



Pawprint

A Newspaper by and for the Cornell Community

Skorton speaks of 'hope, optimism and confidence' in address to employees

Gannett Health Services receives Employee Assembly Appreciation Award

LAUREN GOLD, CORNELL CHRONICLE

The last 18 months have been extraordinary, said President David Skorton, and possibly one of the most challenging periods in Cornell's history.

But in looking forward, all the evidence supports an outlook of "hope, optimism and confidence," Skorton said to about 400 staff and faculty members in the Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts' Kiplinger Theatre Oct. 12. The annual talk – Skorton's fourth – was sponsored by the Employee Assembly.

He began by thanking employees for "staying the course" and continuing to accomplish goals despite a smaller workforce. Faculty and staff have also been providing "hugely, hugely valuable feedback" in ways to increase efficiencies and save money. "I thank you very much for being part of this process," he said.

In the continuing effort to build a university that is stronger yet leaner, Skorton cited recently announced changes that will save \$90 million by boosting efficiencies in areas such as procurement, information technology, facilities and utilities and by simplifying the university's complex organizational structure. Those changes will significantly reduce the 2015 budget deficit of \$135 million while retaining jobs, he said.

"My goal is to do as much as we can, and at least go half the distance – at least – in savings that will not require workforce reduction," Skorton said.

In eliminating jobs, he said, "we're going to be targeted in how we do it. We're going to work with you; we're going to continue to be transparent."

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President David Skorton addresses faculty and staff in the Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts' Kiplinger Theatre Oct. 12.

Benefits deadlines and decisions abound for faculty and staff

PAUL BURSIC, DIRECTOR OF BENEFIT SERVICES

September through December are typically the times that employers and insurance vendors consider changes to health and dental plans that will be effective the following year. Cornell faculty and staff have a number of benefits plans decisions to make in the months ahead, many with different deadlines.

Medical and dental plans

Endowed employees must execute changes to their health and dental plans or sign up for Select Benefits during the endowed Open Enrollment Period, Nov. 1-30.

Contract college employees make their determinations during the designated Option Transfer Period, which will be set by New York State. The state does not inform Cornell when that period begins until the day it begins; it then lasts for 30 days.

Flexible spending accounts

In September, New York State sent Cornell's contract-college employees in the NY-SHIP program a notice of the enrollment period for New York State flexible spending accounts, which are different from Cornell's Select Benefits accounts. Flexible spending accounts are for state employees who are not part of Cornell.

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Turn clocks back Sunday, November 1

Check smoke detector batteries

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 1, when the area returns to Standard Time. Returning to Standard Time is also an opportunity to check the smoke detector batteries in your home and replace any that are worn out.



H1N1 vaccine allotment establishes need for clear prioritization

Messages related to influenza vaccination have included a lot of "hurry up and wait" language this semester. "Vaccination is more important than ever—get yours as soon as you can." "Vaccine supplies are limited at the present time—please be patient and watch for announcements." This is the complex reality of the moment, but change appears to be on the horizon.

Gannett Health Services received its first shipment of H1N1 influenza vaccine on Friday (1600 doses—half shots, half FluMist), the first of several expected in the coming weeks. The CDC has said that eventually everyone who wants to get H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccines will be able to. However, when supplies are limited in a particular area, as they are now in Ithaca, CDC guidance specifies that vaccines be given according to priorities based on those at most risk of getting the flu or of complications related to the flu.

Of particular concern are children and young adults, as they have experienced a higher incidence of flu and serious flu complications. Gannett is the primary health care provider for the student body, and will begin offering H1N1 vaccinations to them this week. Those students with underlying health conditions and those who are pregnant or who care for infants under six months old will be vaccinated first. They can call Gannett this week to schedule an appointment. With the next delivery, Gannett hopes to expand the H1N1 vaccine program to all other students under the age of 25.

