

Campus Club

at Cornell
Enriching Women's Lives Since 1900

Annual Report 2022 - 2023

Letter from Campus Club President Ellen Harrison

This has been an exciting year for the Campus Club as we have been able to resume many in-person activities and events and make some new things happen. We made a number of changes in light of responses received to a survey of Campus Club members that was undertaken in part due to budget concerns. Thanks to all of you who responded to the survey.

Dues, which have been \$25 for over a decade, are being raised to \$35 for the coming year (September 1-August 31). The Board made that decision to help balance our budget. That is still a great value! Women for whom that is a hardship should contact me or the membership chair.

The new venue for the Fall Open House held last September at the Ithaca Farmers Market was a great success. It provided for friendly mingling while members and prospective members visited the booths where the numerous activity groups shared information and an opportunity to sign up. Attendees were able to pay their dues and join the Campus Club at the event. We hope to see you at the Ithaca Farmers Market for the September 7, 2023 Open House!

Our Winter Tea, held at Moakley House on January 14, was a festive event. The change from a December to a January date was made recognizing that there are often many events taking place in December making a January party more appreciated as a time to get together. While Moakley House can be noisy, we have not found a better site that meets our requirements. It's location, available parking, pleasant space, cooperative staffing and reasonable price make it our first choice. We look forward to the next Winter Tea at Moakley House in January 2024.

We held our first Summer Fling last July at Stewart Park on an extremely hot and humid day. This fun, family-oriented event, was designed to allow current members to socialize

and to attract younger members to Campus Club. On June 17, 2023 we will host a Summer Fling in the small pavilion at Stewart Park. We will have light refreshments, games and time to enjoy each other's company. Please bring friends and family!

Instead of a formal Annual meeting held at a Spring Luncheon, we will again conduct electronic voting via "Election Runner" to vote for:

- The 2023-24 Slate of Board Nominees (you can find the complete list on Page 10 of this Annual Report).
- An amendment (and minor word changes) we are proposing to the Bylaws that allows the Board to extend the term of the President, Vice President and Immediate Past President, as well as changes to the Constitution, the details of which can be found on Pages 3 and 4 of this report.

The election ballot will be sent to members via email on May 22 and can be accessed until May 29, 2023, when the results will be finalized.

Activity groups are the core of the Campus Club. It is the volunteer leaders of these groups that make our Club what it is. A new group "Paddling" has generated tremendous interest. Thank you to our fearless leaders!

Programs this year were an excellent mix of in-person and Zoom events ranging from our annual architectural tour of Cornell to harps and to suffragettes' relation to racism. In response to the results of the member survey, next year we will reduce the number of Programs to four. While topics and dates are not yet set, we know they will be diverse and fascinating.

What a great Board has worked together to make our Campus Club move forward. It is such a positive, hard-working and fun group of women! I am privileged to work with them. Thanks to the diligence of the current board in recruiting the slate of officers being proposed in the upcoming election is fantastic. We are grateful to those women for stepping up to join the Board.

As you may remember, we changed the terms of our Board positions from one year to two rather than electing an assistant for a year, then would move up. Consistent with that, I will be serving a second year as President and Alice Kops will continue as VP for the coming year (June 1-May 31) since the Board felt that a bit more continuity would be useful (and Alice and I were willing!).

Hope to see you at the various up-coming activities and events!

Cheers,
Ellen

Proposed Changes to the Campus Club at Cornell Inc. Constitution and By-Laws

The proposed changes are what is highlighted, and the following terminology has been updated to reflect the changes as well.

- Annual Meeting —————> Annual Election
- Fall Coffee —————> Fall Open House
- Executive Board —————> Board

CONSTITUTION

Article IV – Committees

Section 2. There shall be a Nominating Committee headed by the most recent Past President. **Nomination planning is to be completed at least one month before the Annual Meeting. (delete)**

Article VI – Dues

Section 2. All individuals participating in **social events and/or(delete)** Activity Groups are required to be members by paying annual dues to the Treasurer of the Campus Club.

Section 3. Notice of the Annual Meeting shall be sent to members who have paid dues by March 15 of the current year. (delete)

Article VII – Meetings

Section 3. The Annual **Election** shall be held in either April or May at the discretion of the Board. **The election of officers and presentation of the Annual Report will take place at this meeting. The Annual Meeting may be held at the Spring Luncheon (delete).** At this Election members will vote on the slate of officers and any changes to the Bylaws or Constitution.**(add)**

Article IX – Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any **Annual Election** or Special Meeting by a two- thirds vote of those members **present and (delete)** voting. **The Annual Report, any proposed amendment(s) and the slate of officers shall be submitted to the members at least two weeks in advance of the voting. (new wording)**

BYLAWS

Article II - Executive Board

Section 3. Terms of Office:

3.1 President, Vice President, and Immediate Past President are one-year terms **unless the Board agrees to extend any of the terms by an additional year.**(add)

3.2 The Vice President is in effect President Elect, serving one year as Vice President and the second year as President, and the third year as Immediate Past President, **unless there are extenuating circumstances** (delete) **unless the Board agrees to extend any of the terms by an additional year.** (add)

Article III - Duties of Officers

Section 2. The Vice President shall assist the President and preside in her absence. **The Vice President is responsible for the historical file and archives.** (add/moved from Section 1). She will oversee Campus Club's relationships with Service Groups.

