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Preface

The University Faculty has always followed the practice of including within the faculty records a memorial resolution on the death of one of its members. The faculty modified this custom that was begun in the earliest days of Cornell University in 1938 as follows:

Upon the death of a member of the University Faculty, the President or Dean of Faculty shall formally notify the Faculty at the next meeting and those present shall rise in respect for the memory of the deceased member. The Provost shall then appoint a committee to prepare an appropriate memorial statement. Such statements shall not be presented in the form of resolutions, as in the past, but shall be annually collected, edited, and printed by the University in a memorial booklet, which shall be sent to members of the Faculty, to the families of the deceased members, and shall be filed with University records.

This booklet, prepared by the Office of the Dean of the University Faculty, contains articles in memory of those twenty-eight University Faculty members whose deaths were reported in the period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The names of the committee members who prepared the statements are given at the end of each article.
Benedict R. O. Anderson
August 26, 1936 – December 13, 2015

Benedict Anderson, the Aaron L. Binenkorb Emeritus Professor of International Studies, and a long time faculty member of the Government department, died December 13, 2015, age 79 in Malang, Indonesia, apparently of heart failure. Ben had retired from Cornell in 2002, and spent most of his time in Asia, although he returned to his home outside of Freeville every summer, and remained active in Southeast Asian studies. An extraordinarily productive scholar and writer, he had just finished drafting his last book, A Life Beyond Boundaries: A Memoir (2016), which appeared in print several months after his passing.

Ben gained broad international recognition for his 1983 book Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism, one of the most influential studies of nationalism, that helped reshape how scholars think of the origins and dynamics of nationalistic ideology. Most students of nationalism had viewed nations as either old and eternal, or ahistorical curiosities of the capitalist age. Ben argued that nations were modern “imagined communities,” that arose as a consequence of capitalism and the explosion of the printed word, which served to unite mass publics around a single vernacular language and a particular sense of a community made up of people one would never meet. His analysis firmly rejected the idea that nations were eternal, but nevertheless insisted that even critical analysts must take this peculiar idea of an “imagined” community seriously. Even imagined communities may be meaningful. Imagined Communities has been translated into over 20 languages and Google scholar today credits it with over 70,000 citations.

In addition to Imagined Communities, In the course of a long academic career, Ben published several hundred publications, mostly focusing on

Ben was born in China in 1936, to an Irish father and an English mother. His father was a commissioner in the Imperial Maritime Customs Service, and the family was forced to leave China in 1941, when it was invaded by Japan. He studied at Eton and Cambridge University in England, where he received first class honors in Classics in 1957. Ben came to Ithaca as a graduate student in the early 1960s. Under the tutelage of George Kahin, he turned his focus on Southeast Asia, and began his teaching career in the Government Department in 1967, never really to leave it until his retirement in 2002. He was also active in leadership roles in the Southeast Asian Studies Program, helping to establish it as the premier center for the study of the Southeast Asia in the US. For much of that time, he lived in an old farmhouse outside of Freeville, 8 miles north east of campus.

He arrived in Ithaca and to the Government Department during the tumultuous years when Cornell was one of the national epicenters of campus anti-Vietnam-war protest and civil rights activism. Ben combined meticulous scholarship with passionate political engagement. He became a vocal critic of the Suharto regime in Indonesia. An essay entitled “A Preliminary Analysis of the October 1, 1965, Coup in Indonesia” (co-authored with Ruth McVey and Frederick Bunnell), which challenged the official story of the September 30 Movement and the anti-communist slaughter of almost a million people in Indonesia and later came to be known around the world as simply “The Cornell Paper”, led to him being banned from that country from 1972 until the end of Suharto’s dictatorship in 1998.

Ben was a superb teacher for the Government Department, with legendary courses on militarism, nationalism, as well as Southeast Asian politics. A formidable intellect with little patience for disciplinary boundaries, he served on a large number of graduate student committees in and out of the Government department. He was much esteemed by his Government
colleagues, despite his limited interest in much departmental business. For instance, he was known for not saying much at the Wednesday noon faculty meetings, diligently working on the New York Times crossword puzzle—in pen—instead.

Anderson is survived by his brother Perry Anderson, his sister Melanie Anderson and his two adopted sons, Yudi and Beni.

*Nic van de Walle, chair; Isaac Kramnick, Kaja M. McGowan and Tom Pepinsky*
Dr. Robin Redfern Bellinder of Ithaca, a Professor of Horticulture at Cornell University for 31 years and an international expert in weed control in vegetable crops, died unexpectedly on Nov. 13, 2015. She was 70 years old.

Dr. Bellinder was born in Astoria, Oregon on Aug. 7, 1945, the first child of Capt. Richard “Dick” Dunning Redfern and Dorothy A. Warren. The family was on the West Coast for her father’s deployment with the U.S. Coastal Artillery during World War II. They returned to Michigan after the war and settled in the northern village of Bellaire, where she and her younger brother Tod spent much of their youth. The family moved to Traverse City, Michigan, and then Lansing, where she graduated from Lansing Eastern High School in 1963.

Dr. Bellinder took a serpentine path to her Cornell professorship. She began studying at the University of Michigan in 1963. When she expressed interest in a degree in the sciences, her advisor told her that, based on her math and science test scores, she should instead get a degree in English. She left school shortly after to explore the world, hitchhiking through much of the U.S. and Europe and ending up in Uppsala, Sweden in 1966. She returned to her studies in 1968 but took another break in 1969 to travel for a year overland from Sweden to India, Singapore and back. She had her daughter, Jessica, in 1971, and as a single parent resumed her studies and earned a degree in English from Uppsala University in 1972. She returned to the U.S. in 1974 and, after several years working in the hospitality industry in northern Michigan, she returned to college and completed her bachelor’s degree in science at Michigan State University in 1979. She went on to get her master’s and, in 1984, doctoral degrees from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia. In the same
year, before her graduation ceremony, she began working as an assistant professor of horticulture at Cornell.

Dr. Bellinder balanced her obligations as a graduate student and professor with her role as a single parent in an era and professional arena where this was uncommon. Although money was tight when she was a student, she maintained an unwavering commitment to nurturing her daughter. During the relocation from East Lansing to Blacksburg in December 1979, she loaded a Michigan Christmas tree on top of everything in the U-Haul to make sure the family would have a real Christmas celebration when they arrived.

At Cornell, Dr. Bellinder was a passionate supporter of the Land Grant mission. Her research program focused on weed management for vegetable crops. One of few women in her field at that time, she became a national and international leader. She published research results widely in peer reviewed publications, as well as publications that advised growers about her work’s practical applications. She served as president of the Northeastern Weed Science Society and, in 2005, was named the recipient of Cornell’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences award for outstanding accomplishments in applied research. She will be remembered as a weed scientist who ardently and tirelessly supported New York vegetable growers. She made sure “her growers” had all the tools they needed for success. When New York table beet growers lost the only effective herbicide they had, she worked tirelessly to provide documentation and letters of support to get the herbicide labeled for one more year.

Although Robin worked with herbicides, she was involved in all aspects of weed management. A sabbatical to Sweden 25 years ago opened her eyes to European tillage equipment. Once she returned, she imported lots of new equipment to demonstrate. She trialed materials that could be used by organic growers like clove oil and vinegar. Although not every one of those was effective, she certainly had the most aromatic plots at the research farm.

Robin did many on-farm trials where a grower would prepare and plant the land and Robin would apply the treatments. She would visit these farms from very early in the morning through the evening, weekends included. Growers knew that the results from these trials would help not only themselves but also all those in the industry. She worked closely with Cornell Cooperative Extension educators, helping to train them in weed management when they were first hired and then becoming a valued colleague and friend. As one of her extension colleagues stated, “We stand on the shoulders of giants, and Robin was one of them”.

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For the last ten years she added undergraduate teaching to her many responsibilities. She enthusiastically taught “Principles of Vegetable Production”, providing students with her insight and experiences from around the world. Dr. Bellinder was also a mentor to dozens of graduate students over the years and took great pride in helping to educate the next generation of weed scientists. One student remembers her as “very hands-on and involved, always present for plantings, herbicide applications or harvests. She was truly someone that worked with and alongside her crew. In all matters that she undertook, however small they were, she was a very genuine person. Even a simple inquiry, or request would receive her wholehearted and diligent consideration. And as much as she expected only the highest level of commitment from her crew, Dr. Bellinder was also a very fair and empathetic person. She was as accommodating as she was curious, always willing to adjust and take happiness in experiences themselves.”

Dr. Bellinder was active in international programs, traveling to South America and Asia. She had the uncanny ability to notice, question and grasp the minutest details in geography or culture. Her work in India was life changing. She showed how backpack sprayers could be used to safely and economically apply small doses of herbicides. She said “anyone who thinks farmers in India should control weeds without herbicides should spend an afternoon in a field there with a hoe”. She was made a Fellow in the Indian Weed Science Society for her efforts.

Dr. Bellinder also acted locally, bringing fresh, nutritious food to hungry families in New York’s Southern Tier. She initiated Cornell’s efforts to provide fresh fruits and vegetables from the Homer C. Thompson Research Farm to the Food Bank of the Southern Tier. She realized that rather than composting the farm’s edible produce, they could feed hungry area families. Since 2004, as a result of her initiative, Cornell has donated close to 2 million pounds of produce from the Thompson farm.

Those who knew Dr. Bellinder would often describe her as soft-spoken but one whose words had tremendous impact. She will be remembered as an intense, thoughtful, loyal, generous, creative and loving person who tenaciously advocated for the things she believed were important. She will be greatly missed.

Dr. Bellinder is survived by her daughter, Jessica Bellinder, son-in-law, Brian Arthur, and granddaughter, Fiona Claire Bellinder, of New York; her brother, Tod Willis-Redfern, of Eaton Rapids, Mich. her half-sister, Susan Fujii, of Mountain View, Calif. and her nieces, Alexis Willis-Redfern and Keilani and Malia Fujii.
Steve Reiners, chair; Craig Cramer, and Toni DiTommaso; with assistance from Jessica Bellinder
James W. Boodley
August 9, 1927 – February 12, 2016

James Boodley, Professor of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture, died February 12, 2016 in Sebring, Ohio. He was 88.

One of eight children, he was the first in his family to attend college. His love of greenhouses first started in high school when he worked one summer in a greenhouse in his hometown of Morrisville, PA. He came to Cornell as an assistant professor in 1958, having been recruited by Professor John Seeley. Jim received his Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. He was promoted to full professor in 1968 and served as chair of the Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture from 1970 to 1975.

Jim, along with Cornell colleague Raymond Sheldrake, developed the Cornell Peat-Lite Mixes – which came to be known simply as Cornell Mix – that transformed the greenhouse industry in the ‘60s.

The pair based their soilless mixes on peat moss and perlite and/or vermiculite combined in various proportions with limestone, fertilizer and other ingredients to match the needs of different greenhouse crops. From poinsettias to potted bulbs and orchids to tomato transplants, these lightweight artificial soils provided good drainage, were free of weed seeds, and reduced disease problems for growers. Jim often joked, "If Sheldrake and I got a nickel for every bag of Peat Lite sold we'd be rich”.

“Cornell Mix revolutionized the industry by providing a uniform and consistent soilless substrate that made plant care and handling much easier,” said Neil Mattson, associate professor and greenhouse specialist in the Horticulture Section of Cornell’s School of Integrative Plant Science. “The Peat-Lite recipes formed the basis for modern potting mixes that are still widely used by the commercial greenhouse industry and consumers today.”
“The clean, well-drained growing medium empowered generations of flower growers to produce bedding plants and flowering potted plants in a new and better way,” said Margery Daugherty, plant pathologist at Cornell’s Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center, Riverside, N.Y. “Root rots and damping off were thwarted by the new growing medium, and the so-called Cornell Mix was ever so much lighter to handle and ship. A source of steam for pasteurization of the mix was no longer needed for every greenhouse. Their mix brought a new uniformity to the industry, paving the way for plug production and automation.”

In addition to developing the soilless mixes, Jim conducted early research on the use of artificial light to speed production in greenhouses, tissue analysis to assess the nutrient status of floral crops, and chemical solutions to prolong the shelf life of cut flowers. Cornell greenhouse staff, Barbara Stewart and John Kumpf remember Professor Boodley as a passionate, hard-working researcher who was “never afraid to get his hands dirty” and “was always thorough in his research approach.”

He wrote The Commercial Greenhouse, now in its third edition. The book is a complete reference on greenhouse systems and technologies, and the science of growing crops. “It’s considered ‘The Bible’ by many in the greenhouse industry,” says Mattson. “Thousands of today’s industry professionals were trained from this textbook.”

Jim was elected a fellow in American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS) in 1982 and received the prestigious Alex Laurie Award from the Society of American Florists in 1983, presented to the author of the most significant applied floriculture research paper published in any of the ASHS publications during a calendar year. After retiring from Cornell in 1983, he continued his career as a research scientist at the Smithers-Oasis Company in Kent, Ohio.

Jim taught numerous courses on greenhouse management and flower crop production that influenced many future growers, educators and researchers.

He was admired as an outstanding mentor and supporter by a generation of floriculture students.

“One of the best days of my life was getting a call from Professor Boodley when I was a senior at the University of Arkansas,” recalled W. Randolph Woodson, a student of Boodley’s who went on to become chancellor of North Carolina State University. “He called to offer me a graduate fellowship to work on a rose nutrition project. I quickly learned that Dr. Boodley cared deeply for his graduate students. He helped Susan and me find housing and upon our arrival in Ithaca hosted us in his home to get acquainted. We
developed a strong relationship that made it clear to me that he cared about my success. Dr. Boodley left Cornell before I completed my doctorate to pursue his dream of working in the private sector for the leading company producing artificial substrate for potted plants. While our day-to-day interactions came to an end with his departure, his interest in my career never faltered. He stayed in touch and always sent me a note of congratulations at every major juncture in my career. Jim was a thoughtful, and caring mentor and I will always be grateful for that call.”

“Jim Boodley was an incredibly supportive advisor,” recalled Leonard Perry, Horticulture Professor Emeritus, University of Vermont. “His emphasis on useful and practical research and results was a great fit for me, and has served me well in obtaining what turned into a career position as the Greenhouse and Nursery Specialist with University of Vermont Extension. Having had the opportunity to work with one of the top names in floriculture at the time, and one of the pioneers of soilless media that so much of our current growing is based on, is an experience I cherish and feel fortunate to have had.”

“As a teacher turned horticulturalist, I came to Cornell for an MPS (Masters of Professional Studies),” recalled Elizabeth (Liz) Berens, MPS, 1978. “Once I arrived I was somewhat intimidated by the other graduate students in the department, most of whom were getting Masters Degrees on their way to Ph.D.’s. As my advisor, Professor Boodley made me feel validated in the different path that I was taking. He encouraged me when I chose to work on a second project towards my degree. He made the journey as valuable as the destination”.

Colleagues remember how Jim was courageous both at home and abroad: on a floriculture study tour in Mexico a number of years after he left Cornell, he impressed his colleagues with his derring-do in the bullring-for-tourists, where, armed with only a faded piece of red cloth, he successfully challenged a small but equally determined bull.

Dr. Boodley is survived by his four children and four grandchildren.

*Steve Reiners, chair; Craig Cramer and Joann Gruttadaurio*
Michael D. Boyd
November 27, 1936 – September 29, 2015

Michael Boyd was into color. From the tops of bright colored t-shirts peeking out from underneath more muted long sleeved shirts, the snippet of color catching your attention like a summer bouquet of flowers on a gray tabletop, to his hundreds of paintings, Mike lived life vibrantly.

He described painting “as a medium of expression capable of communicating profound visual experiences solely through its own elements: color and structure.”

His work evolved over time, but not his commitment to exploring in abstract but highly structured series of paintings the interplay of form—composition—and color.

A mid-westerner born and educated in Iowa, he became a highly successful New York City artist where his paintings gained recognition and appreciation in solo and group exhibitions, especially at the Andre Zarre Gallery, where his work was often shown. Collections in art museums, universities, and corporations across the United States extended his reach nationally.

Mike brought his passion not just for painting but also for design, and especially graphic design, to the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis for twenty-eight years. Hundreds of students taking his introduction to design course learned how to think more clearly and convey ideas and emotions more effectively in his studios. His interest in design, architecture and music influenced his art, and reflected his unabating curiosity in the world around him.

Even-tempered and always ready to talk and share ideas, Mike
embodied the characteristics we most associate with being collegial.

We will miss him.

*Gary William Evans, chair; and Franklin Becker*
The Section of Soil & Crop Science in the School of Integrative Plant Science (formerly Department of Crop & Soil Science, originally Department of Agronomy) lost a revered colleague with the passing of Nyle C. Brady at the age of 95 in Colorado.