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Skorton, Fuchs Announce Reorganization of Central University Administration

President David Skorton and Provost Kent Fuchs have announced a reorganization of the central university administration, aimed at establishing a more integrated leadership team, and streamlining university management. In all, the plan involves elimination of several positions in the central administration with a projected savings of over \$2 million per year.

Skorton commented: "We made these decisions after a careful analysis of each of the key positions in the central administration, a thorough review of benchmarks from peer institutions, and substantive discussions with key leaders of those universities. By reducing layers in our organization, we will be able to operate more efficiently and cost-effectively. This initiative will set an example for other entities within the Cornell campus."

Skorton announced the elimination of the positions of Executive Vice President and Vice President for Risk Management and Public Safety and the assumption of additional duties by several sitting administrators. Under the new plan, the president will oversee the Investment Office, the Audit Office, and, for the present, the division of Facilities Services. In addition to leading Facilities Services, Vice President Kyu Whang will take responsibility for the Office of Environmental Compliance and Sustainability. University Counsel and Secretary of the Corporation Jim Mingle will continue to coordinate all university risk management functions and will oversee the Office of Risk Management. Vice President Mary Opperman will oversee the activities of the Cornell University Police Department, as well as the offices of Emergency Planning and Recovery, Environmental Health and Safety, and Risk Management Strategic Initiatives.

Provost Fuchs announced elimination of the position of vice provost for life sciences. He will work with Robert Buhrman, senior vice provost for research, to provide the necessary support for the faculty and research in the life sciences

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Message from President Skorton to CUFA Staff

—October 20, 2009

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to share my decisions about the ongoing operation of the areas that had been under the able leadership of Executive Vice President Steve Golding. I want to thank all of you for the patience you have demonstrated while I undertook my review. I also want to thank Curtis Ostrander for continuing to oversee the areas of Risk Management and Public Safety during this interim period.

In reaching these decisions, I relied heavily on my conversations with CUFA leaders and with many of you and on the very good work of Bain and Company, who provided me with data about how other universities manage these operations. After much consideration, I have made the following decisions, which I will announce to the campus in a broader message that will be sent out later today.

I have decided to eliminate the positions of Executive Vice President and Vice President for Risk Management and Public Safety. I, and others on the senior team will assume oversight responsibility for these critical functions. This plan will reduce costs and simplify our management structures. Vice President and CFO Joanne DeStefano will report directly to me. I will oversee the Investment Office, the Audit Office, and, for the present, Facilities Services. In addition to leading Facilities Services, Vice President Kyu Whang will take responsibility for the Office of Environmental Compliance and Sustainability. As you know Kyu has already taken responsibility for the Office of Real Estate. University Counsel and Secretary of the Corporation Jim Mingle will continue to coordinate all university risk management functions and will now oversee the Office of Risk Management. Vice President Mary Opperman will oversee the activities of the Cornell University Police Department, as well as the offices of Emergency Planning and Recovery, Environmental Health and Safety, and the RMPs Office of Strategic Initiatives. The critical activities of Cornell Information Technology will be overseen by Joanne DeStefano in an innovative partnership with Provost Fuchs and Dean of the Faculty of Computing and Information Sciences Dan Huttenlocher, working with Interim Executive Director Steve Schuster.

Soon you will be meeting with those who will assume oversight of your areas. This university is very fortunate that these operations are led by extremely talented leaders who have, and will continue to, oversee their areas with skill. There will now be fewer layers between these core operations and me, and I am confident that this new structure will not only save money, but result in increased efficiency.

Again, I thank you for your patience during this period of uncertainty. While the university still faces challenges, I am confident that we are well positioned to emerge from them stronger and with a greater clarity about the core missions of this great institution.

