life-long learning. I have concerns about some recent changes and would like to learn more about rising insurance costs after banner years for insurance companies. Tuition benefits and elder care issues also spark my interest. I have decided to run in memory of my Dad.

Robert “Bob” Blanco
Conference planner, Conferences Services

Community involvement on campus:
I am a member of the team “Losing It” in the No Excuses Weight Loss Challenge and a member of the Pi Sigma Epsilon Chapter Professional Advisory Council.

Community involvement off campus:
I have local and regional involvement in Alpha Phi Omega.

Something unusual about self:
During my time as a student and employee at Cornell I have worked in six different departments within the university.

Personal statement:
Hello, my name is Robert “Bob” Blanco. I am one of the two new conference planners for Conferences Services, under Residential and Event Services. Before starting in this position last November, I spent the last four years as a student, graduating last May from the Applied Economics and Management program. As a recent graduate, I have spent the last four years being exposed to the variety of resources that Cornell has available for the health, safety and wellbeing of its students, as well as the different avenues that the university has used to communicate those messages. With that experience I feel I can bring a new perspective to the EA and provide good insight on how to effectively communicate information, assist and learn from the employee community.

Additionally, in my position as a conference planner, I have the privilege of being able to work with employees in many different roles across campus. From this exposure, I am able to glean a better understanding of the wants and needs of the employee community. Even in my short time as a staff member, I have noticed the differences in the scope and frequency of information that is communicated. Cornell provides many great resources for the employee community, but the information about these programs often appears to be known only be those who specifically seek it out. Forming an effective way for the university to inform employees about the different resources available, as well as forming effective lines of communication from the employees to the administration, are important goals.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve the employee community and help the university grow healthier, safer and stronger.

Tom Mitchell
Website manager, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Community involvement on campus:
I am a member of the Veteran's Colleague Network Group and the CU Web Forum. I was a member of the College of Engineering work-life balance group; however, the group no longer exists.

Community involvement off campus:
I am a Lansing Middle School PTSO lifetime member, Lansing Middle School Activity Night volunteer (turned down the chair position due to time limitations), and Lansing youth soccer coach.

Special interests:
Youth soccer, world peace … happy, productive employees

Something unusual about self:
Below are a few quick facts about me in chronological order:
• I grew up in Tampa, FL, where I was exposed to an extremely culturally diverse population. My favorite topics of study were art, physics and math.
• I was elected to team captain of my state championship soccer team in high school.
• I was voted “honor man” by my peers in the U.S. Navy boot camp and received the Desert Storm campaign medal.

• I lived in San Francisco for nine years, where I received my BFA in Computer Arts and had a cultural experience that has informed and educated me for a lifetime.
• I worked at a “dot com” start-up in Silicon Valley during the boom in early 2000's; this was the hardest I have ever worked as well as being one of the most enjoyable of my jobs.
• I stayed home to raise my daughter for the first two years of her life (she is now 10), and believe that this is my most important achievement in life to date (if she goes to Cornell and plays soccer, then I can retire as a successful Dad).
• I approach life with a great deal of curiosity and often enjoy learning new things.
• I want to return to school one day to get an advanced degree.

Personal statement:
Several of my co-workers have suggested that I get involved with the Employee Assembly, mainly because of my outspoken views on the following two topics.

1.) Work place environment: I sincerely believe that an individual’s work environment has a profound effect on their productivity at work as well as their ability to carry on the goodwill mission of Cornell University outside of work in the community. I also believe that this environment is established and maintained by a partnership between the employee, their direct manager, and the policy makers at the university level. It is a well-known fact that happy, well-adjusted employees who feel valued in their work are more productive, so why is this not a priority? My desire to learn more about how Cornell policy is formed, especially as to how it relates to the workplace environment, has led me to the decision to submit my application to join the Employee Assembly. I hope to be able to work in a collective manner to help employees find their own voice as we work towards making positive change at this wonderful but complex university.

2) Diversity in the workplace for staff. I do believe that we have a wonderfully diverse faculty and student body; however, there is some room for a better and more diverse staff pool. My family moved across the country to work at Cornell University, which gives us the added perspective of outsiders looking in, and, well, there is room for improvement. I hope that, with education, enlightenment may be achieved, where staff from different points of view and experiences are appreciated and valued. I realize that we are physically located in a geographically isolated area; however, we need to think big and act globally. 🐾
Lee Melvin visits India
Tata scholars

NANCY DOOLLITTLE
In his first international trip for the university, Lee H. Melvin, Cornell’s associate vice provost for enrollment, met with five Tata scholars and their families in Mumbai, India, April 1, at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel. The Tata Scholarship for Students from India was established in 2008 by India’s Tata Group to help attract that country’s best and brightest students to Cornell each year, regardless of financial circumstances. Also attending the Tata Scholars Recognition Luncheon were Cornell alumni and representatives from the Tata Education and Development Trust, the philanthropic entity of India’s Tata Group that is responsible for the scholarship program.