Nyle was born in Manassa, Colorado on October 25th, 1920 to Frank and Sadie Brady. He earned his BS in chemistry from Brigham Young University in 1941 and his Ph.D. in soil science from North Carolina State University in 1947. An emeritus professor at Cornell, he was the coauthor (originally with Harry O. Buckman and later with Ray R. Weil) of the classic textbook, *The Nature and Properties of Soils*, now in its 15th edition, and was also editor of *Advances in Agronomy* from 1969-1991. “He was a giant in soil science and agriculture, and left an important legacy in many ways,” said Ray Weil, Professor of Environmental Science and Technology at the University of Maryland.

Beginning in 1947 as an Assistant Professor, Nyle worked at Cornell for 26 years, rising rapidly to the rank of full Professor. Students in the College of Agriculture named him as a Professor of Merit in 1953, an award recognizing his excellence in undergraduate teaching. Brady “was one of the giants of our field,” and yet known for his personable approach to students and colleagues, according to Pedro Sanchez ‘62, M.S. ’64, Ph.D. ’68, Research Professor of Tropical Soils at the University of Florida, whom Nyle mentored.

After beginning his Cornell career primarily as a teacher, Nyle served as Head of the Department of Agronomy from 1955 to 1963, and Assistant Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station from 1963 to 1973. During the latter period, he supervised the construction of Bradfield & Emerson Halls and was also elected President of both
the American Society of Agronomy and of the Soil Science Society of America.

Nyle’s scientific and administrative abilities then took him to the Philippines where he was Director General of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) until 1981. Here, he dramatically expanded the scope and funding of IRRI’s research and outreach programs. Notable amongst these were the Genetic Evaluation & Utilization (GEU) Program and the International Rice Testing Program (IRTP), which successfully brought multi-disciplinary and international cooperation to bear on problems facing rice productivity. During his stint at IRRI, Nyle gained a global reputation for successful fund raising. Dr. Bill Mather, who headed the United Nations Development Program, an IRRI donor at the time, recalls reaching an agreement with Nyle at the IRRI headquarters in Los Baños for approximately $1M with the detailed budget to be delivered later at Dr. Mather’s hotel in Manila. When Nyle arrived at the hotel with the budget the next day, the total was $1.5M. Questioned about it by Mather, Nyle replied, “Inflation is terrible in this country,” whereupon Mather agreed to $1.5M. In 2006, Nyle described his IRRI experience as a highlight in his career because “I felt I was involved in something that would help humanity”.

Nyle returned to the USA in 1981 to serve as Sr. Deputy Administrator of USAID for 10 years, retiring in 1991. During those years he contributed greatly to the expansion of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

Nyle cherished his 22 grandchildren and 90 great-grandchildren. He had a passion for learning and always encouraged his family to do the same. But more importantly he taught them to love and serve others. His wonderful example of caring for those less fortunate is a quality that has guided and influenced the lives of his family and everyone around him. Nyle is survived by his dear wife and sweetheart Martha, as well as his son Donald, and two daughters, Dorothy and Carol. He also is survived by his sister, June Hunter of La Hara, Colorado. His oldest son Robert preceded him in death.

W. Ronnie Coffman, chair; Stephen DeGloria and John Duxbury
Retired professor of Theater, Stephen Cole, who helped establish one of the nation’s first master’s programs in Acting at Cornell, in the 1960s, died Aug. 11, 2015 at Hospicare in Ithaca. He was 82.

Cole was born in New York City, grew up in the Midwest and began a life in the theater performing comedy and dance professionally while in his teens. Actor Barnard Hughes was among his early mentors.

A graduate of the University of Iowa and Indiana University, Cole taught at the University of Nebraska before joining Cornell’s Department of Theatre, Film and Dance in 1968, now the Department of Performing and Media Arts in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Many of the students whom Cole taught and influenced went on to distinguished film, stage and television careers, including: Christopher Reeve ’74; Jimmy Smits, MFA ’82; Jane Lynch, MFA ’84; Catherine Hicks, MFA ’74; William Sadler, MFA ’75; Margaret Reed, MFA ’81; and Richard Tyson, MFA ’85.

“He was a master teacher, dedicated to his students’ personal growth as much as their technical training, and he drew many students to the Ithaca campus to study with him,” said his longtime colleague, Bruce Levitt, Professor of Theater.

Another colleague of many years, Richard Archer, moved to Cornell in 1979 after he had spent more than ten years in professional theatre and was amazed at the talent of the MFA acting students he found at Cornell: “I soon learned that this was in no small part due to Steve Cole’s amazing ability to audition and choose young, talented students to be in the MFA program. Today, any day on cable and film, you can see a performance by one of Steve’s former students.”
Tim Ostrander, who worked with Stephen as a student, designer, actor and colleague, remembers his good humor as he worked “with a bunch of kids who didn’t know what they were doing, smiling patiently (through semi-gritted teeth, I believe) as he tried to create a sense of camaraderie among us.”

Twenty years later, working with him as prop master on all his shows and designer for several of them, Ostrander remembers Stephen as always generous with his praise, appreciation and encouragement of Ostrander’s creativity.

Cole’s time at Cornell was offset by a nine-year disability leave after a failed heart bypass operation in 1987. Following a heart transplant in 1994 and a long recovery, he returned to campus in 1996. “I was very lucky because I was practically dead; I was out of body twice,” he said. After decades of using psychological concepts as part of his holistic training of actors, his near-death experience deepened Cole’s interest in the inner self, which he connected to a variety of subsequent theatrical pursuits in later life.

Kent Goetz, Resident Scene Designer at the Schwartz Center, has many fond memories of collaborating with Stephen as the scene designer on productions he directed during his second stint at Cornell. “Stephen had a distinctive ability to guide his designers with a gentle wisdom that brought out the best in us. I continue to use the productions I did with Stephen in all of my design studio classes as examples of successful collaborations due to the consummate leadership of a seasoned, insightful, caring director. I always felt proud to be part of his creative team.”

Cole retired in 2008; in his 40 years at Cornell he built a legacy on campus and in local theater. In the early 1970s he co-founded the Ithaca Repertory Company, which became the Hangar Theatre, and over the years he acted in and directed productions with that company as well as the Kitchen Theatre Company and the Firehouse Theatre.

He was active in Compos Mentis, a group of psychologists and volunteers providing cultural and learning activities for people with mental health challenges. He also studied and later taught at the IM School of Healing Arts, a four-year program in healing and spiritual learning based in Ithaca and New York City.

“The IM School,” Levitt said, “as well as his vast theater teaching, directing and performing experiences, informed his relationship with the men of the Phoenix Players Theatre Group at Auburn Correctional Facility, an inmate generated theatre group seeking self-knowledge and redemption through theatre. Cole became their
first facilitator.”

Cole remained active as a facilitator with the Phoenix Players until 2013. Cole’s daughter, Paula, an associate professor of theater arts at Ithaca College, also facilitated in the prison program, along with Levitt.

Stephen Cole is survived by his daughters, Paula Murray Cole of Ithaca and Leslie Dixon of Georgetown, Texas.

Bruce Levitt with contributions from Daniel Aloi, Kent Goetz, Richard Archer and Tim Ostrander
After spending his early life on Long Island, New York, George Conneman matriculated at Cornell University where he earned a B.S. in 1952 majoring in animal science and agricultural economics. He then served as a radio technician with the United States Army Signal Corp in Germany from 1953 to 1955, and following his Army service, George returned to Cornell to do research and earned a M.S. in agricultural economics in 1956. He continued to work at Cornell as a farm management specialist before going to Penn State University, where he earned a Ph.D. in agricultural economics in 1967. He then returned to the faculty in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Cornell (now the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management) as an assistant professor, rising through the professorial ranks, and retiring in 2000. A lifelong learner, he continued his education with sabbaticals as a research economist with the Canadian Department of Agriculture, a consultant for Farm Credit, and a teacher at Virginia Polytechnical Institute and University.

Conneman’s appointment at Cornell emphasized teaching and extension programming, and he was soon recognized as an outstanding teacher. He received many awards for his teaching skills, including The Professor of Merit Award, presented by the CALS Senior class in 1975, the CALS Edgerton Career Award in 1996, and a State University of New York Chancellor’s Award in 1996. He taught over 3,000 graduate and undergraduate students primarily in farm business management and farm appraisal courses. Many of the stories told in his classes were later published in his book, “General, Miscellaneous, and All Other”. This book is a reminder of George’s sense-of-humor and ability to make a point, pause, and smile as he skillfully engaged his audience.

Numerous former students, as well as agri-business owners throughout the state, credit Professor Conneman for their success.
His ability to analyze business opportunities and communicate them effectively influenced many business decisions. A successful feed dealer credits Conneman with encouraging him to think more broadly to expand his business by consolidating smaller mills in different locations to a new facility in another location that offered potential for continued business growth. A former student wrote “Not a day goes by that I don’t put into practice the economic principles that you taught me.” Another said, “It is hard to put into words what a strong impact you had on my life…your enthusiasm [and] training…paid big dividends.” Still another wrote, “I’m eternally grateful for George’s friendship, support and ability to look on the bright side of things.”

Over his career, he served the wider college, university, and Ithaca communities. Conneman was the Associate Dean for Academic Programs in the CALS for 11 years, where he oversaw undergraduate admissions, registrations, student services and career development. He developed and implemented the CALS Innovative Teaching Workshop and the Teaching Assistant Training Program. In addition, Professor Conneman supported Cornell by serving on University committees, representing the CALS Dean at alumni events around the country and working as Treasurer of the CALS Alumni Association for 17 years. “Cornell University has never had a better ambassador!” according an alumnus.

As an active supporter of Cornell athletics, he was seen frequently cheering on various sports teams. He had seats for Cornell men’s hockey from its beginnings in Lynah Rink, and he was also very enthusiastic about the success of the women’s hockey team. Moreover, George enjoyed a lifelong connection with the Dyson School, where as an Emeritus Professor, he often returned to Warren Hall for coffee and chats with colleagues.

In his extension role, Professor Conneman worked with Cooperative Extension Educators and farm families across the state on management and intergenerational transfer issues. He was appointed Faculty Director of FarmNet and FarmLink, which employs consultants to help farm families. He was proud to secure stable funding for the program, and he served as a consultant after his retirement. In recognition of his impact in the farm community, both through Cornell and his outside activities, George was awarded the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Citation by the New York State Agriculture Society.

Conneman was a leader in emphasizing the impact of personal and communication issues on farm business success. He authored numerous publications on helping the next generation of farmers successfully manage their businesses, and often focused on the importance of open communication when managing a successful farm business. He also wrote a column for the American
Agriculturalist magazine.

The Ithaca community benefitted from his service on the Bolton Point Water Commission (Chairman for 10 years) and the Town of Ithaca Planning Board and Transportation Committee. He served on the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Moravia and as a business consultant for Alfred Agricultural and Technical College. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Eastwood Commons Residents Association and as its President for four of the six years that he resided there.

Raised in the Roman Catholic tradition, George helped establish St. Catherine’s Catholic Church in Cayuga Heights, but he also spoke of the importance of the broad teachings of the Christian faith whatever one’s faith-tradition. After the death of his first wife, Francie, and marriage to Diane Knack Conneman, he attended St. Luke Lutheran Church, where he and Diane adopted and mentored students as well as shared in other church-related activities. Among other things, he provided leadership in welcoming members and guests to worship. Beyond his lifelong work and volunteering, George enjoyed gardening, international travel, 5-star restaurants, afternoon tea, and time with his family. He was always a Chicago Cubs baseball fan. And he would say even if it takes the Cubs forever, they will win the World Series!

George is survived by his wife Diane, son-in-law James Vanek, brother Robert, and many friends. He was predeceased by his first wife, Francie, and his daughter Karlie Conneman Vanek.

Wayne A. Knoblauch, A. Edward Staehr and William G. Tomek
I was a colleague and close friend of Ralph’s for 15 years at Cornell. He was a quiet-spoken man who never raised his voice in anger except, of course, when he was on his sailboat. Then he turned into a version of Captain Ahab. Ralph loved sailing. He had a 35-foot Alberg sailboat at his family home in Easton, MD. Ralph asked me one time to help him sail the boat to Cayuga Lake from Easton. He offered that if I let him anchor it in front of my house on Cayuga Lake, I could use it any time. I could not resist. So several faculty and I drove to Easton to sail the boat to Ithaca. We sailed up the Chesapeake Bay through the Chesapeake-and-Delaware Canal into the Delaware Water Gap and eventually into the Atlantic Ocean off of New Jersey.

One night on the Delaware Water Gap the faculty on watch got lost. Ralph was so upset. I will never forget it. He stood up and screamed, “Young man, if you’re lost in the Ocean, you’re dead!” From that point on, those of us on watch honed our navigation skills. Sailing the Atlantic off of the New Jersey coast somewhere near the Verrassano-Narrows Bridge a huge storm engulfed us. One faculty had two young kids on board. As their little heads popped out of the hatch, Ralph ordered them to stay below. I hung on to Ralph. We were flat in the water, our sails blown out. We limped into Manhattan and stayed at a marina on the lower East Side. Ralph was so upset with his inexperienced crew that I had to take him to several establishments that I knew from previously living in the city to adjust his mood.

We left later the next day to motor up the Hudson River past Albany and into the NYS Barge Canal. The canal cruise was long and tedious, through several locks. When we got into Lake Ontario we sailed to Rochester where we got into the Cayuga-Seneca Canal. We sailed until we reached a bridge, had to step the mast and then proceeded down Cayuga Lake to drop anchor in front of my house.
It is a trip that will live in my memory forever—for its wonder and fear. For many years after that trip, faculty, staff and students will recall the many occasions we sailed Ralph’s 35 Alberg on Cayuga Lake. Several students, Ralph, and I and would race the boat on weekends from the Ithaca Yacht Club. Of course Ralph and I became close friends. When I became Chairman of the Department of Architecture, the College Admissions Committee was under my direction. I appointed Ralph to be Director of Admissions. He did a wonderful job until he retired.

Ralph was a dedicated teacher. He had a Teaching Assistant named Preston who died in an auto accident driving home to Auburn, NY. Ralph became endeared to his parents, Ruth and Leonard Thomas, and was instrumental in setting up the Thomas Lecture Series that continues to be funded by Ruth and Leonard’s legacy. The Thomases also funded the first Cornell Journal of Architecture, that I started. Published by Rizzoli, the Journal helped put Cornell Architecture on the map. In this sense, Ralph was extremely important both to the Department of Architecture and to the University. I tried to talk him out of retiring but he said he wanted to leave with time left to enjoy life. He retired in 1983. I will never forget when Ralph and his son came to my house on Cayuga Lake and just sailed away.

Ralph was born at a farmhouse owned by Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin East in Wisconsin. After serving in WWII, Ralph graduated from the College of Architecture at Cornell in 1949 with a Bachelor of Architecture degree, and was the recipient of the Charles Goodwin Sands Memorial Award. He then worked for Rhees Burkett and T. B. Bourne. He became a registered architect in 1952 and started working for Larson and Larson overseeing the construction of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. Ralph started a solo architectural practice in Winston-Salem in 1955. He left his firm in 1968 to become a professor of architecture at Cornell.

Ralph Crump was for many years the Department of Architecture’s “one man technology program”. He not only taught all the basic and advanced building technology courses but also doubled up as a technical consultant to the undergraduate studios. In this capacity he worked tirelessly to ensure that the knowledge students gained in his technology courses were integrated into their design studio projects.

Ralph was also a cofounder of the Department of Architecture’s “Career Explorations Program in Architecture Program” an outreach program targeted at high school and college students who are interested in pursuing professional education in architecture. His enthusiasm for the program went far beyond the classroom. He was also so appreciative of the contributions his faculty colleagues and
staff made to the program that at the end of each six week summer session Ralph would invite all us to an outing on his boat on Cayuga Lake.

Although Ralph dissolved his firm Winston-Salem when he joined the Cornell faculty in 1968, he always kept one foot in practice. Throughout his teaching career in Ithaca Ralph served as a consultant to Egner Associates, a local architecture and planning firm. In that role Ralph oversaw the production of construction drawings and contract documents for all the firm’s projects. The buildings and projects both locally and throughout New York State are too numerous to list. In spite of his heavy teaching and consulting schedule, Ralph found time to mentor student interns who worked with him.

After a long tenure, he retired to Easton, MD in 1983 and continued to work in historic restoration. Ralph Crump was a quiet, very accomplished, and engaging teacher, professional, and mentor. He was a gentleman in the true sense of the word.

Henry Richardson, professor of architecture and former associate dean of AAP and department chair, and Jerry A. Wells, professor of architecture and former chairman of the department of architecture
Pieter C. Tobias de Boer
May 21, 1930 – May 2, 2016

Pieter Cornelis Tobias de Boer was born in Leiden, The Netherlands, on May 21, 1930 and died on May 3, 2016 in Ithaca New York at the age of 85. Known to friends, family and colleagues as Tob, he finished his undergraduate and master’s degrees at the University of Delft in 1954. In a 2013 video interview, Tob said that his first interest was mathematics but that he did not want to ‘swim in his own small pond’. Physics was his next choice, but he was dissuaded by a Dutch physicist who told Tob ‘in physics you will not have your own car’. So he chose mechanical engineering at Delft, studying with Professor Johannes Martinus (Jan) Burgers. Burgers brought math, physics and experiments to the study of fluid mechanics, and Tob adopted this model for the rest of his career.