Best Regards,



Mental health coverage to change criteria on Jan. 1

PAUL BURSIC, DIRECTOR OF BENEFIT SERVICES

Recent federal legislation mandates health plans to cover mental health and substance abuse treatment in the same manner as other medically necessary treatment. The endowed health plans for active and retired faculty and staff will comply with this new requirement Jan. 1, with very little impact on costs anticipated, since Cornell is already one of the employers offering a generous, comprehensive mental health/substance abuse program.

The endowed health plans will consider medical, surgical and mental health care coverage using the same evidence-based criteria for treatment. The endowed plans will no longer limit in-patient mental health stays to 45 days, nor limit the number of outpatient counseling visits to 50 per year. Continuing treatment will be subject to the same test of medical necessity that governs coverage for all treatment.

(Note to contract college employees: New York state must also comply with the mental health parity legislation but has not yet released details on how compliance will affect mental health plan provisions.)

College of Human Ecology salutes outstanding staff at annual awards program

The College of Human Ecology held its annual staff recognition and service awards event on October 6. Each year, faculty and staff have the opportunity to nominate individuals who go “above and beyond” to support the mission of the college. This year there were seven nominations: Angelica Hammer, Policy Analysis and Management; Lillian Henry, Policy Analysis and Management; Chuck Hunt, Computer Services Group; Athena Kalandros, Division of Nutritional Sciences; Michele Draiss, Fiber Science & Apparel Design; Bonnie Biata, Human Development; and a team of four Facilities staff—Lance Streeter, Jeff Surine, Tony Pesco and Al Armstrong. The 2009 College of Human Ecology Staff Recognition Award

Employee Celebration Day draws 2,300 participants

NANCY DOOLITTLE

There’s nothing like football, falling leaves and food to bring the Cornell community together. And Harvard’s win against the Big Red (28-10) didn’t dampen the enthusiasm, Oct. 10 at Employee Celebration Day.

About 2,300 staff members, retirees, faculty and their families lined up in Barton Hall for a chicken barbecue or pasta Provençal dinner, served by volunteers, President David Skorton and his wife, Professor Robin Davisson, and such senior administrators as Vice President for Alumni Affairs and Development Charles Phlegar, Vice President for Government and Community Relations Stephen Johnson and Vice President for Human Resources Mary George Opperman.

Entertainment was provided by CrossRoad Clown, the Cornell bear and the Cornell Marching Band, while Cornell University Police offered a variety of activities for children.

Participants also attended such sporting events as Cornell’s Big Red volleyball against Dartmouth and men’s and women’s soccer against Harvard.

Special thanks go to Joe DiMarco, Environmental Health and Safety, for lining up the fire truck display; Gene Nighman and Kath Fenzel, Athletic Ticket Office, ticket sales; Nancy Pagliaro, University Counsel’s Office, catering and volunteer servers; and Kelly Chan, Academic Technical Support and User Services, take-out coordinator.

“This great committee, also composed of Scott Gruver, Julia Leonard, Judi Eastburn, Amy Stewart and Katrina Blair, organized this event,” said Cheryl McGraw, event coordinator for the Division of Human Resources. “They took on the leadership for whole pieces of this event and made it their own.”

Staff from the Department of Building Care, the Grounds Department, Transportation and Mail Services, Project Design and Construction,



Liam Sparks, 2, dons his shades while his parents Jed and Kim Sparks, both ecology and evolutionary biology, look on during the Cornell football game against Harvard at Schoellkopf Field.

and Cornell Catering, along with students from Cornell Tradition and Alpha Phi Omega, provided support services.

The event was sponsored by the Division of Human Resources, Department of Athletics and Physical Education, Cornell Catering and Pepsi.

BENEFITS DEADLINES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Contract college employees interested in the pre-tax advantages of flexible spending accounts – and especially employees receiving child care grants – must enroll in Cornell’s Select Benefits during the Option Transfer Period.