In the evening, Melvin attended an event for 17 students from Mumbai who have been admitted to Cornell and their families. He attended a similar outreach event for admitted students in New Delhi, India, April 3 before meeting with alumni and a representative of EducationUSA in Turkey to discuss and identify strategic recruitment efforts to increase Cornell’s visibility in Turkey’s rapidly growing market for higher education.

“We are trying to broaden the diversity of our student body by making sure we have international representation from all over the world,” Melvin said, “from China, India and Korea as well as from such areas as Turkey, Europe, England, Latin America, parts of the Middle East and Africa.” Melvin said that the recruitment efforts of the staff from the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid require that they travel to areas where the university is seeking to expand its diversity outreach efforts.

Ratan Tata ’59, B.Arch. ’62, is chairman of Tata Sons Ltd., the holding company of the Tata Group, and one of Cornell’s most eminent alumni.

Extension colleague retires

The Cortland County Legislature honored Sydney C. McEvoy ’83, retiring executive director of Cornell Cooperative Extension in Cortland, N.Y., at their regular legislative session on March 22. Over the course of his 32-year career, McEvoy has worked as a 4-H Extension Agent in both Chenango (1980-98) and Cortland Counties (1998-2002), until he ultimately became the executive director of CCE Cortland in February of 2002.

During his tenure, McEvoy played a significant role in impacting the lives of numerous youth in Cortland and surrounding counties through his service to both local and regional 4-H programs, including the Cortland County Jr. Fair, the Great NYS Fair, 4-H Regional Dairy Bowl Competition, Cortland County 4-H Teen Council and Cortland County Jr. Holstein Club.

McEvoy received multiple recognitions for outstanding service, including a 1995 National & NYS Distinguished Service Award from the 4-H Agents Association, a 2003 Distinguished Recognition Award from the NYS Purebred Dairy Cattle Association, the 2004 Warm Hands Award, from the Cortland County Dairy Promotion Committee, and a 2011 Leadership and Dedication recognition presented by the 4-H Teen Council members.

Dining with Diverse Leaders

John Rhee ’12 talked with peers about concerns regarding sexual violence and harassment at “Dining with Diverse Leaders,” held March 30 to mark the start of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. About 135 students, faculty, staff and administrators attended the event, sponsored by the Cornell Women’s Resource Center, ALANA, and Cornell Minds Matter.

Sexual Harassment Prevention Fair

Jennifer Austin, communications specialist, Gannett Health Services, discussed Gannett’s counseling resources, April 10.

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FOR RENT
Sabbatical home available, $2,100/mo. 4 bedroom house in quiet neighborhood close to Cornell and northeast schools. Spacious (2,300 sq. ft.), two-story, fully furnished, garden and deck. kvs9@cornell.edu or 255-0534.
2 bedroom apartment for rent in Danby, $900/mo. 20 min. from Cornell in a country setting. Rent includes all but internet and phone. No laundry. ka96@cornell.edu or 481-0466.

FOR SALE
Three lots in Ellis Hollow on Sunnyslope Rd, $60,000/lot. Wooded, in residential area with very nice homes. img32@cornell.edu or 255-5854.
TroyBilt Horse Tiller Parts, $ Reasonable. Blade sets, attachments and other parts. aam6@cornell.edu.
150 DVDs with original cases and artwork, $3/ea. Selling the majority of personal DVD collection. Can provide a list of about 150 titles upon request. mhl0@cornell.edu.
2006 Subaru Forester, $11,500. 76,500 mi.; manual, 6 cd changer, heated seats, power seat, sliding roof sunroof; no rust; very good condition. mag22@cornell.edu or 657-2860.
Rinker 282 Captiva Cuddy, $41,000. Great family boat for skiing, tubing and entertaining. 28’ comes with ALL accessories. mag32@cornell.edu.
Farm Shares Available, $400. Join the Blue Spoon Farm as we begin our adventure in Community Supported Agriculture. Find more information at farmsherdcnny.com. jcs93@cornell.edu or 280-1075.

WANTED
Used car in very good condition, $ negotiable. Have car that grandma took great care of but can’t use anymore? Looking for more fuel efficient vehicle that isn’t a “clunker.” tsww22@cornell.edu or 255-4147.
San Francisco room mate, $ flexible. Spring grad, seeking one or more roommates to share an apartment in San Francisco. Prefer to move in June or July. cef64@cornell.edu.
Housemate wanted $500/mo. Includes all utilities, TV, and internet. Some storage space is available. Most pets OK! Small 16 acre farm. jcs93@cornell.edu or 592-7079.