Tob served in the Dutch military, rising to the rank of lieutenant. In 1956 Tob married Joan Lieshut. The newly married Joan and Tob moved to the United States, where Tob earned his Ph.D. in 1962 in physics under Professor Jan Burgers, who had moved to the University of Maryland. During this time the de Boer’s three children, Maarten, Claire, and Yvette were born.

The de Boers arrived in Ithaca in 1964 where Tob took a position in the Graduate School of Aerospace Engineering at Cornell as an assistant professor. Bill Sears had just finished his directorship of the Aero School, and his successor Ed Resler made Tob the offer. In the Cornell Aero School of the late 1960’s Tob’s faculty colleagues included Shan-Fu Shen, Don Turcotte, Peter Auer, Dick Seebass, Al George and Terry Cool.

Tob initially studied the physics of shock waves in fluids. His first teaching course was Advanced Kinetic Theory of Fluids. The 1960’s were exciting times in fluid mechanics especially since President Kennedy had put the U.S. on a path to the Moon making space sciences all the rage. In the 1966 Aero School research log book, thirty students and researchers are listed. In 1966 Tob was assigned advisor to students, William Condit, N. Hubbard, P.R.
Grimwood and R. Kinsinger and researchers Arnold Frohn and R.A. Johnson, with most of whom Tob would co-author his first Cornell research papers.

Tob was promoted to associate professor in 1968, and to full professor in 1974, two years after the formation of the Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

Tob took summer and sabbatical leaves at the Aerospace Corporation, the von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics, Ford Motor Company, General Electric, Delft University of Technology, Centre National de la Recherche, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Over the years, his research encompassed shock wave physics, fuel injection and engine emissions control. In later years, Tob’s academic interests focused on thermodynamic analysis and optimal design of pulse-tube cryocoolers, which emerged in the 1980s and are now used in semiconductor fabrication and other industrial and military applications. Another area of recent interest was the rupture energy of pendular rings, with application to the attachment strength of thin films in microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) devices.

In the October 1 1974 notes of the fluids group research log book is an entry; “Professor DeBoer introduced the possibility of using hydrogen as a fuel for internal combustion engines; advantages no CO, low NOx, etc. but there is the problem of flashback”. As former Sibley School Director Al George has said, “Tob’s research was way ahead of its time”.

At various times, Tob taught courses in thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, combustion, and mathematics, with a particular fondness for teaching undergraduate thermodynamics. He was involved with student projects such as designing the world’s fastest bicycle with colleague Al George in a Cornell project to break the human powered vehicles land speed record. Tob was a great mentor to new faculty. Professor Elizabeth Fisher who taught thermodynamics with him remembers; “Tob had a great appreciation for the fine points of thermodynamics. I think a lot of my love of teaching and of teaching this particular subject is due to Tob. I feel very fortunate to have had Tob as a colleague and I benefited from his warmth, his sense of humor, and his encouragement.”

Tob served as Associate Director of the Sibley School from 1982 to 1991. He was also the school’s “official or unofficial parliamentarian,” said colleague and emeritus professor John F. Booker. “He knew Robert’s Rules of Order inside and out, and we always turned to him for that,” Booker said. “Tob was totally
honest, totally without guile.” As Associate Director, Tob also had the ability to convince reluctant faculty to teach large required courses. His colleagues valued his calm, sensible, and affable contributions to the department in many different ways.

Tob retired in 2000 and was an emeritus professor in the Sibley School following his retirement. In his retirement Tob taught freshman calculus thus completing the circle of his lifelong interest in mathematics.

For many years, Tob was a model for other faculty in balancing the demanding tasks of scientific research with a healthy active life. His athletic exploits in cycling, running and skiing set a standard that many younger men would strive to emulate in the following decades. In 1978 Tob had set a national cycling record at the age of 48 by riding 448 miles in 24 hours. In sports Tob was very competitive. Besides being a national ranked cyclist, Tob was also a distance runner, Nordic skier and triathlete, and participated in orienteering. He was president of the Finger Lakes Cycling Club and founding president of the Cayuga Nordic Ski Club. He was treasurer of Ithaca’s Cascadilla Rowing Club.

Stuart Leigh Phoenix, professor in the Sibley School, remembered Tob: “He got me into cycling.” “We went every day for quite a while and went around the Cayuga Lake many times. He was a fierce competitor, and probably instilled a lot of that in me.” Outside of professional work and sports, Tob enjoyed reading and conversing in Dutch, English, French, and German and playing piano. Former Sibley Director Francis Moon has said of his colleague, “Tob was not only a model for the aging athlete, but he also encouraged me to study the history of technology. He had a great his sense of humor and a hearty laugh.”

Tob remained in close contact with family in the Netherlands, including some fifteen first cousins, returning to visit nearly every summer for fifty years. He was predeceased by his sister Willemina. He is survived by his wife Joan, his son Maarten (Pittsburgh, PA), and daughters Claire (Hershey, PA) and Yvette (Ithaca), and five grandchildren, Cobus, Ilona, Willem, Rowan and Ayla.

Francis Charles Moon, chair; Elizabeth Fisher and Albert George
Paul R. Eberts

Paul R. Eberts, Professor Emeritus of Development Sociology, died on June 23, 2016 at his home in Issaquah, Washington. Born in Wheeling, West Virginia on January 28, 1932 a “child of the Depression” that through dedication, clear vision and an amiable personality rose to prominence in our profession. Professor Eberts had a long and fruitful career at Cornell, joining the faculty in 1965 after graduating from Heidelberg College (B.A.), Yale (B.D.), and University of Michigan (M.A. & Ph.D). He taught courses in Social Theory, Stratification, Social Change, Community and Regional Sociology, Social Policy and Research Methods until his retirement January 2, 2008.

Professor Eberts research focus was primarily on rural community development, presenting papers at conferences for over 40 years. Professor Eberts research was both theoretical and applied. He was an advocate of holistic system level models that were empirically operationalized. He was very much influenced by de Tocqueville’s Democracy in America. At the same time his background in divinity training anchored his concern with improving man’s conditions. This formed his lifelong commitment to democracy and citizen governance. His research dealt with issues faced by leaders in counties, towns and communities who desired to bring about change in life quality and well-being of their citizens.

Perhaps his greatest contributions were in the areas of applied sociology or outreach. He helped found the Community and Rural Development Institute (CaRDI) and served as its director for many years. He created a database of social indicators used by many planners and community leaders in economic development, planning social well-being and life quality. At the request of the Legislative Commission on Rural Resources he wrote a book with his colleague, Kris Mershrod, on socioeconomic trends and well-being indicators. He initiated an annual Social Trends and Outlook
Conference that ran for over 10 years. Professor Eberts was an enduring and enthusiastic model of putting theory into practice engaging with local groups across New York and encouraged his students to participate. A good example of this was his project on Fiscal Austerity and its Consequences in Local Governments.

Well respected by his faculty colleagues, Professor Eberts was loved by his graduate students who felt he was always supportive and encouraging of their theoretical and research endeavors. A mentor to over 75 students as either chair of their master’s or Ph.D. committee, he perceived as a good listener to their questions, who consistently made helpful comments on their work. They especially appreciated that he encouraged his graduate students to address community and rural development issues both nationally and internationally. He engaged undergraduates to likewise work to bring sociological theory into their everyday life.

Paul Eberts was also a great colleague who united people at work and at play. He was a founding member of the Rural Sociology Equivalents softball team. In order to beat younger teams with more muscle and brawn, the Equivalents used the department mantra of "solidarity" to win. It was often Paul's calming voice that kept the team settled and ready to field the next pitch and hopefully to carry the game. It worked, too, and Paul was always a big part of this summertime fun. That was the kind of man he was—a fellow colleague, inspirer, mentor, and friend.

Professor Eberts is survived by his wife, Helene Moran Eberts, who was his partner for nearly 40 years. He is also survived by his former wife Ellie of Rochester, New York, his brother Harry of Kalamazoo, Michigan, his step-daughter Amy Vigorita, and granddaughter Calliope.

Associate Professor Joe Douglas Francis, with Emeritus Professor Eugene Curtis Erickson and Dr. Cornelia Flora
During her all-too-short time as Cornell’s 13th president, Elizabeth Garrett touched Cornell and thousands of Cornellians in deep and enduring ways. Her intelligence, her energy, her candor, and her fierce determination inspired and pushed the university to think more boldly about what we can achieve together, and to take greater risks to get there.

Answering a question about what she hoped her legacy at Cornell would be, President Garrett offered this observation: “My family on my mother’s side, the MacKinnon clan, has a motto: ‘Fortune assists the daring.’ I can’t predict what my legacy as president will ultimately be, but I intend to be true to that motto, while always keeping academic values, and academic excellence, at the fore.”

During her eight months in office, President Garrett invigorated standards of excellence across the university, particularly in the three areas she identified in her Inaugural Address:

- renewing and revitalizing the faculty as the foundation of Cornell’s continuing intellectual leadership;
- strengthening the academic experience of our diverse students by making a Cornell education more engaged, more global, more entrepreneurial, while also building on a strong foundation of the liberal arts and sciences;
- exploiting the extraordinary potential of Cornell’s dual footprint--in Ithaca and in New York City--to create new collaborations and to realize synergies that would extend the university’s excellence and impact.

The first woman to serve as Cornell’s president, President Garrett also held tenured faculty positions in the Cornell Law School, the Department of Government in the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management.

Shortly after being named president-elect, she told *Times Higher*
Education magazine, “it is important for women and men to see strong and capable women in positions of leadership, so we understand that certain characteristics such as gender and race do not determine how well people do in those offices.”

President Garrett was deeply committed to the liberal arts, having earned her B.A. degree in history with special distinction from the University of Oklahoma before going on to earn her J.D. degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. She believed that humanistic understanding is essential for navigating complex problems, and provides an important foundation for a rich and meaningful life. She knew as well that the pursuit of curiosity-driven research in the sciences and beyond is an investment in the future, since the discoveries of today often contribute to the inventions of tomorrow. A commitment to students and the residential educational experience was also fundamental for her. She understood that a high quality college education has the power to transform lives.

As a legal academic, President Garrett was a superstar and a strong addition to the Cornell Law School faculty. She began her legal career as a law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, an iconic figure in the development of American law in the twentieth century. She began her teaching career at the University of Chicago and quickly became a leading figure in the fields of legislation, direct democracy, and tax policy.

At the University of Southern California, which was her academic home immediately prior to coming to Cornell, she was the Frances R. and John J. Duggan Professor of Law, Political Science, Finance and Business Economics, and Public Policy, and she continued to publish law review articles at an impressive clip even after becoming USC’s vice president for academic planning and budget and then provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. She also taught law as a visiting professor at the University of Virginia Law School, at Harvard Law School, and in Budapest and Israel, and in 2005 was appointed to a tax reform panel by President George W. Bush.

At Cornell, President Garrett’s efforts to surmount bureaucratic obstacles were instrumental in speeding New York State’s approval of the Law School’s new LLM program in Law, Technology and Entrepreneurship at Cornell Tech, which launched in fall 2016 in New York City. Her help was crucial to the Law School’s ability to get the program off to a strong start, but it was also emblematic of her style. She was simply unwilling to let red tape stand between her and the goals she wanted to achieve.

When President Garrett addressed the Johnson faculty and staff in late November 2015, she spoke of Johnson as “one of the most
exciting business schools in the country,” with “the ability to evolve and respond to a changing world.” She spoke about the importance of collaborations across the academy that drive the application of knowledge and ideas to solve complex global problems, and she believed that closer connections among all the schools at Cornell would better enable us to address this objective. She cited connections between Johnson and the College of Engineering and Department of Computer Science at Cornell that resulted in the Johnson Cornell Tech MBA and Johnson’s new Digital Technology Immersion.

During a private meeting with the Johnson Advisory Council, while still president-elect, Elizabeth Garrett had a lively discussion of business education at Cornell. That meeting convinced her that integrating Cornell’s three accredited business programs—the School of Hotel Administration, the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, and the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management was an important priority, and she set in motion discussions among all stakeholders that resulted in an integrated College of Business, with the excellence, scope and scale needed to cement Cornell’s position as a world-class center of teaching and research for business management and entrepreneurship. The College of Business, which opened on July 1, 2016, is among the most visible achievements of President Garrett’s time at Cornell.

Part of what drew Elizabeth Garrett to Cornell was Cornell Tech, and the spirit of entrepreneurship and reinvention expressed there. She was ready to bring that inventive energy to the rest of the university as well and to challenge us to imagine our roles in new and creative ways. She supported new teaching approaches, called for us to become more globally engaged, saw the university as a leader in fostering dialogue over difficult topics, asked us to be disciplined and strategic in our choices and investments, and encouraged the development of new interdisciplinary research areas. For all of this, as well as for her sense of infectious optimism and her sparkling smile, she is remembered and greatly missed.

In her Inaugural Address Beth Garrett set out her hopes for Cornell. She used C. P. Cavafy’s poem *Ithaka* as a metaphor for life’s difficult journeys. Beth’s journey to Ithaca, her personal bravery, and her commitment to excellence will continue to inspire a generation of Cornellians who have all too briefly felt the intense power of her intellect, her ambition and her aspirations.

Surviving her are her husband, Andrei Marmor, professor of law and philosophy at Cornell; her parents, Robert and Jane Garrett; sister, Laura Gruntmeir; and other family members.
Provost Michael I. Kotlikoff, chair; Dean Soumitra Dutta, Cornell College of Business; Dean Eduardo Peñalver, Cornell Law School and professor of law; and Dean Gretchen Ritter, College of Arts & Sciences
Dr. Richard G. Harrison, or Rick as colleagues and friends knew him, was born in Baltimore, Maryland on November 19, 1945. His parents, Helen and Harold Harrison, were scientists at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and his father, a physician, served as Chief of Pediatrics at Baltimore City Hospital for over 35 years. Rick had one sibling, older brother Steve, who also pursued an academic research career and is a gifted mentor and professor at Harvard Medical School and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Rick was an undergraduate at Harvard, where he met Ellen Zucker through his classmate, Andy Zucker, her brother. After graduation, Rick spent a year as a Churchill Fellow in Cambridge England before returning to Harvard as a graduate student, but changed to work at the Children’s Cancer Research Institute, which qualified him for an occupational deferment from the military draft. Rick and Ellen married in 1971 shortly before moving to Ithaca, NY for graduate school at Cornell; he earned his Ph.D. in 1977 working with Peter Brussard in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, with a thesis titled “Patterns of variation and genetic differentiation in closely related species: the field crickets of eastern North America”). During their time in Ithaca, Ellen earned her Masters Degree in geological science. Twin daughters, Rebekah and Melissa, were born in 1976 and a year later the family moved to New Haven, CT, where Rick had accepted a position as Assistant Professor at Yale. After a very successful decade at Yale, he was lured back to Cornell in 1986, where he remained on the faculty until his untimely death. Ellen engaged in her environmental interests both at Cornell and in the community.

Rick was a true scholar. He aspired to understand how one species became two separate species, and explored in particular the
transitionary stage during which diverging organisms continued to hybridize and share at least some genes, thus providing “windows on the evolutionary process” (Harrison 1990 Oxford Surveys of Evolutionary Biology 7:69-129). Rick was respected by his peers worldwide for his eloquent and thoughtful talks and writing, and for the fact that he never engaged in hype—if he published something, you could believe the results completely, and trust that his interpretation was balanced and objective. This level of intellectual honesty is all too rare, will be sorely missed, and was one reason Rick was chosen as senior editor of the journal *Evolution*.

He used the closely related, reproductively isolated but hybridizing species of field crickets *Gryllus pennsylvanicus* and *G. firmus* as his primary research system throughout his career. He continuously brought emerging molecular methodologies to bear on his efforts to document and gain mechanistic understanding of the evolutionary, behavioral and ecological forces that shaped genetic variation within and between species and to identify genetic regions associated with reproductive isolation. Rick had his scientific focus and encouraged his students and postdocs to develop their own, though he certainly encouraged studying common questions in diverse organisms ranging from corn borers to stone crabs, *Heliconius* butterflies to wood rats, sea squirts to iris. This diversity of organisms and evolutionary questions contributed significantly to the intellectual culture that thrived in his lab and attracted many graduate and postdoctoral students to work with him. This was fed further by Rick’s terrific mentorship style, clear and critical mind, and willingness to confront the complex realities of biological organisms without trying to force results to fit preconceived concepts or models. Rick was also very successful attracting undergraduates into his laboratory, where they received training in cutting-edge research, often leading to Honors theses, and future enrollment in prestigious post-graduate programs in biology and medicine. Steve Bogdanowicz, who ran Rick’s lab for nearly 30 years, contributed greatly to teaching and mentoring students.