Employees will soon receive the benefits annual report from Human Resources. The report will include a notice about contributions to Cornell’s tax-deferred retirement accounts (TDA). Endowed and contract-college employees can enroll in or change the amounts they contribute to a TDA – or transfer funds from one investment fund to another – at any time during the year. However, if you decide to enroll in or change the amounts withdrawn from your paycheck and want that change instituted with your first paycheck in January, you must submit a new form with those changes by Nov. 30. If you don’t care when the changes become effective, you can ignore this deadline.

Recap of dates for Cornell employees to remember

Oct. 19-31: Special enrollment period for Cornell’s Group Life Insurance, open to endowed and contract college faculty and staff. See <www.ohr.cornell.edu/whatsNew/whatsNewBenefits/whatsNewBenefitsLife10-09.html>.

Nov. 1-30: Open enrollment in health, dental and Cornell Select Benefits Medical Care and Dependent Care accounts, open to endowed faculty and staff. See <www.ohr.cornell.edu/benefits/openEnrollment.html>. Federal law prohibits Cornell from accepting enrollments after Nov. 30.

For 30 days following New York State’s announcement (to come) of 2010 health care rates: Option Transfer Period for New York State health and Cornell Select Benefits Medical Care and Dependent Care accounts, open to contract college faculty and staff. See <www.ohr.cornell.edu/benefits/openEnrollment.html>. Federal law prohibits Cornell from accepting enrollments for Select Benefits beyond the 30-day Option Transfer Period, or Dec. 31, whichever is earlier.

Nov. 30: The final date to ensure that changes to your TDAs are instituted by the first paycheck in January. However, federal law allows you to change your retirement contribution at any time.

ADDRESS TO EMPLOYEES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

And while there is no firm timeline for the changes, he said the administration is getting closer to making key decisions.

Meanwhile, Skorton encouraged employees to apply for open positions, emphasizing that jobs are carefully vetted before they are posted. The university’s hiring pause, he added in answering a question, will continue into the foreseeable future.

In imagining the Cornell of the future, Skorton said, perspective is crucial. “This is the 145th year of this university, that was just rated 15th university in the world,” he said. “We’re going to be having this conversation for a long time ... Have confidence in the future, because I do. There is no reason not to.”

He urged employees to keep sending suggestions for cost savings. “Don’t be bashful to send me an e-mail ... give us your input ... we greatly value it.”

And while recent news has focused on challenges, he noted, it’s important to remember the university’s strengths.

Cornell continues to attract a talented and increasingly diverse student body – including this year’s most racially diverse freshman class in the university’s history, he said. As an employer, Cornell has earned recent recognition from AARP, Working Mother magazine and other sources. And the university’s faculty continues to bring prestige and recognition through a variety of avenues.

The event began with special recognition to the staff of Gannett Health Services, who collectively earned this year’s Employee Appreciation Award for their deft response in handling the H1N1 virus on campus. It was the first time the award, which recognizes outstanding contributions and continuing service, went to a group rather than to an individual.

Speaking as a physician, Skorton urged all employees to get vaccinated against both the seasonal flu and H1N1. “And if you do come down with something ... don’t be afraid to stay home and take care of yourself,” he said.

“It’s nice to hear that he’s one of us,” said Karen Moore, a finance transactions specialist for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. “He’s our leader, but he’s one of us.”

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

CAPE fall lecture series continues Oct. 22

All are invited to attend the popular series of free presentations sponsored by CAPE. Fall 2009 presentations, all taking place at Boyce Thompson Institute Auditorium, include:

Thursday, October 22; 10:00 a.m.; *A Libertarian Welfare State: Governing with a Lighter Touch* by Professor Emeritus Bob Frank

Thursday, November 5; 10:00 a.m.; *The Obama Foreign Policy: An Historian’s One-Year Perspective* by Professor Emeritus Walt La Feber

Thursday, December 3; 3:00 p.m.; *Theater Around the World and On the Internet* by Professor Emeritus Karen Brazell

Wellness rock climbing course announced

If you ever wanted to try rock climbing, why not try out this unique activity during your lunch break. Our Wellness Rock Climbing course requires no previous experience. The course introduces you to rock climbing equipment, knots, rope handling, belaying, safety, and various climbing techniques.