Section 3. The Secretary shall record all meetings and send copies of all minutes to the Board members. She shall maintain the records of the Campus Club. **and handle all correspondence** (delete).

Section 6. The Social Chair shall make all arrangements for the social events, namely, **the Fall Open House, Winter Tea, and Spring/Summer Fling, and any other social events approved by the Board.** (wording change)

Section 8. The Membership Chair shall:

- Keep the membership file up-to-date and report paid membership numbers to the Board.
- Provide mailing labels when required.
- Maintain the Campus Club's Listserv and notify members of upcoming programs and events via the Listserv.
- Supervise the distribution of the Fall Brochure and **other Campus Club PR materials.** (wording change)
- **Maintain the supplies of the Board (including but not limited to postage stamps, mailing labels, and envelopes)** (delete)

Article IV - Guests

Guests are welcome at the lectures of the Campus Club at Cornell, as all are open to the public. **Members may invite guests to events as approved by the Board.** (wording change)

Treasurer's Report

Amy Hughes 2022 - 2023 Treasurer

INCOME

Membership Fees	\$ 7,149.41
Interest	\$ 9.36
Gallagher Fund	\$ 1,300.00
Other (donations, etc.)	
TOTAL Income:	\$ 8,458.77

EXPENSES

Liability Insurance	\$ 520.43
Administration (PO Box rental, postage, supplies, PayPal fees)	\$ 745.55
Communications	\$ 388.08
Fall Open House	\$ 1,692.75
Lectures and Programs	\$ 1,300.00
Summer Open House Pavilion Rental	\$ 484.45
Winter Social	\$ 2,970.33
TOTAL Expenses:	\$ 7,617.14

NET Income:	\$ 841.63
--------------------	------------------

ASSET STATEMENTS

Balance Forward March 31, 2022

Savings	\$ 9,912.45
Gallagher Fund	\$ 8,068.95
Checking	\$ 1,830.93
Beginning Assets Total:	\$19,812.33

Balance as of March 31, 2023

Savings	\$ 9,415.99
Gallagher Fund	\$ 6,771.91
Checking	\$ 3,645.97
Current Assets Total:	\$19,833.87

Net Change in Asset Accounts:	\$ 21.54
--------------------------------------	-----------------

Activity Groups Report

Sharon Howrey 2022 - 2023 Activities Chair

Our Activity Groups have resurfaced after the pandemic years of 20-21 with gusto! We have 22 Activity Groups, and one service group (ESL). We've started four new groups this year; Caregivers, Paddlers, Wine Explorers and a second Spanish Group! Our membership has grown after taking a dip throughout the pandemic.

The heart of our Club is the participation of our members in our many Activity Groups. Most have resumed in-person meetings; some are doing a hybrid zoom/in-person meetings. There are a few that still participate via zoom only. Everyone I've spoken with is SO grateful that we were able to maintain our relationships throughout the pandemic, even if we couldn't do our Activities as before.

There are still quite a variety of Activities to choose from. For instance, if you're a bookworm, you can choose from three different groups. If you like sitting around to chat, there is Friendship, Just Coffee, Caregivers, and Spanish Conversation (albeit in Spanish!). If you are more inclined to physical activity, Hiking, Biking, Yoga and Paddling might interest you. The myriad of activities include playing games, traveling, bird watching, creating food, art and music. Almost all of them include food of some sort! 😊 By the way, there are TWO tabs on our website for Activities, so please peruse them both and enjoy whatever strikes your fancy.

We are looking forward to 2023-2024 with a deep appreciation of our diverse membership, our enriching relationships, and our great variety of Activities to choose from.

Wendy Wolfe, a recent Cornell retiree, will be taking over as Activities Chair for 2023 - 2025. We are all grateful for her stepping up as Activities Chair, and look forward to her future contributions as a valuable Board Member.

Membership Report

Liz Elser 2022 - 2023 Membership Chair

As of April 30, 2023, Campus Club had a total of 289 members. This number is down slightly from last year. We welcomed 43 new members to the club this year.

PayPal online registrations are increasingly popular. 160 members joined via PayPal, compared to 129 by traditional paper forms.