Rick’s careful studies of field crickets revealed unexpected geographic and genomic complexity in zones of hybridization, and laid the groundwork for much of the work on hybrid zones in other species, as well as paved the path to his insights into the evolutionary forces shaping patterns of diversification across genomes. Genomic islands of differentiation had been viewed by some to signify the location of genes key to reproductive isolation. True to Rick’s intellectual honesty and critical nature, his last publication was very thoughtful in providing reasoned and insightful caution to such simple interpretations. Yet within those signals are likely the functional variants that contribute to the reproductive isolation of these species in the face of hybridization, results sadly he will not see himself.
As an advisor, Rick had an open door policy. And since his door was always open, students as well as colleagues would stop by to talk and to seek his insights or advice. He said that there were a lot of things that we “could” do as scientists, but the hard part was determining what we “should” do. Through his keen mind and especially his generosity, he helped his many academic progeny to sift through ideas and questions to get to the ones that they should and “must” address in their research.

Rick Harrison was recognized for his long and distinguished service as an inspirational teacher with the Harry T. Stinson Award for Outstanding Service to Undergraduates at Cornell in 2013 and the CALS Edgerton Career Award in 2015. Rick began his academic career teaching evolution at Yale for a decade before moving to Cornell in 1986 where he assumed teaching a course in Evolution that was required of Biology majors concentrating in Ecology and Evolution and had an enrollment of approximately 60-70 students, with three lectures per week, plus weekly discussion sections and was taught once a year. A few years later, the Division of Biology voted to make the course a requirement of all Biology majors, regardless of concentration. This lead to a jump in course enrollment to 150-200 to now 300 per semester. While many faculty members shy away from teaching large introductory courses, because of the administrative burdens and the difficulty in getting to know students well, Rick has always stepped forward to participate. He was committed to these courses (and the students!) because he firmly believed that an understanding of evolutionary biology is essential to every biologist's training. He was responsible for bringing in an intensive writing component to the majors course. There is always a temptation in large courses to make lectures into performance pieces, and often, in the process, make instruction less rigorous. Rick was always more measured in this delivery, but was nevertheless thoroughly engaging because of his obvious intellect, humor, and respect for the audience. Students respected Rick tremendously and learned a great deal from his engaging, thoughtful, and well-organized lectures. He taught this course through several curriculum changes until 2011.

In 2011, Rick moved from the biology majors’ course in Evolutionary Biology to the non-majors’ course on Evolution because of his desire to show a broad range of students the importance of evolutionary principles in all aspects of science and daily affairs. This is an extremely important course for the science distribution requirement of non-majors, and the fact that Rick took this on demonstrates his dedication to the importance of a liberal arts education. Rick also initiated a new upper-level course on “Speciation: Genetics, Ecology and Behavior” which he co-taught with Dr. Kerry Shaw for several years. Rick added this course to the curriculum because upper-level course offerings in evolutionary biology were slim and because Speciation is a fundamental
component of evolution. The course was very popular with upper-level undergraduates and beginning graduate students from multiple departments.

In a course on grant writing for graduate students, Rick was both insightful in his criticism and always encouraging in his constructive suggestions. Through his dedicated and thoughtful advising, Rick trained and launched the careers of many successful students, from undergraduates to postdocs, who are now spread throughout academia in the US and abroad.

From 1996-2001 and 2006-2009, Rick served as Department Chair in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. Rick distinguished himself by always holding the interests of the whole department to heart. He recognized that the department’s strength lay in the breadth of research areas encompassed by its faculty, and he sought to strengthen them all. During his tenure he was instrumental in recruiting five new faculty members to the department, in areas ranging from mathematical ecology to molecular developmental biology. Rick was also a good ambassador and link to the many other evolutionary biologists across campus.

Rick was recognized for his contributions to scholarship in evolutionary biology by being elected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1998. He contributed invaluable service as Editor on many scholarly publications, including as Editor in Chief for Evolution, and as member of the Editorial Boards of Genetics, Molecular Biology and Evolution, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics and American Scientist.

Rick’s family played a very important part in his life, a mindset he sought to instill in his students and colleagues, as well as his daughters. He loved the outdoors, stargazing, good cooking, wine and good friends (often together), and, together with his wife, was a passionate and accomplished gardener. Rick was also an avid runner for 40 years, and valued his friends and fellow pavement pounders in the High Noon runners club at Cornell and which shaped his calendar on many days as his noon runs were a priority for him. It was this active life and exercise routine that made his untimely death even more unbelievable to his friends and colleagues.

As important as his scientific contributions were, so were his contributions to students and many colleagues through his mentorship. Rick was a passionate teacher, even of his twin daughters growing up. He always appreciated and valued the individual, and had a knack for bringing out the best in his advisees and mentees. To say he is beloved by his current and former students is an understatement. And it is fair to say that we, his
colleagues and friends, felt the same way about him. Sadly, Rick died suddenly and unexpectedly on April 12, 2016 at age 70 while snorkeling with Ellen on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. In many ways, he passed away at the peak of his scientific career, and at a time when he seemed genuinely happy and enthusiastic to pursue writing a major new book on Speciation. We have so many wonderful memories of Rick. What is terribly sad is that we will no longer benefit from new scientific, professional and personal insights from Rick, but we will always cherish our wonderful memories of our past scientific and academic discussions, debates and simply casual conversations with Rick. We are all better scientists, teachers, people, and advisors for having known Rick.

He is survived by his wife Ellen, their twin daughters, Rebekah who is an emergency physician with Kaiser Permanente (residing in Lincoln, CA with husband Jeff and daughter Serafina) and Melissa who is an assistant professor in the Department of Biomolecular Chemistry at the University of WI (residing in Madison, WI with husband Andrew Mehle and son Ryder), and by his older brother Steve of Boston, MA.

Charles “Chip” Aquadro, chair; Harry Greene and Monica Geber
George Hess, Ph.D., joined the Cornell faculty in 1955 and served for 60 years. His research focused on the mechanisms of proteins investigated using fast reaction techniques, some of which he developed. Initially, he investigated proteins in solution, including alpha-chymotrypsin, lysozyme, and cytochrome c. He then turned to the structure and function of membrane-bound proteins, particularly neurotransmitter receptors that facilitate communication between the cells of the nervous system. Malfunction of these receptors is the key to many neurological diseases, and the proteins are the targets of many clinical therapies as well as abused drugs. Rapid reaction techniques to examine receptor proteins embedded in a cell membrane were not available prior to his work.

Under his leadership, George Hess’ group developed new techniques and chemical probes to study the receptors in single cells on sub-millisecond time scales. The innovative approach included a laser-pulse photolysis method that allows researchers to measure rate constants for individual steps in the mechanism of action of the receptor. For this accomplishment, his group also developed compounds ("caged" neurotransmitters) that can be equilibrated with the receptors but remain biologically inactive until photolyzed to release the neurotransmitter very rapidly. In this way, the delay due to the time needed for the reactants to reach an initial equilibrium was overcome. He combined this method with electrophysiological techniques developed in other laboratories. Using the new approaches, the group has illuminated how mechanisms of receptors are affected by therapeutic and abused drugs, or by epilepsy-linked mutations, and they have worked to identify compounds that alleviate the receptor malfunction.

“George Hess was a pioneer in the study of a class of proteins called ion channels, gate-keepers that allow specific small molecules to enter cells,” said colleague Volker Vogt, Cornell professor of molecular biology and genetics. “His studies combined chemical
and biological approaches to provide an unprecedented mechanistic understanding of this process, which is the basis of the action of nerves.”

“George had a mind and a physical constitution that could not be ignored,” added Barbara Baird, senior associate dean in the College of Arts & Sciences and professor of chemistry and chemical biology. “Whether in scientific discussions or the great outdoors, a strenuous hike for others was an enjoyable walk in the woods for him. I and many others will miss his invigorating friendship.”

Professor Hess was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a fellow of the Biophysics Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Academy of Microbiology. He was a John S. Guggenheim fellow, a Fulbright senior research scholar, a special fellow at the National Institutes of Health, a Fogarty scholar and a recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Award.

George Hess was well known for his mentoring of undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral students, and he twice received Outstanding Educator Recognition by Merrill Presidential Scholars.

“George had such a tremendous impact in science, and in my own scientific journey,” said colleague Linda Nicholson, professor of molecular biology and genetics. “He was so generous in spirit, and would regularly drop by my office to say hello and to discuss science and life. His visits were often filled with stories of his own journey, from his boyhood in Austria and California, to his various adventures as he grew from a young scientist into a world-renowned member of the National Academy of Sciences.”

George Hess was also a visiting fellow and visiting professor at many universities around the world during his career. He served twice as a U.S. Department of State cultural exchange professor in Europe; he was on the advisory board of the Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience in Puerto Rico. He served on numerous review panels and the Editorial Advisory Board of Biochemistry.

Dr. Hess received his bachelor’s degree, and then his doctoral degree in biochemistry in 1951, both from the University of California, Berkeley, followed by postdoctoral training in chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. At Berkeley with C. H. Li, he showed that the adrenocorticotropin hormone (corticotropin), thought to be a protein, is actually a small peptide. At MIT in John Sheehan’s laboratory, he developed the dicyclohexylcarbodiimide method for the formation of peptide bonds.
In 2012, the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics hosted an academic seminar to celebrate his work and career.

“I greatly admired the scientific partnership between George and his wife, Susan,” said Eric Alani, professor and chair of the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics. “This interaction, in addition to the beautiful science that it led to, provided us with a wonderful example of the importance of collaboration in all aspects of one’s life.”

George Hess was born in Vienna, Austria to the late Henry and Edith Mueller Hess, and came to the United States in 1938. He served in the United States Army from 1944 to 1946. George Hess is survived by his wife of 35 years, Susan Coombs ’80; four sons by his second wife Betsy Williams, Peter ’79, Richard, Paul, and David, and daughters-in-law Natalie Mahowald, Chris Colbath-Hess, Katherine Childs, and Andrea Kahn; and his eight grandchildren, Gabriel, Noah, Jacob, Alan, Sophie, Elias, Rowan, and Lyndon. In addition to his parents, he was also predeceased by his daughter, Alvis Wieder, and his first wife, Jean Ray. Peter Hess ’79 is a professor of biological and environmental engineering at Cornell, and Natalie Mahowald is a Cornell professor of earth and atmospheric sciences.

*Eric Alani, chair Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics.*

*This statement was slightly modified from an article written by Cornell Chronicle writer Krishna Ramanujan (Cornell Chronicle article appeared on 9/21/15) in collaboration with Linda Glaser, College of Arts and Sciences.*
Harold "Skip" Hintz was born and raised in Frank, OH and proud to have worked on the family’s livestock farm. Skip attended The Ohio State University, earning a BS in Animal Science, and then Cornell University, where he earned MS and Ph.D. degrees in Animal Nutrition. From 1964 to 1967, he was an Assistant Professor of Animal Science (swine nutrition) at the University of California, Davis. In 1967, he joined the equine research program at Cornell, a joint program of the College of Veterinary Medicine and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. As a member of the Cornell faculty, he rose through the ranks to Professor of Animal Nutrition from 1979-2005 and served as Chairman of the Animal Science Department from 1991-1997. When he retired in 2005, he was named Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Hintz had a distinguished research career and was considered a preeminent international expert on equine nutrition. He authored almost 200 peer-reviewed scientific papers, mostly on horse nutrition with emphasis on mineral and energy metabolism and their relationship to performance and health. He worked with a team to find solutions to several important equine bone and metabolic problems and his group conducted many draft horse and pony experiments using the large treadmill available in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Hintz also made significant contributions to the nutrition and metabolism of companion and exotic animals. Dr. Hintz published 36 book chapters, was co-author of four textbooks, and had written a prodigious 625 technical bulletins and proceedings papers.

Among Dr. Hintz’ numerous recognitions and service were: induction into the Equine Research Hall of Fame; president of the American Academy of Veterinary Nutrition; president of the Equine Nutrition Physiology Society; a member of the American Association of Equine Sports Medicine Board of Directors; the 1991 Amoco Faculty Award for Teaching; and being inducted as a
member of The Ohio State University Hall of Fame. He was a chair of the Committee on Animal Nutrition of the National Research Council (NRC), the NRC Subcommittee on the Nutrient Requirements of the Horse, and the Organizing Committee for the International Conference on Equine Exercise Physiology.

Skip is best remembered at Cornell as a teacher and advisor. He had a witty sense of humor and a big, wonderful smile. During his 38-year career he taught thousands and advised many hundreds of undergraduates, most of whom regarded him with a mixture of awe and great affection. He developed a reputation for stimulating, well-illustrated lectures of interest to both neophytes and those with years of equine experience. One of his students said: “Dr. Hintz laughed more than anyone I have ever known. He smiled not because he felt he had to, but because he felt he had everything to smile about. His jovial nature kept us more than awake during his two-hour night courses. I won’t remember everything he taught us about Horses or Dog Nutrition, but I will remember those little details eg. the stats on how many dogs choke on a bone each year or the magnitude of equine obesity in America.”

Many students who were not Dr. Hintz’s regularly assigned advisees sought out his counsel as a result of positive in-classroom interactions and especially regarding their interests toward Veterinary School. He won almost every available College of Agriculture and Life Sciences award for teaching and advising, including the Edgerton Career Teaching Award (1997), the CALS Professor of Merit (2000) and the Carpenter Advising Award (2005). He received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the CALS Alumni in 1999. Skip’s uniquely engaging teaching style, unfailing good humor, and ready availability as an advisor and mentor were greatly appreciated. Skip was highly respected by his professorial colleagues as a collegial friend.

On a personal level, Skip took great pride as a member of Alpha Zeta Fraternity and also enjoyed western movies, country music, reading, and birding. In the local community he was a long time active member of Trinity Lutheran Church, where he served as an elder for many years and as a humble and faithful servant of the Lord. Skip and his wife, Sandra Jean Hintz, were married for 57 years, and they have 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

W.R. Butler, M.L. Thonney and D.E. Bauman
James R. Houck
October 5, 1940 – September 18, 2015

James R. Houck the Kenneth A. Wallace Professor of Astronomy and one of the pioneers of modern infrared astronomy passed away on September 18, 2015 after an extended illness.

Jim was born on October 5, 1940 to Elsa and James M. Houck in Mobile, Alabama, but spent most of his youth in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where his father was an engineer for Alcoa. Jim obtained a BS in Physics at Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1962 where he met his future wife, Elaine Vezzani. They were married in 1965 and remained so until her death in 2011. Jim earned his Ph.D. in solid state physics at Cornell University in 1967 and soon after began working with Professor Martin Harwit’s group in Cornell’s department of Astronomy developing the first liquid-helium-cooled rocket-borne telescopes for infrared astrophysics. Jim’s solid state physics background was ideal for these experiments leading to the improvements in instrument design and reliability that were necessary for the first real successes. Rocket experiments were grand month-long campaigns at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. Weeks were spent preparing the instrument payload for the launch which returned 5 minutes of astrophysical data. The next flight would typically occur in one year’s time. These were truly exciting times. Their sounding rocket based science discoveries included the first measurements of the far-infrared “glow” of interstellar dust heated by starlight in the Galactic Center, and the far-infrared detection of the faint dust cloud which lies in the plane of our solar system, the “zodiacal dust cloud”. The luminosity of the zodiacal dust was much more luminous than expected which indicated the dust grains are surprisingly black in the visible. These discoveries were later confirmed by NASA’s IRAS and COBE satellites.

Jim was soon hired as an Assistant Professor, starting his own very successful research group that continued to pioneer infrared astrophysics through a series of ground based, airborne, and space borne instrumentation over the next 45 years. In the 1970’s and
early 1980’s Jim built spectrometers for NASA’s Convair 990, Lear Jet, and Kuiper Airborne Observatories making many of the first observations of the far-infrared fine-structure lines that are important coolants and physical probes of the gas in planetary nebula and HII regions. Jim’s group was one of the most successful on the airborne observatories creating and testing new technologies that would enable the first space missions, and making the first science discoveries that would illustrate the science promise of these missions. A remarkable result from the early Convair 990 experiments was the discovery of an infrared absorption band at 2.85 m due to water bound in a rocky substrate on the surface of Mars, amounting to “about one percent by weight of the surface material”. This discovery, reported in a paper led by Jim in 1973 was confirmed by the Mars Rover Curiosity through in situ experiments undertaken 40 years later.

Jim’s skills with infrared instrumentation were legendary and recognized early on. He was a key member of the science team of NASA’s first major infrared space mission, IRAS (1982-1983). IRAS was a liquid helium cooled telescope that performed the first all sky survey in the far-infrared. Shortly before launch, an electrical short disabled the 25 m band, one of the four “colors” necessary for astrophysical success. Jim realized that a clever, but simple rework of the warm electronics would save this array. The fix was implemented, and the mission launched with only a few days delay. As a result, IRAS was an extremely successful mission. Discoveries included the presence of debris disks – analogous to our zodiacal dust disk, but far more massive – around nearby stars. These debris disks were some of the first evidence for extrasolar system planetary systems, or at least comet and/or asteroid clouds. IRAS also revealed a population of dusty infrared bright “star burst galaxies” that are forming stars at hundreds of times the rate of our Milky Way galaxy, and the ultraluminous infrared galaxies (ULIRGs) with luminosities of a trillion suns who’s starlight is mostly absorbed by obscuring dust and remitted in the far-infrared bands. The IRAS discoveries were the cornerstone for a series of very successful NASA and ESA space missions that followed, including and especially, the Spitzer Space Telescope.