Graduates of the class will be certified to belay at the Lindseth Climbing Wall and will be on their way to climbing on their own for fun and fitness. The class meets from Noon to 1:15 p.m. on November 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, December 1 and 3.

The course fee is \$100. Call 255-6183 for more information or to enroll. You do not need to be a Cornell Wellness member to participate.

Final Breast Cancer and the Estrogen Connection lecture—October 26

Don’t miss the final breast cancer lecture presented by Suzanne Snedeker, PhD, from the program on Breast Cancer and Environmental Risk Factors (BCERF).

• “Breast Cancer: Environmental Estrogens that Go in the Dump and Down the Drain,” Monday, Oct. 26, noon-1:00p.m., Hagan Room, Schurman Hall

For more information contact Suzanne at <sm31@cornell.edu>. Attend one lecture or all. Registration required. No limit on number of attendees. To register, call 254-2985.

Networking event connects layoffs with Cornell opportunities

NANCY DOOLITTLE

On Oct. 7, the Division of Human Resources held its first “Connecting with Cornell” informal networking event to help connect laid-off Cornell employees with the HR staff who recruit for Cornell positions.

The event generated such comments from participants as: “I was able to be myself and approach people at my own pace and timeline”; “I think it was a great way to connect with the HR people at Cornell” and “The Wedge Group and our HR representatives are helping everyone make the best of a difficult time, and their positive outlook and enthusiasm make a world of difference.”

In addition to members of the Division of Human Resources from across campus, representatives from the Wedge Group were on hand. The Wedge Group is an outsourcing consulting group that helps Cornell’s laid off employees prepare for and conduct a successful job search.

“We also offer a three-day workshop to Cornell’s layoffs to help them adjust to their loss, learn to develop networks and interview successfully” said Georgia Entwistle, Wedge Group consultant. “Having a meeting such as this one provides an extra avenue for networking, as well as practice in an informal interviewing situation.”

About 30 recruiters and candidates came to the session, which allowed for ample time for each job-seeker to network with several recruiters.

“We were trying to find ways to match former Cornell staff with recruiters who may have openings now or in the future,” said Lucy Pola, assistant director of human resources in the College of Human Ecology and an organizing committee member. “We hope to continue to offer ‘Connecting with Cornell’ events to connect laid-off staff with Cornell’s human resource professionals, allow our recently laid-off talent to become aware of emerging opportunities and provide individuals on layoff status with opportunities to polish their networking skills.”

For more information on the services and benefits Cornell offers to laid-off employees, see <www.ohr.cornell.edu/benefits/jobStatus/layoff.html> and <www.dfa.cornell.edu/dfa/cms/treasurer/policyoffice/policies/volumes/humanresources/upload/vol6_12.pdf>.

Enrollment for group life insurance changes ends Oct. 31

PAUL BURSIC, DIRECTOR OF BENEFIT SERVICES

By now, faculty and staff should have received a packet from CIGNA describing a special enrollment period, Oct. 19-31, during which life insurance coverage purchased under the Group Universal Life (GUL) plan – for faculty and staff members, dependents, spouse or same-sex partner – can be increased without medical underwriting or needing to take a medical exam.

At the start of Cornell employment, all employees receive a basic term life insurance policy, equivalent to one-half the amount of their annual salary, up to \$50,000, for which Cornell pays the premiums. New employees can also purchase coverage from one to five times their salary without providing evidence of good health to the insurance company. The GUL plan provides a way for Cornell staff and faculty to increase life insurance coverage based on multiples of one’s annual salary.

Because circumstances and needs change over time, faculty and staff can increase or decrease coverage amounts at any time by contacting CIGNA. Normally, however, if you wish to purchase more life insurance after your first 60 days of employment, you have to submit answers to health-related questions and wait for the insurance company to assess your responses.