While the majority of our members join in the fall, new and renewing memberships are still coming in, as some of our outdoor activity groups restart in the spring.

Social Report

Zoe Leonard 2022 - 2023 Social Chair

Our Fall Open House was held at a new venue this year at Ithaca Farmers Market on 545 3rd Street. It was a very successful Fall Open House held on September 8, 2022, from 10am to 1pm with almost 100 women attending, including many new members. Having the Campus Club Board greet incoming guests at the entrance, helped to welcome newcomers and steer them to sign up for the different Activity Groups. Many of the members signed up for Activities while they mingled, and enjoyed a light lunch from Wegmans.

The Winter Tea event was a great success. It was held at Moakley House on January 14th, 2023, from 2pm to 4pm. It was our first time moving the event from December to January - everyone loved the idea of having the event in January! There were 86 members who attended this event and everyone enjoyed catching up and socializing. Board members Eliza Brown, Misao Johnson, and Amy Hughes brought delicious home baked desserts to the event, which was an added plus.

Due to the tight budget, all board members agreed on combining the Spring Social and Summer Fling into one event, which will be held on Saturday, June 17th from 2pm - 4pm at the Small Pavilion at Stewart Park. Stay tuned and come join us for some fun!

Programs Report

Eliza Brown 2022 - 2023 Programs Chair

Through our programs this past year, the women of Campus Club have considered places as close as our backyards, and as far away as the moon and beyond. In September, Roberta Moudry led us on a survey of the Arts Quad and the south campus on her tour, **How We Remember: Memorials on Central Campus**. We considered the making and placement of a diverse set of monuments. The issues of monument making and meaning broadened our consideration of the monument as a means to preserve memory, tell a story, provoke questions, and express both private and collective grief.

In October, we returned to Kendal to hear Michael Hoffman, Professor Emeritus, Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, speak to us about **Confronting Climate Change Using the Foods We Love and Need**. We learned about the effects of climate change on our food, and how to be better advocates for the environment.

In January, Zoe Ponterio of SPIF, presented **Shooting the Moon** in the comfort of our own homes via Zoom. This visual program presented a history of photographs of the moon – from the earliest image captured, through to those taken by robotic spacecraft carrying state-of-the art cameras that send back images of newly explored worlds from billions of miles away (e.g. images sent from Voyager 1 and 2).

In February, we visited the Lab of Ornithology to hear from Stephen Kress, visiting fellow of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology and founder of Audubon's Project Puffin. He discussed **Gardening for Birds**, strategies for encouraging a wide variety of birds to visit your backyard by planting certain carefully selected trees and shrubs, whether you have acres of land or just a small garden.

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day week, Lisa Fenwick presented **An Evening with Harps**, a program with a variety of music styles that included an emphasis on Celtic music, both on pedal harp and Celtic harp.

We finished our "year" of programs with a lecture titled, **Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Racist?** given by Laura Free, Ph.D, '09, Associate Professor of History at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Dr. Free discussed the complicated race- and gender-politics Elizabeth Cady Stanton engaged in, in the 1860s, exploring how her race views informed her feminism. She spoke of how we can deal with the complicated history of racism in the women's suffrage movement and recognize the milestone accomplishments of early feminists, while also holding them accountable for their harmful, elitist views.

Thank you for joining us for a diverse and informative series of programs for the 2022-23 season! We look forward to seeing you next year. As always, non-members are welcome to attend our programs.

Nominating Committee Report

Misao Johnson 2022 - 2023 Nominating Chair

Members of the 2022 - 2023 Nominating Committee: Misao Johnson, Ellen Harrison and Sharon Howrey.

A separate email will be sent in May with a link to the electronic voting platform for members to cast their approval of the 2023 - 2024 Board.

The Nominating Committee is pleased to submit to the membership the following slate of officers for 2023 - 2024.

President	Ellen Harrison
Vice - President	Alice Kops
Treasurer	Suzanne Aigen*
Secretary	Janie Leff
Activities	Wendy Wolfe*
Membership	Liz Elser/Beata Lopez*
Programs	Sharon Anderson*
Publicity	Carolyn Belle*
Social	Zoe Leonard/Jeani Parr*
Past President	Misao Johnson

*We welcome Suzanne Aigen, Wendy Wolfe, Beata Lopez, Sharon Anderson, Carolyn Belle and Jeani Parr who are joining the Campus Club board for the first time. Beata Lopez and Jeani Parr will be working in tandem with the current chairs, before they take over as Membership Chair and Social Chair respectively.

A big thank you to Sharon Howrey who will be stepping down after serving multiple years as Activity Groups Chair and to Eliza Brown, who did an amazing job as Programs Chair for the past two years, bringing in wonderful speakers and performers to our club.