Spitzer, launched in 2003, was the final mission in NASA’s Great Observatories Program (which included the Hubble Space Telescope, the Gamma Ray Observatory and the Advanced X-ray Astronomy Facilities). Jim was the Principal Investigator on one of the three science instruments on Spitzer, the Infrared Spectrometer (IRS). The IRS was an elegantly simple, but extremely powerful design that Jim would frequently declare was “too dumb to fail”. It was even more successful than prelaunch predictions. The IRS science program brought a large, extremely talented team of young infrared astrophysicists to Cornell in the early 2000’s, and the wonderful combination of sensitivity and reliability the IRS
delivered has led to more than 1100 citations to Jim’s Spizer instrument paper to date—more than 1100 science papers!

Spitzer had a rocky road to its launch. Originally conceived in the 1970’s to be mounted in the Space Shuttle as the Shuttle Infrared Telescope Facility (SIRTF), there were ups and downs based on scientific and programmatic factors leading to the decision to make the mission a free-flyer in the same year the science and instrumentation teams were selected, 1984. Despite a top ranking by the 1990 Decadal Review, the SIRTF concept suffered a near death due to drastic reductions in NASA’s space science budget shortly thereafter. Jim was a critical person in the rescue of SIRTF. He chaired the NASA Astrophysics Advisory Committee at the time and provided the extraordinary technical expertise and advocacy that was necessary for SIRTF to achieve a “new start” with critical redesign that could meet the new, much-reduced, mission cost cap.

SIRTF was launched in 2003, and renamed the Spitzer Space Telescope. The first science papers for Spitzer appeared in a special edition of the *Astrophysical Journal* in 2004. About 27 of these were based on IRS data. Spitzer IRS enabled many exciting fields of inquiry from planets in the solar system to protogalaxies in the distant Universe, but perhaps one of the most exciting result was a spectrum taken of a young protostar that was saturated with dozens of emission lines water. The water is literally “raining” down onto a dense gaseous disk that will likely form a planetary system. Jim was interested in all science applications of the IRS, but he primarily focused on uncovering the source of the tremendous energies found in the UILRG galaxies—star formation or black hole accretion—and on revealing the properties of dust and gas in extreme low metallicity galaxies in the local Universe. These studies provide the framework from which others have gone on with new facilities to explore the star formation processes in galaxies in the earliest times. The legacy of the Spitzer IRS is stored as the “Cornell Atlas of Spitzer IRS Sources” (CASSIS at cassis.sirtf.com) where it continues to be mined for data on sources from the solar system to quasars in the early Universe.

Jim’s excellence was widely recognized among the astronomical community. He was twice awarded the NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal. First in 2005 "for outstanding contributions to IRAS, including efforts in the rebuilding of the telescope focal plane assembly and continuing scientific analysis.”, and then again in 2008 “for his work on the Spitzer Space Telescope infrared spectrograph.” He also received the prestigious Joseph Weber Award for Astronomical Instrumentation from the American Astronomical society “for his extraordinary contributions over nearly four decades to major instrumentation for infrared astronomy...Dr. Houck's contributions have been seminal to making infrared astronomy among the most exciting in the entire
field. It is no exaggeration to say that without Dr. Houck's contributions, modern IR astronomy would never have reached its current level of maturity."

Jim also left a legacy of ground based instrumentation which include a string of successful spectrometers and bolometers that were built for the Palomar 200” telescope in California. Several of these instruments were initiated as part of a Cornell/Caltech collaboration that Jim started while on sabbatical leave at Caltech. Especially exciting were a pair the “SIRTF test-bed” spectrometers SpectroCam-10 and SCORE, and an adaptive optics spectrometer, PHARO which provided access to new science windows on a major telescope to researchers at both Cornell and Caltech.

Jim was also an inspiring teacher and was recognized as such by receiving the Clark Award for Distinguished teaching by the College of Arts and Sciences. He created the research quality Hartung-Boothroyd Observatory and its 25” reflector on Mount Pleasant just east of Ithaca for the purpose of teaching instrumentation and observational techniques. The telescope has been named the James R. Houck Telescope in his honor. A lasting legacy and testament to Jim Houck is the high esteem in which he is held by the dozens of Ph.D.s, a dozen postdocs, and hundreds of undergraduates who he has mentored in their research or taught in his classes. There are a remarkable number of leading scientists world-wide whose careers were launched under Jim’s mentorship including scientists in industry, academia, and national facilities, many of whom are leaders in their fields.

Jim was enthusiastic about the Steelers, Cornell Hockey, and the Himalaya mountains, where he took a month’s-long sojourn twice. I cannot agree with his enthusiasm for the Steelers, but Jim’s enthusiasm for science was infectious. He had a special ability to make complex physical concepts simple with straight-forward explanations appealing to everyday experience. From the acknowledgements of the Ph.D. thesis of one of his students: “Jim’s insight into physical puzzles has been inspiring – he has taught me at such a subtle level that it is not uncommon for me to begin solving a problem by first asking myself how he would solve it”. A quote was taped to Jim’s office door for more than a decade that summed up his positive attitude in a competitive field: “The best way to get even is to have a good life.”

Jim was remarkably attentive to the needs of others. He was always available for consultation on a new idea, and ready with helpful comments on your lab work and research proposal. A common refrain was “don’t polish a cannon ball”. If he thought you were going astray, he would drop everything to help put you back on the right path. In my particular case, what comes to mind was the day 25 years ago that I announced that my wife and I had put in a bid on
a house in Ithaca. He asked where it was, then told me that is that was too busy a street for our young children. They will not be able to learn to bike and play safely – “plus the truck traffic at night will drive you crazy”. This every busy man, then dropped everything to give me a spontaneous 3 hour tour of Ithaca focusing on houses in low-traffic neighborhoods. I am eternally grateful for the gentle guidance he gave on this and many other issues in life and science. His presence is missed by all.

Jim was predeceased by his wife Elaine in 2011, and is survived by his two sons Chris (Tracy) and Robert (Michelle) and four grandchildren Adriana, Aiden, Joshua and Olivia, and his sister, Sara Horsman of Pittsburgh.

The department of astronomy will hold an international workshop titled “Science Enabled by Novel Infrared Instrumentation” in Ithaca, June 25-29, 2017 to honor the memory of Jim Houck.

_Gordon Stacy and Jamie Lloyd_
Carol V. Kaske, Professor Emerita of the Department of English, Cornell University, died at Cayuga Medical Center on June 15, 2016, at the age of 83. Born Carol Margaret Vonckx to J. Newell and Frances M. (Fitchie) Vonckx in Elgin, Illinois, on February 5, 1933, Carol received her B.A. from Washington University, St. Louis (1954), her M.A. from Smith College (1955), and her Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University (1964). Carol married Robert E. Kaske (deceased in 1989), a professor of medieval literature, in 1958. Prior to moving to Ithaca, the Kaskes lived in Urbana, Illinois, and in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. An accomplished violinist and pianist, Carol considered a career as a professional musician before deciding on English literature, although her love of music remained strong. Often she would play in impromptu groups with friends.

During a teaching career that spanned from 1963 to 2008, Carol specialized in English literature of the late Middle Ages and Renaissance. She was particularly noted for her work on The Faerie Queene by Edmund Spenser on whom she published a number of important papers and a book Spenser and Biblical Poetics (Cornell University Press, 1999); her papers and book have been and continue to be widely cited and Carol was and is recognized as a major scholar in the field of English Renaissance literature. Her interests extended beyond this field, however, in that she published on Chaucer, Dante, Le Roman de la Rose, and Malory. Carol is also known for a scholarly edition and translation of Marsilio Ficino's Three Books On Life (1989, with John R. Clark) and an edition of Spenser's Faerie Queene, Book I (2006). Carol’s scholarship was characterized by meticulous accuracy and wide ranging learning and in addition to being a productive and widely respected scholar herself, Carol was supremely generous in helping students and colleagues in their work. Her assistance ranged from helping to edit colleague’s papers, to sharing her own wide learning and allowing and encouraging younger scholars to have access to the Kaskes’ personal scholarly library, arguably one of the best private scholarly libraries in North America.
One of Carol’s colleagues, who was chair at the time, recommended Carol for a teaching award in the following paragraphs:

The generosity that shines through in these [student] letters is something that will be recognized by any colleague who has ever had occasion to call on Carol as collaborator, sounding-board, or source of information. Once she knows what you are interested in she will go to tremendous lengths to track down information that might prove useful to you, and to show her a piece of one’s writing is to go back to school in the best sense of that phrase. Like another wonderful teacher, Neil Hertz, she inhabits the margins of other people’s writing as a sort of benevolent spirit, unfailingly resourceful, honest and conscientious, and months later she will leave you a note about some point in your argument that she has thought some more about, or on which she has discovered new information.

And unlike many learned Cornellians, Carol invites others to respond in the same way to her own thoughts and words. She is, I think, a genuinely humble person, every bit as ready to learn as she is to teach, and ready to learn from the greenest of her students. Everyone Carol meets is a potential colleague, and this makes her a colleague of a unique and wonderful kind.

Carol started her career teaching at Cornell as an instructor and then a lecturer; but she was promoted to assistant professor in 1973, to associate professor in 1985, and she was promoted to full professor in 1992. In 2002 she offered a special summer course on Malory for the Telluride Association at Cornell. Carol was a member of the Renaissance Society of America, Modern Language Association of America, and the International Association of University Professors of English. Her colleagues in Spenser studies honored her by selecting her to deliver the 2010 Kathleen Williams Lecture for the Spenser at Kalamazoo Society at the 45th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University. During the same conference, Carol's friends and former students held three special sessions celebrating her scholarship and teaching. In 2012 the Spenser at Kalamazoo Society funded a graduate student award in her name. After her retirement from Cornell, Carol was active in the Cornell Association of Professors Emeriti (CAPE) and the Cornell Retirees Association (CRA), fostering the continued intellectual growth of their members and performing community service in the Ithaca area.

Bob and Carol Kaske’s annual parties for students and friends of Medieval Studies at Cornell were legendary, as were their dogs--first Rex and then Wolf--encounters with whom figure in many stories told by house guests. For the past thirty-odd years, Carol enjoyed weekly lunches with Ithaca and out-of-town friends at the
Statler Club, at the Corners Deli, then at JJ's Café, and finally at Friends and Pho. Carol had a life-long love of travel. In her 70's she made solo lecture trips to Japan and China, and with her cousin Anne she visited the Belgian town from which the Vonckx family originated.

Carol was a profoundly optimistic and friendly person who made friends easily. She was beloved by her many friends, colleagues, and students, and by the residents and staff of Old Hundred and of Bridges Cornell Heights, her final home. She is survived by a son, Richard, of Ithaca; a sister, Sylvia, of California; and cousins Paul "Skip" Vonckx of Washington and Anne Weaver of Massachusetts.

*Thomas D. Hill, Professor of English and Medieval Studies, chair; Alice M. Colby-Hall, Professor of Romance Studies, Emerita; and Winthrop Wetherbee, Professor of English, Emeritus*
Richard P. March, Professor Emeritus, Food Science, died at the age of 93 at the Riverwoods Retirement Community in Exeter, New Hampshire. He was born in Medford, Massachusetts on May 1, 1922. In his early years, he developed an interest in dairy manufacturing, prompting him to enroll in the University of Massachusetts, with a major in Dairy Industry. There he met his wife Barbara, an English major, who even then began to help him with his work by taste testing the ice cream he was manufacturing in one of his courses.

After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in 1944, he served in World War II with the Marines. He participated in the invasion of Okinawa on April 1, 1945. When the war ended, he was transferred with the First Marine Division to North China until August 1946.

Richard’s Cornell connection began in the fall of 1946, when he began graduate work in what was then the Department of Dairy Industry (now Food Science). Starting as a teaching assistant in October 1947, he earned the M.S. degree in 1948 joining the faculty as an instructor. A series of promotions led to his becoming a full professor in July 1965. At his retirement in 1977, he was named Professor Emeritus.

Professor March’s first assignment at Cornell was to teach the one-year program in dairy manufacturing. This was designed as an entry-level course to train dairy plant workers. He later taught courses in Market Milk, Fluid Milk Processing and Quality Control. In 1965, he was appointed Department Extension Leader, serving until 1977. This became his major effort at Cornell, where through his work with Cooperative Extension he assisted in developing procedures for the modern system of bulk milk cooling and collection. He produced films and bulletins that were used throughout the Northeast.

His interest in milk sanitation led to an appointment by Governor
Rockefeller in 1962 to study the possible impact of the National Sanitation Act on New York dairy farmers and milk production. His work resulted in closer collaboration between Cornell and the Department of Agriculture and Markets. That early connection continues today.

Professor March’s direct involvement with the dairy and food industry began in 1956 when he became Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the 600+ member New York State Association of Milk Sanitarians (now NYS Association for Food Protection). He served in that capacity for 24 years. During that time he became involved on the national level through his membership on the board of the International Association of Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians. He was honored by that organization with the 1974 Educator/Industry award. During his service with the New York association, he received that group’s two highest awards: The Dr. Paul B. Brooks Memorial Award in 1963 and the Emmet R. Gauhn in 1972. He was awarded Honorary Life Membership at his retirement.

Upon his retirement from Cornell, Richard embarked on a second, but similar career. He became Executive Secretary and later Executive Vice-president of the Northeast Dairy Council. The mission of this organization was to provide uniform laws and regulations for milk and dairy foods throughout the Northeast states. The program was so successful under his leadership that the name was changed to Dairy Products Council to serve the whole country.

In 1967, Richard spent a sabbatical six months in Ireland at the Agricultural Institute in Fermoy, helping with their milk collection systems. His second sabbatical came with a grant from Milk Plant Specialties Corporation to conduct a national survey of dairy regulations, which ultimately resulted in establishing greater uniformity throughout the industry.

For 50 years, the Marchs were active members of the Ellis Hollow community. He actually built his family home on Ellis Hollow Road from a Sears Roebuck “kit” that arrived at the rail siding in downtown Ithaca. It had many innovations, including heating the pool by circulating the water through pipes on the roof – well before that became a common practice.

Professor March is survived by his wife Barbara, two sons and their wives, Steven and Donna, and Thomas and Priscilla, one daughter Betsey and Randy, eight grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

David K. Bandler and James C. White
The Section of Plant Breeding & Genetics in the School of Integrative Plant Science (formerly Department of Plant Breeding & Genetics, formerly Department of Plant Breeding & Biometry, originally Department of Plant Breeding) lost a dear friend and colleague with the passing of William D. (Bill) Pardee at the age of 86 on May 1, 2016 in Ithaca, New York.

Bill was born and grew up on a family farm near Orange, CT. He worked on the home farm and several larger cash and dairy farms in the area through high school and on summer “vacations” while in college. These experiences developed his interest in farming and agricultural sciences. He participated in 4-H activities and became interested in plant breeding, which eventually became his career.

Bill attended Dartmouth College, graduating in 1951 with a degree in Botany. He then moved on to Cornell, graduating with a Ph.D. in Plant Breeding in 1960 under the supervision of Professors Lowe and Johnson. His first position following graduation was with the University of Illinois at Urbana. He returned to Cornell and Ithaca in 1966, where he spent the remainder of his career in Plant Breeding. He served as Chair of the Department of Plant Breeding & Biometry from 1979 to 1987.

Over the years, Bill became the consummate extension specialist. He was known for his sharp intellect and amazing recall of facts. Before the days of Google, he was often consulted as if he were a human encyclopedia. For 28 years he wrote a monthly column for the American Agriculturist. He provided the Plant Breeding contribution to, “Cornell Recommends for Field Crops” annually for 38 years, 1966 to 2004, as well as “Trends in Seed Use in the Northeast US” annually from 1966 to 1994. Bill was especially popular with farmers, seedsmen and Extension Agents around the state, probably because he was so down to earth. At any random diner in New York farm country, if Bill walked in, somebody was almost sure to come over and greet him by name. He knew New
York farmers and farms like few others before or since. Bill was an expert in diplomacy and meeting people where they were, which led to his universal acceptance by his audience, whether on farms or in academia.

Bill was a Fellow of the Crop Science Society of America and the American Society of Agronomy and served three years on the Board of Directors of both organizations. He was also a Fellow of the National Association for the Advancement of Science (NAAS) and a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi, which is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professionals. Some of Bill’s awards included the Outstanding Extension Faculty Award, the Award of Merit for Outstanding Extension Contributions, and the CALS Award for Extension and Outreach (1999).

Bill was known for his gentle spirit, kind heart, and welcoming smile. He never had a bad word to say about anyone and rarely complained, even through difficult health problems. He always wore a smile and shared his uplifting sense of humor. For Bill, the sun was always shining, even in Ithaca. He was probably the only plant breeder who could cite lengthy portions of the classics from memory, and he was especially knowledgeable about the Iroquois Confederacy and its member nations.