During this special enrollment period, if you are a Cornell staff or faculty member currently enrolled in the GUL plan, you can elect additional life insurance protection equal to one times your annual salary without showing proof of good health. Your total coverage cannot exceed 10 times your annual salary or \$2 million. Family members and dependents also may take advantage of the special enrollment period, but the offer is based on fixed amounts of coverage. See the brochure for details, or go to <www.ohr.cornell.edu/whatsNew/whatsNewBenefits/whatsNewBenefitsLife10-09.html>, or call CIGNA life insurance using the contact information below.

You can check the amount of life insurance you already have by referring to the materials sent to your home or going to Employee Essentials at <<https://ee.ohr.cornell.edu>>. If you have any questions about enrolling in the GUL plan, call the CIGNA Customer Service Center at 1-800-231-1193, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Cornell Plantations Lecture Series ends November 11

All lectures, free and open to the public, begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Statler Auditorium. This year’s lecture schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, October 28; Chinese Herbs and Health; Jean Giblette, owner of High Falls Gardens, Inc.

Wednesday, November 11; Farming in Iroquoia: Surprising Comparisons with European Agriculture; Jane Mt. Pleasant, associate professor of horticulture at Cornell University.

Ample free parking is available after 5 p.m. in the parking garage on Hoy Road. Handicapped access is available at the back of the Statler. For more information, visit <www.plantations.cornell.edu> or call 607-255-2400.

On-campus diabetes support group ends November 11

Do you have type 1 or type 2 diabetes or know someone who does? Has your doctor told you that you are pre-diabetic? Just want to learn more about this disease? This is an informal setting for you to share your questions, thoughts and helpful hints to all who are affected by this disease either directly or indirectly. Please come and learn with us and/or share your experiences! For information contact Cathy at <caa2@cornell.edu> or Beth at <bm20@cornell.edu>.

• **Wednesday, Nov. 18,** room 225 ILR Conf. Ctr., noon-1:00 p.m.

• **Wednesday, Dec. 16,** room S3-105 Schurman Hall, noon-1:00 p.m.

Registration preferred but not required. No limit on number of participants. Register here <www.ohr.cornell.edu/workLife/balancing/workshops.html>.

Pawprint

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CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

Tex Tan Flex western trail saddle for horses w/wide backs, 16" seat, ex. cond., \$975, C112 or 5-4376.

1989 Pontiac Firebird, T-top, V6, two-tone custom paint, nice looking, Good project car, \$2,000/obo., MAS71.

4 BR mobile home, Owego park, encl. porch, deck, landscaped corner lot. \$8,50/obo., 731-8358.

Antique pump organ, beveled mirror top, ornate wood carvings, needs some work, \$250/obo., 5-9063 or SH54.

1994 580 EXT Arctic Cat, good cond., \$1,200; crib, walkers, pack-n-play; travel systems, car seats, high chair, bassinet, training potty, ex. cond., MP324.

Solid oak desk w/keyboard tray & hutch, ex. cond., \$195, AHK3.

Evenflo ExerSaucer Smart Steps 1-2-3, clean, ex. cond., \$75, 591-1493 or AT28.

Dexter bowling sneakers, women's, worn twice, sz. 9, white/blue, pict. avail., \$35, HM78 or 5-1991.

FOR RENT

3 BR house, 2 BA, Northeast, 1,500 sq. ft., deck, yard, walk to schools, bus, \$1,295/mo.+util., 279-5551.

1 BR apt., private home, private entrance, 7 mi. to CU, \$800/mo. incl. util., HMH5 or 227-3689.

FREE

Solid wood headboard, twin, in need of TLC, IJK1 or leotohill@gmail.com.

WANTED

Nominations for the George Peter Award for Dedicated Service, awarded to Cornell staff members who consistently demonstrate a high degree of excellence in the performance of their duties. Visit <http://assembly.cornell.edu/EA-GeorgePeter/Home> for more info.