Guidelines for Classified Ads
Free to members of the Cornell community as well as Cornell retirees.
- Pawprint is not responsible for errors or unprinted ads, and retains the right to edit or reject any submission.
- Submit classified ads via: online: pawprint.cornell.edu
- Classified deadlines: * The Wednesday of the week before publication.

Reminders: Volunteers still needed for Slope Day and Commencement
Slope Day
Volunteers are still needed for Slope Day, which will be held May 4, for four-hour and two-hour shifts that begin at various times throughout the day.
Volunteers can also select among volunteer duties. All staff/faculty volunteers are asked to submit an on-line application at http://www.slopeday.cornell.edu.
Volunteers should plan to attend one of the training sessions found on the application.
If you have questions regarding pay or release time, contact your supervisor, your local human resources representative or the Division of Human Resources (255-6894) for clarification.
Questions about Slope Day activities? E-mail slopehelp@cornell.edu or call 255-3513.

Commencement
Volunteers are needed for Commencement Weekend: Commencement will be held Sunday, May 27, with the Convocation and Ph.D. Hooding Ceremony Saturday, May 26.
All volunteers are entered into a drawing to win a free iPad or two free round-trip tickets on the Campus-to-Campus bus to New York City. Volunteers will also receive other recognitions of thanks, including a paid day away from work and an invitation to a thank-you reception with President David Skorton on June 18.
For more information and to sign up as a volunteer: http://www.commencement.cornell.edu/May/ushers/index.html.
Questions? Contact the Commencement Office at commencement@cornell.edu or 255-9541.

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Content
Please send articles or suggestions to: pawprint@cornell.edu or visit the website at pawprint.cornell.edu and use the feedback button.

PAWPRINT PICKS
BRING A CHILD TO WORK
Cornell’s Bring a Child to Work Day, 2012 will be held May 7, but online registration already began. Register soon for best choices of sessions. This event, focusing this year on “Education, Empowerment, Experience,” provides an opportunity for children to visit the Cornell Ithaca campus and explore interests and careers through scheduled activities.
See: https://www.hr.cornell.edu/life/celebrating/bactwd.html.

PETER MATTHIESSEN LECTURE
Peter Matthiessen - environmentalist, two-time winner of the National Book Award, and author of 30 books – will be at the Statler Auditorium, April 23, 4:30-5:30 p.m., to deliver the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future’s annual Isocl Distinguished Environmental Lecture.
Matthiessen has been a peerless voice for the world’s peoples, oceans, forests, and wildlife. His 1959 work Wildlife in America was one of the first books to call attention to global warming. See http://www.acsf.cornell.edu/isco1.

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION SALE
Almost everything in-store and online will go on sale at 20 percent off at The Cornell Store’s semi-annual customer appreciation sale. Wednesday, April 25 (5-7 p.m. only); Thursday April 26 and Friday, April 27.
Online orders for Cornell gifts and clothing that are placed after 5 p.m. on April 25, through 11:59 p.m. of April 27 (EST) will receive a 20 percent discount. Restrictions apply. See standard exclusions policy for details at https://store.cornell.edu/p-store-policies.aspx.

4-H DUCK RACE
The 12th annual Duck Race and Fun Run will be held April 29, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., with more than $12,000 of prizes, including a Kindle, iPod, KitchenAid Food Processor, a Porter-Cable cordless drill, Cinisart Gridler, overnight bed and breakfast stays, restaurant gift certificates, massage sessions and more.
All proceeds benefit 4-H Youth Development Programs in Tompkins County. For information and to enter: http://ccetompkins.org.

MEN’S LACROSSE TEAM HOSTS CLINIC
The Cornell Lacrosse team and the Dream Factory of CNY, which grants wishes to critically and chronically ill children, are holding a lacrosse “Clinic for a Cause” for children grades three-eight, April 29, at Schoellkopf Field. Proceeds will benefit the Dream Factory of CNY, which grants wishes to critically and chronically ill children in the local area.
Registration: $35 per participant; contact Rob Pannell at rjp224@cornell.edu or 631-258-0786, or send checks, payable to Cornell University, to: Cornell Lacrosse, Teagle Hall, by April 23. Payments also on day of the clinic.
Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., field entrance to Schoellkopf Field; event runs 12:20-3:30 p.m.
Facebook Event Page: http://www.facebook.com/events/313473918717492/
For more on the Dream Factory, see http://www.dreamfactoryinc.org.