Bill had a unique ability to find creative solutions to complicated problems. He could listen to people who were deeply annoyed about something, perhaps even irrationally so, and set aside whatever frustration he might feel with the situation. Bill would come away from such conversations saying “Well, he/she makes a good point,” and then come up with a creative direction to go in the future that, more often than not, addressed the concerns of all parties. He was a very creative problem-solver who had a unique ability to find common ground among disparate perspectives, and a consummate peacemaker.

Bill enjoyed family, gardening, board games, and movies, especially old musicals. He passed peacefully, while listening to one of his favorite songs, “Somewhere Over the Rainbow.”

Bill and Barbara were active members of the Unitarian Church where Bill served on numerous committees over the years. In 2003 they moved to Kendal from their longtime residence on Warwick Place. They greatly enjoyed being part of the Kendal at Ithaca retirement community and appreciated the support and friendship of the residents and staff. Bill volunteered on many committees at Kendal, offering his leadership and wisdom for as long as his health permitted.

Bill is survived by a younger brother, Scott Edward Pardee, of New York City, his loving wife of over 50 years, Barbara Klaer Pardee,
and his children Sherry Pardee (Iowa City, IA), Scott Pardee (Ithaca, NY), Ken Pardee (Columbus, OH), and Jo-Ann McCoy (Bracey, VA). His other brother, Joseph M. Pardee of Monroe, CT, precedes him in death.

W. Ronnie Coffman, chair; Margaret Smith and Judy Singer
George C. Poppensiek
June 18, 1918 – September 8, 2015

The passing of an outstanding academic naturally inspires recollection of achievements. But at the loss of George Poppensiek, first recollections expressed were of the painful loss of not only an academic, but a true gentleman.

His interpersonal skills were a marked feature of his contribution to the College of Veterinary Medicine. Many of Dr. Poppensiek’s colleagues have a collection of letters written by him. If one was interviewed on radio or television, you were bound to receive a letter of praise. If you had bereavement, a beautifully crafted letter would be received. In his letters, Dr. Poppensiek would identify and praise your contributions to the Veterinary College and to Cornell University. Your self-esteem would become elevated very quickly. Probably not good for an academic!

George Charles Poppensiek, Dean Emeritus, and the James Law Professor Emeritus of Comparative Medicine, was born in New York City, NY and raised in Bogota, NJ. He matriculated in the College of Agriculture at Cornell University as a pre-veterinary student in 1936. A year later he transferred to the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania to complete the requirements for admission to the School of Veterinary Medicine in that University, from which he was graduated in 1942 as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine V.M.D.

After serving as an intern in large animal medicine at the School of Veterinary Medicine during the following year, he was appointed as Assistant Professor of Veterinary Science at the University of Maryland where he gained extensive knowledge of rabies. Years later, his rabies expertise led to his appointment as Department Head in Lederle Laboratories of Pearl River, NY, where he was responsible for veterinary virus vaccine production. He returned to Cornell becoming Director of the Diagnostic Laboratory in the College of Veterinary Medicine, simultaneously pursuing a Master of Science Degree in virology, pathology and biochemistry that he
completed in 1951. His research on a number of infectious diseases and vaccinology led to his appointment as Supervisory Veterinarian for Immunological Investigations at the US Department of Agriculture’s Plum Island Animal Disease Center—a biologically secure research center off Long Island that works exclusively on highly animal infectious diseases not present in the US. From this position he was recruited to Cornell as the fifth Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, serving for 15 years from 1959 to 1974. Emeritus Dean Poppensiek was then appointed as the James Law Professor of Comparative Medicine, teaching Foreign Animal Diseases for 15 years to second-year students a course in Foreign Animal Diseases.

His tenure as Dean saw one of the college’s greatest increases in research, supported by the construction of the Veterinary Research Tower, the landmark building at the entrance of the Veterinary College complex. Dr. Poppensiek also increased the international dimensions of the College through his own scientific contributions and professional connections. He was recognized as Chairman of the United States-Argentine Commission on Foot-and-Mouth Disease under the aegis of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences. He received the International Veterinary Congress Prize for distinguished service to veterinary science by the American Veterinary Medical Association. He was inducted into the Polish Society for Veterinary Medicine and elected as an external member into the National Argentine Academy of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine. He also served as a member of the Executive Board of a United States–Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund (BARD).

Dr. Poppensiek was a diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Microbiology; the Veterinary Radiology Society; the American Society for Microbiology and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was a charter member of the American Society for Virology, and an honorary diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Preventative Medicine, and served as President of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges. He was a prolific scientific writer with over 100 publications in several scientific journals. His famous notes for his “Foreign Animal Diseases” class became the seminal source for veterinary student textbooks nationwide.

He is recognized as the instigator for the creation of the “The National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS)” by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, to establish a national animal disease surveillance system that still provides one of the more reliable and trusted sources of data on animal diseases in our country today. Dr. Poppensiek named this achievement among his most gratifying.

Emeritus Dean Poppensiek had a passion for finding ways to
provide financial assistance to veterinary students. For two decades he served as scientific advisor to the Harold Wetterberg Foundation of Princeton and Montclair, NJ, a philanthropic institution that has been providing substantial financial grants for biomedical research, and also substantial scholarship awards to students who have lived or worked in New Jersey, and who are interested in continuing their university education toward an advanced degree; principally in the biomedical sciences of veterinary medicine.

Former Dean Dr. Robert D. Phemister, upon Dr. Poppensiek’s retirement in 1988, established the “George C. Poppensiek Visiting Professorship in Global Animal Health” to honor his contributions to the advancement of the profession internationally. Visiting scholars from many corners of world have been participants of this lectureship in honor of Dean Emeritus Poppensiek.

It is essential to also memorialize and honor Edith Marion Wallace, Dr. Poppensiek’s cherished wife and partner of 63 years. Edith and George married in 1943. They were blessed with two loving and gifted children, Neil Allen and Leslie Marion, and five talented grandchildren. Edith died in 2006; his son Neil, a Commander in the US Navy, died in 2008.

David Robertshaw, chair; Kathy Ann Earnest-Koons and Alfonso Torres
Dr. William B. “Will” Provine was born February 19, 1942 in Nashville, Tennessee, the fourth of five children. He and his family moved to a farm in Brentwood, TN in 1951 allowing him expanded opportunities to explore the natural world with the encouragement of his family. As a young man he had interests in mathematics, snake catching, caving, abstract thought and logic, and played a terrific game of tennis. He earned a B.S. in Mathematics (1962) from the University of Chicago where he played varsity tennis and participated in intermural sports and competed at a national level in white-water kayaking (continuing later in his early years as a professor). After teaching middle school science for two years, he returned to the University of Chicago to earn a M.A. (1965) and Ph.D. (1970) in the History of Science from the University of Chicago. The chair of his thesis committee was Allen Debus who had launched the history of science program at the University of Chicago, though the deepest impact on Will during graduate school was his thesis committee member Dr. Richard Lewontin, a famous population geneticist who shared Will’s interest in the history of science and philosophy, and who fostered Will’s interest in evolutionary biology. Will joined the Cornell faculty in 1969, after a year of teaching at Wayne State University. He was a historian of evolutionary biology and population genetics and a passionate teacher and lecturer throughout his career. He rose through the academic ranks to become the Charles A. Alexander Professor of Biology at Cornell prior to being named the Andrew H. and James L. Tisch Distinguished University Professor at Cornell in the later years of his career. He had appointments in the Departments of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, History, and Science and Technology Studies. He retired in 2011 and was granted emeritus status at Cornell.

Professor Provine was an expert on the history of evolution and genetics and published several seminal books in the field, notably
his Ph.D. thesis, “The Origins of Theoretical Population Genetics” (1971), and his scientific biography of Sewell Wright (1986). These two works defined Will’s stature as a remarkably astute scientific historian, one who taught many young evolutionary biologists much about the origins and implications of ideas in their discipline. During his career at Cornell, he mentored 13 Ph.D. and numerous Master’s students from diverse backgrounds but with the stipulation that they had to understand both the history and the underlying science of the field they studied. Some stayed with the history as academics, while others pursued science, medicine, science policy, computer science and other fields in their subsequent careers, all encouraged by Will to follow their own interests. In his final several years he became convinced that the core population genetic concept of genetic variation randomly “drifting” towards fixation or extinction over time (so called random genetic drift) was wrong. His last publication, “The ‘Random Genetic Drift’ Fallacy”, was a self-published book where he detailed his arguments. It will be for a future historian of science to evaluate Will’s contribution to this aspect of the field of evolutionary biology.

At Cornell, Will developed a number of popular courses, including his non-majors class on Evolution, which consistently drew hundreds of students. Will, an outspoken atheist, enjoyed sparring with students who questioned his Darwinian beliefs; he treated them with respect and encouraged them to engage in such debates. He had a dramatic and entertaining lecture style that drew students in. He had a joint appointment with biological sciences and eventually moved his office to Corson-Mudd Hall, in part to find more space to house his unparalleled collection of offprints of articles on biology that grew to over 400,000 separate documents as well as many rare books. (In McGraw, his third-floor office had required extra support for his bookshelves.) Those offprints and books, which he gathered from retired biologists and from their estates and purchased from booksellers, served as irreplaceable sources for his scholarship, and one to which he freely shared access with interested students, colleagues and visitors. Many of these are now housed in the Cornell Library Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections.

Will was honored with Cornell’s Clark Distinguished Teaching Award in 1988, was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2006 and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1986. In 2011, he was awarded the inaugural David L. Hull Prize by the International Society of History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology, and The Darwin Award by the Society for the Study of Evolution in 1996. He received a Guggenheim fellowship in 1984.

Will loved a good debate and being a provocateur about evolutionary biology, religion and “free will”. A firm atheist, he argued strongly, but always politely, that believing in both evolution
and religion was illogical. He was a strident critic of creationism and intelligent design. He was fond of saying “You have to check your brains at the church-house door if you take modern evolutionary biology seriously.” Will was insistent: there was no God, no life after death, no free will for humans, no foundation for ethics, and no ultimate meaning in life. Interestingly, however, his views on free will seemed to his philosopher friends to be grounded less in technical philosophical and scientific arguments than in a deep moral abhorrence of the idea of retributive justice. Whatever his views about ethics he was deeply motivated by compassion. He also said “if you’re an atheist and know you’re going to die, what really counts is friendship.” And Will was the warmest and most generous and kind friend you could imagine.

He loved his farm in rural Marathon, NY, where he had a remarkable library of books and scientific papers and correspondence that he used in his studies of the history of ideas and the scientists involved in evolutionary biology and population genetics. His farm also included a collection of old tractors and even a bulldozer that he fixed up and used around the farm (including digging a spectacular pond, which provided a wonderful respite from the heat of summer weather). With his first wife Marie and their sons Charlie and Stuart he rehabilitated injured birds and orphaned baby animals, including opossums, raccoons, owls, and song birds. The menagerie also included snakes, lizards, and turtles that Will and Marie caught and cared for. Will had a passion for old Volvos, which provided mostly reliable family transportation.

In 1995, Will was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Surgery and chemotherapy helped prolong his life. He survived much longer than anyone, including himself, imagined that he would, persevering with his teaching and lecturing until a year or so before he died. Will died on September 1, 2015 at age 73 at his home in Horseheads, NY due to complications of his brain tumor. His many colleagues, former students, friends, and even his opponents in debates regarding religion mourn the passing of this kind, generous, passionate, and fascinating man. He is survived by his wife Gail Light Provine, his sons Charlie and Stuart, his former wife, Marie Provine, his brother Robert Provine, and two sisters, Harriet Provine and Tina Johnson.

Charles “Chip” Aquadro (chair), Mary Beth Norton, Richard Newell Boyd
After a short illness, Professor Emeritus Edgar Rosenberg passed away in Ithaca N.Y. on December 19, 2015. The previous September he celebrated his ninetieth birthday in high spirits, traveling with his beloved wife Barbara to reconnect with long-time friends in Europe and North America.

Edgar was born in Fürth, Germany, on September 21, 1925. Fleeing from Nazi persecution in 1939, he and his family found refuge first in Switzerland, then in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and finally a year later in New York City. After high school, he joined the U.S. Army and served in Europe, for which he received a Combat Infantry Medal in 1944. With characteristic bemusement and irony at his own expense, Edgar referred to the medal, earned for his accomplishments as a translator and interrogator of German prisoners-of-war, as given “for making small talk in my native language.” He attended Cornell on the GI Bill, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received his B.A. in 1949 and M.A. in 1950. In addition to his doctorate conferred by Stanford University in 1958, he received awards for his fiction writing from Cornell, Stanford, the Bread Loaf School, and Doubleday Publishers.

In 1957 Edgar joined the English Department at Harvard University as Instructor and was quickly promoted to Assistant Professor. In 1965 he returned to Cornell as Associate Professor of English. From 1970 until his retirement thirty-two years later, he held a joint appointment as Professor of English and Comparative Literature. Edgar was the author of From Shylock to Svengali: Jewish Stereotypes in English Fiction (1960) and some fifty pieces of short fiction, translations, and articles in journals ranging from Esquire and Commentary to The Dickensian and The Shaw Review. His sumptuously annotated edition of Dickens’s Great Expectations (1999) is a classic. For his scholarship and research he received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1973-74, a Fulbright Fellowship to

Edgar Rosenberg
September 21, 1925 – December 19, 2015
lecture at the University of Haifa in 1988-89, and in 2012, in recognition of his cultural services in bridging the study and teaching of English, German, and American literature, an honorary doctorate from the University of Saarland at Saarbrücken.

Edgar’s outstanding work with students earned him a Cornell University Clark Teaching Award in 1993. Over the years he designed and conducted legendary courses on Introduction to Fiction, Introduction to Comparative Literature, The English Novel, The European Novel, and for the Creative Writing Program annual spring-semester workshop seminars in narrative fiction. Among junior faculty members Edgar proved a welcoming and encouraging colleague from the day they arrived until long after he retired. Among university-wide faculty at all ranks he engaged in a spirited correspondence and discussion about literary matters, whether through carefully thought-out written notes, telephone conversations, or face-to-face contact. There was no text to which he couldn’t add a surprising insight or erudite remark.

Those who knew him will never forget his office in Goldwin Smith Hall, often packed with students in an impromptu seminar or tutorial, frequently graced by a colleague or out-of-town visitor, sometimes governed by Edgar alone, beckoning at the door for others to “Come in for a moment, I want to show you something.” That something would likely be a note with a striking turn of phrase by a dear friend from the past, treasured up in his prodigious memory. To go back in time, we’d remember at the center of his desk a manual typewriter whose carriage he would load with sheet after sheet of paper to type a sentence or two, tear it out, toss it away, and announce that he’d found a better expression to convey his thought. In later years his typewriter yielded to a non-stop computer flanked by stack upon stack of print-outs. On a shelf of his bookcase stood a row of vintage cameras. Edgar was a fine photographer, and when you’d least expect it an eight by eleven photograph that he’d taken of you a week earlier would appear in your mail.

But even those photographs ceded pride of place to his love of words. Edgar was a superb scholar, a gifted and accomplished storyteller, and he was one of the founding spirits of the English Department’s Creative Writing Program. He contributed to it in any number of ways, including financially. With serious undergraduate writers he was uncommonly generous with his time. The coffee table in his living room was piled not with books about the Metropolitan Opera or the Metropolitan Museum but with stacks of his students’ (and some colleagues’) works.

With his native German, near-native French, more than a little Spanish and Italian, even some Russian, ancient Latin and Hebrew, and what he called his Remedial English, Edgar was the soul of
Comparative Literature. Sometimes he’d quip that academic study (in his words) had “fallen on Lenten days and silent nights,” that fashionable critics (in his words) “toggle with footnotes” and “play peek-a-boo with each other,” and that their bibliographies leave us with “the expense of spirit in a waste of names.” And yet Edgar’s brilliant edition of Great Expectations grapples mightily with these conventions. Its footnotes and bibliography account for everything associated with that novel except for (again in his words) “impertinent stuff, like Great Expectations: A Guide to Pregnancy and Great Expectations: Preparing for Evangelism through Bible Study.”

Not to betray too badly, we hope, a confidence, but Edgar’s wife Barbara told some of us (and there were witnesses) that Edgar could have wooed and won her with one of his footnotes alone, that was how much in love she was with the language of the man. He could have wooed and won his colleagues—in fact, he did—with his wonderfully baroque summations at the end of each department faculty meeting, first for the language alone, and second for the fact that those often opulent words signaled the end of the meeting. We were then free to walk out with Edgar’s language in our ears, occasionally wanting to hug the man and sometimes putting a loving muzzle on him. We still do. What a genial colleague and what a dear loyal friend he was.

William J. Kennedy, chair; W. Lamar Herrin and Daniel R. Schwarz
Professor Emeritus Julian Cleveland Smith, Jr. died peacefully after a short illness on August 30, 2015 at Kendal Ithaca, his home for the last fifteen years.