Guidelines for Classified Ads

Free to members of the Cornell community, ads are printed as space permits. Remember to:

- Include name, campus phone, and category.
- Limit ad to 20 words or less.
- Submit only one ad/person.
- Ads selling goods or commercial services on an ongoing basis or promoting employment outside Cornell cannot be accepted.
- To run your ad more than once, you must re-submit it.
- Pawprint is not responsible for errors or unprinted ads, and retains the right to edit or reject any submission.

Submit classifieds ads via:

e-mail: ppclassified@cornell.edu or the Web: www.pawprint.cornell.edu/classifieds.html
If you don't have access to e-mail or the world wide web, call 254-3555 for assistance.

Classified Deadlines:

- Oct 29 for Nov 5 issue • Nov 12 for Nov 19 issue

Outreach and staff-student efforts are continuing on a number of fronts, as Cornell's United Way drive begins in earnest

CU campaign chair, Deputy Provost David Harris, recently attended an Employee Assembly meeting to outline increasing demands on the local social services community tied to the recession. Harris noted that in setting Cornell's 2009 goal of \$725,000, university campaign leaders were sensitive to tough economic times and to reductions in the number of Cornell employees.

In 2008, Cornellians generously contributed almost 40 percent of the total Tompkins County campaign. Because Cornell and other organizations are Cornerstone Contributors, 100 percent of the funds raised by the Tompkins County campaign are put to work locally. Once again this year, the CU staff/faculty participation goal is 20 percent.

Meanwhile, Cornell students continue to be national United Way campus leaders through a variety of innovative fund-raisers, including the well-attended third annual A Cappella United in the Statler Auditorium, and a first-time Homecoming parade that featured more than 30 campus groups and United Way of Tompkins County, all marching with Big Red pride and spirit. Proceeds from entry fees went to the Student United Way Campaign.

To learn more about Cornell's United Way Campaign, including frequently asked questions, how to donate online, and United Way member agencies, access <http://unitedway.cornell.edu>.

SKORTON, FUCHS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

within the research office. As announced in July, Fuchs also eliminated the positions of senior science advisor, associate provost for outreach, and the vice provost for equity and inclusion. The responsibilities of other vice provosts have been broadened to ensure the continuation of work in those areas. Fuchs will continue to review the structure of his office and expects additional changes to be made by the end of the academic year.

Two new administrative teams, to be led by current administrators, have been created to combine the strengths of professional staff and faculty in dealing with complex, interrelated management issues.

One team will be responsible for the oversight and coordination of information technology across the Ithaca campus and will work with counterparts at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City. President Skorton said, "We can now begin to reassess and address the Ithaca campus' IT needs with the establishment of the new Information Technology Governance Committee (ITGC) that will be responsible for establishing overall priorities, making resource allocation decisions, and preparing the annual budget, operating plan, and capital plan in this area." The members of the ITGC include Provost Kent Fuchs, Dean of Computing and Information Sciences Dan Huttenlocher, Chief Financial Officer Joanne DeStefano, and Interim Executive Director of Information Technology Steve Schuster. With this change in IT governance, CIT will now report administratively to Joanne DeStefano.

The other new team will coordinate the various administrative functions responsible for Cornell's relations with its complex array of publics. Said Skorton: "I have asked Glenn Altschuler, the Dean of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions and the Thomas and Dorothy Litwin Professor of American Studies, to take on the additional responsibility of articulating and overseeing university strategies related to communications, government relations, and land grant affairs as well as partnering with communications staff in Alumni Affairs and Development in coordinating all major interactions between Cornell and its many constituencies. While remaining dean, Altschuler will serve in the new capacity of Vice President for University Relations, subject to Executive Committee ratification. Vice President Tommy Bruce, Vice President Stephen Johnson and Vice Provost Ronald Seeber will maintain their current responsibilities for their respective organizations and Vice President Altschuler will play a critically important leadership and coordination role in our new environment of strategic planning."