Professor Smith was born in Montreal, Canada, on March 10, 1919, the last of four children of American parents; Julian C. Smith, Sr. and Bertha Louise Alexander Smith. Professor Smith was educated at Westmount High School and Phillips Exeter Academy before studying engineering at Cornell, taking the his Bachelor of Chemistry degree in 1941 and the Master’s degree of Chemical Engineer in 1942. At this point he chose his American citizenship from his Canadian or American options.

During the second World War he worked for the Dupont Company in Wilmington, Delaware on war work, including time on the Manhattan Project. He also met his future wife, Joan Dolores Elsen. They married in Wilmington on June 1, 1946.

He was invited to take up the post of Assistant Professor in Chemical Engineering at Cornell in 1946. He and his new bride moved to Ithaca that year where they remained for the rest of their lives. Joan Elsen Smith died in 2003 after a marriage of 57 years. Julian served as Associate and then Full Professor in 1953. He became Director of Continuing Education for the Engineering College in 1965, and Director of Engineering in 1975, returning to teaching in 1983 and finally retiring in 1986. He was a joint author of the internationally important textbook, Unit Operations in Chemical Engineering and made contributions to another five books as well as authoring 50 technical articles.

Professor Smith was a valued consultant to DuPont for decades, and to various government agencies. In Ithaca, he has served in
leadership roles with the Ithaca Opera Association, the United Way and the Cerebral Palsy Association, to name just a few; he also was an elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, where he sang in the choir for almost 50 years. In retirement, he was a member of many committees, academic, social and charitable, including work on the redevelopment of the Reconstruction Home.

Professor Smith also engaged in a number of hobbies, taking many of them to semi-professional levels. His documented land snail collection is now part of the research materials at the Paleontological Research Institution. His Canadian stamp collection won international prizes. He contributed another volume to the Smith family tradition of writing genealogical works, and, confirmed his early Puritan Smith ancestry by taking part in the Smith DNA project. He had a passion for golf which continued with watching the professionals on television long after he was too unsteady to swing a club. He was almost certainly the oldest member of the Ithaca Country Club. He wrote and published their history, Breaking Ninety.

He loved travelling and went on many worldwide adventures, his last being a European river cruise in the spring of this year.

Professor Smith was also a very capable musician, playing classical piano and wrote more than just technical texts. He had a light-hearted side, being a member of the Savage Club while a student and rejoining in his forties, remaining a member to the end. His humorous compositions, both words and music, in the style of Flanders and Swann, were a feature of many a Savage Club performance.

Professor Smith was a Cornell man first and last. His parents were both Cornell graduates, father Julian senior in 1900, and mother Bertha in 1901. At least another ten relatives from the 1860's to the present day have attended Cornell including Professor Smith’s son, Brian Smith, and grandson, Daniel Smith.

Claude Cohen, chair, Michael Shuler and William Olbricht
Jack Squier, an important sculptor and teacher died on December 31, 2016 in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. He was 88. Born in Indiana on February 27, 1927, and for 66 years was the beloved husband of Jane, who survives him.

Professor Squier had a uniquely distinguished career as an artist and teacher as a member of the faculty of Cornell’s Department of Art for over 47 years. His association with Cornell was even longer as he received only the second MFA in Sculpture, awarded in 1952. He became Professor Emeritus in 2004.

Jack served in the United States Navy Air Corps Officer Training Program between 1944 and 1947.

As a boy growing up in Indiana he was fascinated with model airplanes. The focus and discipline needed to complete these challenging projects successfully would serve him well when enrolling in sculpture classes at Indiana University where he studied with Robert Laurent. It was also his first meeting with his future spouse, Jane and led to his subsequent love of art and career as a sculptor. His skill in design, composition and sensitive handling of materials led to his teaching in Ogunquit, Maine and subsequently, the MFA program at Cornell.

Upon graduating from Cornell Jack and Jane moved to New York City where he worked as a ceramic designer and account executive. All the while he continued to develop his work leading to being represented by the Downtown and Alan Galleries who, at the time, were also exhibiting the works of Arthur Dove, John Marin, Georgia O’Keefe and Ben Shahn.

The unique character of his work led to numerous one-person exhibitions in New York and group exhibitions nationally and
international. Through this early period in his career his work was collected by the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Hirschlhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C. and the Whitney Museum in New York. His work is also in the private collections of Nelson Rockefeller and Eero Saarinen. While living in Greenwich Village he became friendly with David Hare, Franz Kline and Ibram Lassaw.

His beautifully crafted work is infused with a spirit of non-western art and culture. Serious explorations into African and pre-Colombian sculpture as well as the arts of Asia informed his development. Incorporating historical and cultural influences in a uniquely modern synthesis, Jack’s work is entirely original while bridging vast gulfs of time, civilizations and world geography – a hallmark of an important strain of Modern art.

He was attracted to the prospect of teaching at Cornell as an opportunity for intellectual growth in the context of a community of creative minds. Jack was fond of saying that if he ever believed he was the smartest person in a particular place, he would find another place to go. Cornell offered continual nourishment.

Jack was devoted to his students, treating them as adults. His criticisms were to the point, speculative, cajoling and always suggestive but not directive – perfect vehicles for self-discovery. The open atmosphere of his studio classes was conducive to a collective discourse as well as one-on-one discussion. Jack’s gregarious nature, breadth of knowledge and interest often led to free-wheeling seminars on art and life. Lasting lessons were taken away by all. He reveled in his students’ successes – having his students as colleagues and peers thrilled him.

After his appointment to the Department of Art in 1958 Jack and Jane quickly became immersed in the academic, creative, educational and social life of Cornell.

Between 1959 and 1962 as curator of Sculpture for the A.D. White Museum (later the Herbert F. Johnson Museum) he was responsible for Cornell’s acquisition of two major works of 20th century sculpture by Jacques Lipschitz; the “Song of the Vowels” sited near Uris Library and the “Bather” in Olin Library.

Jack’s deep interest in cultures other than his own led to becoming a critical part of a university-wide, three-person faculty steering committee to organize and oversee the highly regarded and successful Latin American Year. In a collaboration between Cornell and the Guggenheim Museum, this comprised ten international conferences and a major exhibition of Latin American artists. His remarkable success through these years (1965-66) was acknowledged in his appointment by Lloyd Goodrich, Director of
the Whitney Museum, NYC, to the art division of UNESCO.

His extensive travels to other cultures an important historic monuments, and a brilliant instinct to create projects meaningful to his students, led to a remarkable student project resulting in the construction of large-scale (the tallest is twenty feet high) concrete sculptures sited at the Cornell Plantations. Spanning several years in the 1960’s. These are pieces designed and constructed by his advanced students and are unique on an American campus. An article in Industrial Design Magazine, 1962, began “The sculpture shown on these six pages is the beginning of what may turn out to be one of the most exciting student design projects ever undertaken in the country”.

Among so many significant accomplishments in art and creative life, one stands out – the house he designed for himself and Jane. Much like a sculpture – only larger and more complex- he saw the project through every step, from design through construction. Influenced primarily by the International Style and the work of Mies van der Rohe, with an undertone of Japanese architecture, the house is a crystal clear organization of beautiful, logical spaces for domestic living. With interior and exterior exhibition spaces, and exploiting the dramatic topography in which it sits, it functions simultaneously as a house, gallery and sculpture gardens.

Always deeply interested and involved as a member of the Department of Art, the College of Architecture, Art and Planning as well as the university at large he was called upon by then Dean William McMinn to help organize and initiate the AAP Program in Rome in 1986. Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, it would become a key experience for faculty and students over the following decades and continues to be a critical component of the curriculum in the college.

Roberto Bertoia, Alan Chimacoff (Cornell Alum) and Jane Squier
Marice Wilber Stith, Professor Emeritus of Music, died October 7, 2015 after a protracted illness. As Director of Bands, Professor Stith led Cornell’s Wind Ensembles, Symphonic Band, and Brass Quintet as well as Cornell’s Big Red Marching Band and Pep Band from 1966 to 1989. An accomplished trumpeter, Professor Stith recorded nine solo trumpet recordings; he also maintained a lively career as a concert and show musician and conductor outside his role at Cornell. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Shirlee Longwell Stith; four children, twelve grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Born in Jamestown, Ohio, Professor Stith was educated, after a stint in the US Army, at Capital University (BA) and Ohio State University (MA). He took post-graduate instruction at the Eastman School of Music and at Syracuse University. He spent several years in Music Supervisor positions for public and parochial schools in Ohio and in Syracuse, and joined Syracuse’s faculty in 1954, where he was Director of the Marching Band and the Men’s Glee Club. Prior to joining the faculty of Cornell, he also served as Director of Music for the West Genesee Public Schools and Minister of Music at the University Methodist Church in Syracuse.

Under Professor Stith’s leadership – from his first year in the position – Cornell’s wind ensembles enthusiastically embraced new music alongside canonical works. Over the years his ensembles premiered pieces by composers including Pulitzer Prize-winning Cornellians Christopher Rouse, MFA ’77, DMA ’77; the late Professor emeritus Steven Stucky, MFA ’73, DMA ’78, and the late Professor emeritus Karel Husa. Over the arc of his entire career, he commissioned or premiered approximately 200 works for wind ensemble, men’s glee club, choir and trumpet. On May 24, 1989, Professor Stith gave his final concert conducting the Cornell University Wind Ensemble, the Marching Band, and the Alumni Band, at Carnegie Hall.
William Cowdery, supervisor at Cornell’s Sidney Cox Library of Music and Dance and a long-time musical associate of Professor Stith, recalls that “with the Cornell Wind Ensemble he made annual recordings of cutting-edge repertoire that sold world-wide. These recordings served as benchmarks for school ensembles preparing those works for concert and contest. Cornell’s bands thrived with this exposure, and their reputation soared. Marice was not a boaster, but it was easy to see how much he loved this work, and it was impossible to resist his infectious exuberance for everything he did.”


As Director of the Big Red Marching Band, Professor Stith saw the organization through significant changes. Previously affiliated with Cornell’s ROTC program, the Big Red Band had become subsumed under the Department of Music prior to his arrival. Now released from the ROTC’s strictures of gender separation, the once all-male band, under Professor Stith, became co-educational. In 1982, the Big Red Bands Alumni Association was established as a way to maintain the financial and long-term security of the Big Red Band and Pep Band.

A licensed recording engineer, he founded Marice Stith Recording Services, recording performances at Cornell as well as at regional colleges and universities; he acted as master-engineer under such labels as Nonesuch, Golden Crest, Mark Recordings and the Organ Historical Society. Beyond conducting his ensembles, he engineered and edited over forty long-playing albums documenting Cornell’s wind ensembles over two decades, which were sold worldwide; he also taught a popular recording arts course during his tenure at Cornell.

William Cowdery remembers Professor Stith’s “ever-present smile and jovial demeanor, which belied the enormous amount of energy he poured into his two passions, band conducting and professional recording. He did both with boundless enthusiasm and attention to detail.” Professor Stith’s skill at recording added to his reputation overall, Cowdery continues. “He was much sought-after as an on-site concert recording engineer, and he lugged his equipment endlessly around upstate New York and neighboring areas. On the home front he produced countless Cornell-related LPs, including Malcolm Bilson’s first commercial recordings.”

Malcolm Bilson, the Frederick J. Whiton Professor of Music Emeritus, agrees. “Marice Stith was a first-class trumpeter and in
1969 he invited me to make a recording with him of trumpet-piano sonatas,” he recalls. “This was the beginning of a long and fruitful friendship producing professional recordings; I owe a great deal to him for teaching me virtually everything about recording and editing. Marice was a gentle and friendly man with a winning smile and a penchant towards humor; I miss him very much.”

Even after retiring from Cornell, he continued to be active musically, playing trumpet in the Ithaca Concert Band, the Syracuse Brass Ensemble, and the Virginia Grand Military Band. He also served as conductor and music director of the Skaneateles Community Band.

Marice Stith will be remembered as a vibrant musician and pedagogue. He was an exciting, adventurous conductor, and a warm and encouraging mentor. He was devoted to his wife Shirlee, to his children, and to his grandchildren. Finally, he was a warm and supportive colleague, who left his mark on Lincoln Hall.

Steven Pond, chair; Malcolm Bilson and William Cowdery
Steven Edward Stucky, MFA ’73, DMA ‘78, Emeritus Professor of Composition, died February 14, 2015, the victim of an aggressive brain cancer. An acclaimed composer, conductor, scholar, and educator, he won the Pulitzer Prize for Composition (2005), among many other landmark accomplishments and honors. Born in Hutchinson, Kansas, he moved with his family to Abilene, Texas. As a teenager, he studied viola, composition and conducting, earning a bachelor degree from Baylor University, and completing his post-graduate education at Cornell under Professors Robert Palmer and Karel Husa. He joined the faculty in 1980, and made Cornell his academic home for 34 years (chairing the Music department from 1992 to 1997), and retired in 2014 from his position as the Given Foundation Professor of Composition at Cornell. At the time of his death he had recently begun a post-retirement position at the Juilliard School, although he was still active, as an emeritus professor, in advising his students at Cornell, and was composer-in-residence at the Aspen Music Festival and School.

A prolific and important composer who is also one of the country’s most frequently performed, Professor Stucky’s legacy includes orchestral, chamber, choral and solo instrumental works. Major orchestras commissioned and performed his compositions, including the New York Philharmonic, the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, the Eastman Woodwind Ensemble, and many others. The Pittsburgh Symphony named him Composer of the Year for its 2011-2012 season. He was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 1989, winning the award in 2005 for his Second Concerto for Orchestra (2004), commissioned by the Los Angeles Philharmonic. In addition to the Pulitzer, Professor Stucky received the Medal of the Witold Lutoslawski Society in 2005; and Chamber Music America’s “101 Great American Ensemble Works,” announced in January 2005, included his 2000 composition "Nell'ombra, nella luce" ("In Shadow, in Light"). Other laurels
include a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1986 and a Bogliasco Fellowship in 1997, and trusteeship of the American Academy in Rome. Honored by membership in the American Society of Arts and Letters and the American Society of Arts and Sciences, Professor Stucky gave a prestigious series of lectures as the Ernest Bloch Lecturer at the University of California at Berkeley in 2003.

Two recordings of his music won Grammy awards: a recording by the San Francisco-based vocal group Chanticleer in 1999 that included his Cradle Songs and, in 2008, a recording by pianist Gloria Cheng that included his solo piano pieces Four Album Leaves and Three Little Variations for David. Professor Stucky’s 2012 oratorio August 4, 1964 received a Grammy nomination for contemporary classical composition. Yet, his enduring relationship with the Los Angeles Philharmonic marked him most strongly as nationally influential.

Steve was a relatively unknown composer in 1988, when the Los Angeles Philharmonic named him composer-in-residence. He would remain associated with the “LA Phil” – as Composer-in-Residence, New Music Advisor, and Consulting Composer for New Music – for 21 years, the longest such association in American orchestra history. During his tenure there he advocated tirelessly for new music by emerging composers. The Los Angeles Times critic Mark Szwed recalls Steve’s “alluring curatorial profile” at the LA Phil, despite his bashful, humble manner. “He programmed music that he might not care for but that he believed needed to be heard. He then looked for ways to care for it,” wrote Szwed in an appreciation for the Times. The conductor Essa-Pekka Salonen, who directed the orchestra through Steve’s Philharmonic years, echoed Szwed’s viewpoint in an interview. “Rather than trying to push for a certain point of view,” Salonen recalled, “he was trying to find the interesting voices, even if they were aesthetically far from his.”

Steve’s approach to orchestral color was guided by his deep attentiveness to musicians. He made it a point to know the musical personalities, specialties, and limitations of the musicians he wrote for. To him, limitations aided creativity. “When you have every possibility available to you, it’s a little paralyzing,” he told the New York Times. “But if somebody says to you, ‘The piece should be seven minutes long and you can’t have a trombone,’ this is focusing right away. You say, alright, what can I do that makes a virtue of these limitations?” This orientation carried through his work for large ensembles and smaller chamber works, particularly his work – as composer, conductor, and musical director – with Ensemble X, a chamber ensemble of Cornell and Ithaca College faculty he formed in 1997 and led for nine seasons.

Steve’s scholarship was as lively and rigorous as his composing, and the two activities often informed each other. The American
Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) conferred the Deems Taylor Prize for his 1981 book *Lutoslawski and His Music*. *Silent Spring* (2011), a symphonic poem commissioned by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra to commemorate the publication of Rachel Carson’s book fifty years earlier, reflects a deep engagement with Carson’s groundbreaking text and the ecological movement it inspired. In his program notes to that score, Professor Stucky wrote that “Rachel Carson’s trenchant writing gave us data, marching orders, the heart to do what is right; but, like all great writing, it also gave us the spiritual and psychological space to contemplate our own thoughts about the world around us, about our own place in that world, about our own hopes and fears.” Despite this, “Music cannot — should not attempt to — explain, preach, proselytize, comment on real life. Its domain is emotional life, not ‘real’ life. It is non-specific, non-semantic, non-representational. My *Silent Spring* is the same: a space in which to contemplate one’s own fears, hopes, and dreams.” And his oratorio *August 4, 1964*, a collaboration with librettist Gene Scheer, written for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra to commemorate the centennial of the birth of Lyndon B. Johnson, is based on diaries, news reports and historical documents concerning the events of the day that three young freedom riders were discovered murdered in Mississippi, and that the charge, later discredited, that North Vietnamese had attacked an American naval vessel gave Johnson impetus to escalate U.S. involvement in Vietnam. “I was 14 years old in 1964, at the time of these events,” Steve recalled. “I was a junior high school student in Texas when John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas in 1963 and it was only a year later that the incidents in Mississippi and Vietnam occurred. I felt very close to and conflicted about these events. When Gene sent me his idea for the opening of the libretto – in which the mothers of Chaney and Goodman sing “It was the saddest moment of my life: August 4, 1964, the day they found my son’s body” – I knew not only that I could compose this piece but that I had to!”

Steve was a caring teacher and mentor, and a strong advocate for his students’ work. When news of his death surfaced, student praise and shared memories poured in. Many of them, who have gone on to accomplishment and acclaim of their own, related Steve’s multiple influences—musical, professional, personal—on their lives and careers in the most glowing terms: “…first and foremost a caring mentor…”; “…a deeply generous and thoughtful teacher….His ear—his way—was all elegance and warmth;” “His daily example of synergy between one’s walks of life—artist, musician, thinker, professor, mentor, colleague, parent, friend—is one that has affected me profoundly.”

Steve’s dedication to his colleagues and students was visible even as his illness was claiming him. His friend and colleague, Professor Xak Bjerken, had assumed directorship of Ensemble X. Days before
he died, Steve attended a performance by the group. “He went out of his way to come to the Ensemble X concert last Sunday, and he was warm and generous with his students, who saw him for the first time after his surgery in early December,” Bjerken said. “He was such a gentle yet powerful influence on so many of us.”

Steven Stucky is survived by his wife, Kristen Frey Stucky, two children, Matthew and Maura, and his former wife Melissa Whitehead Stucky. An endowment in his name is being established by the Music Department, the Steven Stucky Residency, to bring top-level musicians to Cornell to workshop and perform with Cornell’s composers and musicians.

Steven Pond, chair; with contributions from Xak Bjerken, professor; and former students James Mathison, Anna Weesner, Sean Shepherd, Jesse Jones and Christopher Stark
Professor Emeritus of Development Sociology Joseph Mayone Stycos, who taught at Cornell for 43 years, died on June 24. He was 89.

Professor Stycos was an early pioneer in demography, and in particular an expert in the study of the interrelationships between population dynamics and societal development. He joined the Cornell faculty in 1957. In 1962 he founded the International Population Program, subsequently renamed the Population and Development Program, and served as its director until 1992. The IPP was one of the first U.S. population centers that focused its training and research efforts on international population and development issues. He also served as chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology during 1966-70, and as director of the Latin American Studies Program during 1962-66. In 1988, he joined the Department of Development Sociology, retiring in 2000 as professor emeritus.

Professor Stycos was born March 27, 1927, in Saugerties, New York. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors from Princeton University in 1947. In 1954, he earned a doctorate in sociology from Columbia University. As a Ph.D. student, he worked as a research analyst at Columbia University’s Bureau of Applied Social Research where he served as field director of the Puerto Rican fertility survey. That study was one of the first international studies of fertility knowledge, attitudes and practices. His doctoral field research led to his frequently cited and reproduced book, “Family and Fertility in Puerto Rico: A Study of the Lower Income Group” (1955). Later books included “The Family and Population Control: A Puerto Rican Experiment in Social Change” (1959, co-authored with Kurt Back and Reuben Hill); “The Survey Under Unusual Conditions: The Jamaica Human Fertility Investigation”
(1960 co-authored with Bach); and “The Control of Human Fertility in Jamaica” (1964 co-authored with Bach).

By the late 1960s, Professor Stycos’ interest spanned the Western Hemisphere, as reflected in his books “Human Fertility in Latin America: Sociological Perspectives” (1968) and “Ideology, Faith and Family Planning in Latin America” (1971). A prolific author, he published six major research volumes, several monographs and more than 150 articles on birth control, fertility, socio-psychological dimensions in husband-wife relations, and survey research. Most of his work focused on Latin America, but he also published field research conducted in Egypt, India, China, Poland, Spain, Turkey and the United States.

In the 1990s Professor Stycos turned his attention to the interrelationships of population and the environment. He served on the planning committee for the Global Omnibus Environmental Survey of the Human Dimension of Global Environmental Change Programme 1993-99, which he chaired in 1996. With Max Pfeffer, Cornell professor of development sociology, Professor Stycos received several grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to carry out sociological research on contentious politics and community development in the New York City watershed.

He served as a member of many national and international committees including the Latin American Science Board of the National Academy of Sciences (1963-65), as trustee of the Population Reference Bureau (1964-68), as a member of several National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) training and research panels on population dynamics, the executive committee of International Planned Parenthood, Western Hemisphere (1965-71); the Advisory Committee in Population and Development, Organization of American States (1968-70); and the Population Task Force, U.S. Commission for U.N.E.S.C.O. (1972-73). He was a Fulbright-Hays Distinguished Professor at the University of Warsaw (1979) and received a Fulbright Program Research Award for fieldwork in Costa Rica (1986). He was elected to the board of the Population Association of America (PAA), 1971-74, and was recognized as one of PAA’s “Honored Members.”

Throughout his career, Professor Stycos was an avid photographer, and illustrated a number of his books with photographs taken during the course of his field research. His photography books include “Children of the Barriada: A Photographic Essay on the Latin American Population Problem” (1970). His lifelong pursuit of photography culminated in a collaboration with photographer Cornell Capa on “Margin of Life: Population and Poverty in the Americas” (1974). His photographic work was exhibited at Cornell and at several Ithaca area galleries. He was also an accomplished
pianist and singer.

David L. Brown, chair; Douglas T. Gurak and Mary M. Kritz
Former Cornell Law School Dean Gray Thoron died peacefully in his sleep at Kendal of Ithaca on Sept. 18th 2015 at the age of 99. He had remained his entire life a proper Bostonian, almost always dressed with jacket and bow tie. Born in Danvers, MA, on July 14, 1916, his childhood was spent in a house there marked with a bullet hole dating back to the Revolutionary War. Educated at private schools in Cambridge, MA, and Concord, NH, he entered Harvard College and then Harvard Law School. Upon graduation he joined the Wall Street firm of Sullivan and Cromwell in New York City just a few months before Pearl Harbor was bombed. He joined the Army the next day.

During the war he was a combat infantryman with armored brigade in Europe where he eventually became a company commander with the rank of Captain. He was seriously wounded in the assault on the Siegfried Line and earned a purple heart with cluster and was awarded both a Bronze and Silver Star for his efforts. At the war’s end he rejoined Sullivan and Cromwell as a litigator but found that role increasingly difficult due to a serious hearing loss attributable to his war wounds. It was then he decided upon a teaching career that began at the law school of University of Texas in 1948. While there he was active in politics and was a member of the team that successfully persuaded the national Republican authorities to seat the Eisenhower rather than Taft delegation at the convention about to choose their party candidate for the upcoming 1952 presidential election. He was asked to join the Office of the Solicitor General in 1954 where he argued a number of cases in behalf of the government in front of the Supreme Court of United States. It was from there that in 1956 he was invited to become dean of The Cornell Law School.

It becomes increasingly difficult to appreciate how different were
those days a half century ago. Faculty wore jackets and ties. There were no desk top computers, much less handheld devices that served as telephones, message stations and information booths. A wrist watch that also served as telephone and mini-computer connected to the vast outside world was grist for Dick Tracy comic strips and Flash Gordon serial movie shorts at the local cinema. A good all round grade point average was a C+, and an A unheard of in polite society. And Gray came to Ithaca to lead a very contented country club like institution quite pleased to think of itself as the best New York law school. It was he who shook up the place and left it rapidly turning into one bent upon becoming truly a national law school.

Under his leadership the school launched a search for new faculty who shared his dream, particularly persons who demonstrated teaching ability and an interest in research and writing on topics of national significance. It must be noted that Gray’s vision of the law was not confined to serving the needs of Beacon Hill style elites but included the less fortunate members of the community. To this end he set about founding what has become a magnificent legal aid clinic at Cornell, an institution that provides not only legal help to those who cannot afford it otherwise but produces graduates of the school trained to service the needs of such persons.

Throughout his academic career Gray preached the need never to rest content with just knowing the rules of law, but how to conduct oneself in a court room in order to put those rules to work servicing the actual needs of real live clients. Indeed, his teaching ranged from dealing with such a basic problem as how to find clients to the absolute necessity always to conduct oneself according to ethical norms. In this regard Gray was a national leader in perceiving the needs to teach aspiring lawyers their professional responsibilities, this before ethics became a required course in all law schools.

Gray gave up his deanship in 1963 and continued to teach at the law school until his retirement in 1987. Throughout his entire career at Cornell he was always more than willing to talk things over with students, particularly those worried about what choice they should consider as realistic given their grade point average. And in this regard, he was a superb talent scout, able to see in a not-so-hot scholar the makings of an excellent practitioner. Almost without fail, that poet no else on the faculty would recommend would indeed turn out to be a crackerjack lawyer in disguise.

Gray also oversaw a piece of major construction at Myron Taylor Hall as a new residential wing was attached. This was known as Hughes Hall, named after Charles Evans Hughes, one time professor at the law school but better known for his career on the Supreme Court. Herein were housed each first year class wherein they could support one another in an often difficult adjustment to
the pressure of law school. As chance would have it, the class living there in the year Gray died would be the last one to do so, the building to be converted to office space for faculty and administrative purposes.

Gray married Mary Dwight Clark in 1939, with whom he raised five children. They were divorced in 1968. In 1971 he married Patty Porter Holmes, who predeceased him in 2000. Though out his career at Cornell, including his emeritus years, his home was the scene of remarkable parties featuring a mix of junior faculty and old timers, as well as members of the wider community. And there always was Gray in his jacket and tie doing his best to make sure everyone was put at ease and encouraged to enjoy themselves. To recall Gray Thoron is not unlike inventing the universal solvent and finding the subject has no boundaries. So let me conclude these remarks with the thought that Gray was a man, taken for all and all, the likes of which I shall not look upon again.

Ernie Roberts
Stanley A. Zahler
May 28, 1926 – April 26, 2016

Stanley Arnold Zahler, age 89, died April 26, 2016 in Cardiff-by-the-Sea, California. Born May 28, 1926, in New York City, he attended Townsend-Harris High School and started college at CCNY at the age of 15, receiving his A.B. in 1944. He enlisted in the Navy air force just before his 18th birthday and was commissioned as an ensign at age 19, immediately after VJ Day. Following his discharge, Stan attended NYU, expecting to become a doctor, but two years later, he changed his mind and instead enrolled as a graduate student in Bacteriology and Immunology at the University of Chicago. He received his Ph.D. in 1952.

In his 35 years at Cornell, Stan was a co-founder of the Biology & Society program, Associate Director of the Division of Biological Sciences, and Chair of the Section of Genetics & Development (1990-93). His research involved studies of several model microorganisms and he taught microbial genetics to multiple generations of Cornell students.

Stan started his Ph.D. work with James Moulder, studying animal viruses that multiplied within the cells of chick embryos. Chick cells are relatively complex but they were chosen not for love of chickens but because they provided a simple way of studying virus multiplication in complex animal cells. His doctoral work was significant in that it provided some of the earliest evidence that a group of diseases that are currently considered a major public health problem were caused not by a virus but rather a small bacterium that lived inside animal cells.

In selecting Salvador Luria as a postdoctoral mentor, Stan displayed his inclination towards genetics and an acknowledgement that the
most progress comes after carefully selecting a system with minimal complexity that is amenable to genetic manipulation. Salvador Luria was closely associated with a small group of biophysicists, geneticists, and microbiologists that focused on bacterium Escherichia coli (E. coli) and viruses that multiply only within E. coli. Later, thousands of scientists worldwide worked with laser-like focus on this system, performing genetic, biochemical and physiological studies that became the underpinnings of modern molecular biology (documented in Phage and the Origins of Molecular Biology by Cairns and Stent).

Stan then joined the Department of Microbiology within the medical school at the University of Washington where he continued working with E. coli but also assigned more practical problems to some of his medical and dental students. In 1959, Stan moved to Cornell University as a faculty member, initially within a Department of Dairy Science, but after several re-organizations, as a member of the Division of Biological Sciences.

With this major move, Stan changed the direction of his research to the developmental biology of Myxococcus xanthus (M. xanthus). This area of research had strong appeal because of its potential for becoming a model system for studying development (with abundant food, M. xanthus cells glide along as a swarm of individual cells but when starved, they develop into a multicellular fruiting body). This subject also appealed to another facet of his personality, namely, a profound love for biology in its totality. On the other hand, this was a recognized risky undertaking because the methods for studying this organism were not yet worked out. Anthony Bretscher, a current member of our department, commented that Stan pioneered the study of the social bacterium M. xanthus that he later worked on as a graduate student at Stanford and that they both left the field because Myxo was too difficult to work on. The nature of the difficulty, according to Ernest Hemphill, one of Stan’s first graduate students at Cornell, was that although they could isolate mutant strains of M. xanthus, they couldn’t devise genetic tools such as transformation, transduction or plasmids to further analyze the mutants.

A sabbatical year in 1966-67 provided Stan with a new direction that suited him in all ways and became the focus of his work for the next 27 years. Working with John Spizizen at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Stan learned some of the novel genetic approaches that were making Bacillus subtilis (B. subtilis) an attractive model organism, allowing in depth analysis of one of the two major groups of bacteria (E. coli being the model organism for the other major group). Returning to Cornell after his sabbatical leave, Stan and his students set to work isolating mutant strains of B. subtilis and employing viruses and other genetic means to map the location of genes that had been altered by mutation. They and
others used these strains and map information to explore a number of phenomena, including the mechanisms and effects of gene exchange in *B. subtilis* and other gram-positive organisms. Their findings had implications for understanding the spread of antibiotic resistance genes in pathogens such as *Streptococcus*, *Staphylococcus* and *Listeria*.

Zahler’s extensive knowledge of Bacillus genetics and his vast collection of stains made him a sought-after expert when the organism became a major source of secreted enzymes used by biotechnology companies, according to Steve Zinder, professor of microbiology.

The thousands of mutant strains isolated in the laboratory also provided the broad opportunity of studying the metabolism of *B. subtilis*, that is, the pathways by which the organism acquires and breaks down food and uses the resulting building blocks and energy to build new cells. Stan chose to focus mainly on those pathways leading to the synthesis of branched-chain amino acids valine, isoleucine, and leucine. Ruth Korman, who did her doctoral work with Joshua Lederberg and who remained a fast friend of Stan’s until her death, joined the lab during this period.

Another scientist whom Stan deeply admired was Thomas Eisner, a neurobiologist at Cornell with whom he had a brief collaboration. Tom was known for uncovering layer after layer of complexity underlying insect ecology and behavior, all beginning from some simple initial observation. It was Stan’s wish that there was to be a single scientific talk at his retirement party and that it was to be given by Tom. Some of us remember that talk as one of his signature “stories” of how an insect in Florida could stay attached to a plant in the face of gale-force winds.

Stan’s interest in teaching matched his scholarship interests. Peter Bruns, recalled him as a consummate scholar, a literature devotee, a man with an open mind, a colleague who was interested in a broad range of ideas, and an effective teacher with a very impressive reputation.

Stan taught microbial genetics courses to advanced undergraduates and graduate students across the campus, some 2,000 students during his Cornell career. The exam questions for his lecture course were legendary – they did not have simple answers and one was free to consult any written resource in answering them. One of us writing this memorial statement (JMC) remembers Stan throwing reprints of papers he had read into a carton box in his office and that once each year he tossed out his old lecture notes and replaced them with new ones prepared from newer reprints. And Anthony Bretscher, recalling that he sat in on Stan’s course as a young faculty member commented “…saying he was a ‘voracious reader’
doesn’t quite capture it… I think he knew every paper on bacterial gene regulation!”

In a separate laboratory course, each student isolated one or several \textit{B. subtilis} mutants that differed in some respect from the parent. For example, one might not be able to make a vitamin, another unable to grow at a high temperature, and a third able to grow in the presence of an antibiotic. For each mutant, students used genetics methods to determine if the observed effect was caused by a single mutation, and if so, where that mutation was located on the genetic map. Many of these mutants became part of the collection of strains that were freely shared with the rest of the international community (all identified by prefix CU denoting Cornell University).

Stan retired in 1994, and in 2000, he and his wife Jan began wintering in Cardiff-by-the-Sea, California and spending summers at a cottage on a small lake near Ithaca. Each autumn and fall over a 10-year period, they traversed the continent by car, exploring every corner of the country and parts of Canada as they went.

Stanley Zahler is survived by his wife of 63 years, three children, and 3 grandchildren, is remembered warmly by family and colleagues as someone of enormous integrity and deep humility.

\textit{Joseph M. Calvo, chair; David B. Wilson and Eric Alani}