Skorton and Fuchs also announced the elimination of three support positions in 300 Day Hall. "The talented and devoted staff are also assuming substantially increased individual responsibilities," said Skorton.

The new administrative structures will be effective November 1.

CORNELL RECREATION CONNECTION

Your Connection to Fun!

Friday, October 30 Halloween Happenings

Don't miss the Annual Halloween Costume Party at noon on Friday, October 30, in the Willard Straight Hall Memorial Room.

Enjoy cider, pizza and doughnuts as costumed zanies compete for prizes in the Most Original, Funniest, Scariest and Best Department/Group categories. The parade of costumes begins at 12:00 p.m.

Are you on the list? Contact Cheryl McGraw at crm54@cornell.edu and join the Events/Trips Email List to hear about new trips as they are announced.

**Employee Outreach Desk • 255-7565
130 Day Hall • crm54@cornell.edu
www.crc.cornell.edu**

H1N1 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After that, staff and faculty with underlying health conditions will become eligible for on-campus H1N1 vaccination. Eventually, Gannett expects to have enough vaccine for staff, faculty, and students over 25 without such conditions. In the meantime, Gannett encourages faculty and staff—especially those with conditions that put them at higher risk for flu—to seek vaccination from their personal physicians or local health department, rather than wait for vaccine on campus. Parents should seek vaccination of children through pediatricians, schools, or health department clinics.

Like the CDC, Gannett is a strong proponent of influenza vaccination, calling it "the best way to reduce your own risk of illness and protect those who are not able to get vaccinated." While the campus waits for additional H1N1 vaccine to be delivered, Gannett underscores the importance of keeping your immune system strong by getting enough sleep and exercise, eating well, and using the stress management techniques that work well for you.

The other risk reduction strategies that were demonstrably successful in slowing the spread of flu on campus earlier this semester continue to be important:

- Frequent, careful handwashing; covering coughs and sneezes; avoiding touching the eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands; never sharing cups, bottles, or smoking devices with others.
- Staying out of circulation when you are sick with a flu-like illness to recover your health and protect the health of others.
- Getting vaccinated against SEASONAL flu. Although the traditional flu season is still a few months away, it's a good time to get vaccinated. Though flu shots are temporarily in short supply, Gannett does have seasonal FluMist for those who are 49 or younger, are not pregnant, and do not have asthma or a compromised immune system. FluMist is available by appointment (call 255-5155) and for walk-ins at Gannett. A seasonal FluMist clinic is being held at the Vet School Atrium on Thursday, October 22, from noon to 4. (Bring your Cornell ID for free FluMist.)

Whenever new information is available about vaccination, it will be posted on the Cornell flu page (www.cornell.edu/flu), the Gannett web site (www.gannett.cornell.edu), and distributed through announcements in the *Cornell Chronicle* and *Pawprint*.

Pawprint Picks

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26 (7:30PM)

Lab of Ornithology Monday Night Seminar— "What's in a song?"

Join Jeff Podos, Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (159 Sapsucker Woods Road) for "What's in a song?"

Bird songs contain a wealth of information about the bird itself—including its social status, health, and ability to perform physically challenging motor skills. This seminar will cover some of the most recent



advances on this topic, with special focus sparrows and warblers.

Admission is free. For more information, call (800) 843-BIRD (2473) or visit www.birds.cornell.edu.



NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 1

Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music at the Schwartz Center

Feisty Eve Wilfong lives above Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music, a former biker bar turned "Saturday night hangout." Eve attempts to give her niece, a novice nun who has been asked to leave the convent due to a curious compulsion to shout profanities at odd times, advice about life and love in a mad, modern, backcountry world.

For tickets, visit www.schwartztickets.com or call (607) 254-ARTS (2787).