Response from Provost Kent Fuchs – January 26, 2011
Climate of Academic Integrity and Purchase of Turnitin Resolutions

I am writing in response to the two December 8, 2010, resolutions of the Faculty Senate regarding academic integrity. The first resolution is entitled “Educational Policy Committee Resolution Calling for Cornell University to Create an Initiative to Develop Approaches to a Climate of Academic Integrity,” and the second is entitled “EPC Resolution on Cornell Purchasing a University-wide License for Turnitin.”

First, I would like to thank the Educational Policy Committee and the Faculty Senate for their consideration of the issues around academic integrity and for their formulation of these approaches. I agree that academic dishonesty presents a significant challenge at Cornell and at other colleges and universities across the U.S. and that the most effective response begins with a proactive, educational initiative, and includes a means of detection and deterrence.

Thus, I have charged Vice Provost Laura Brown to create an initiative to promote academic integrity, and to pursue the additional option of providing access to the web-based detection tool, Turnitin. We will begin planning for this initiative immediately and will expect to initiate programming during 2011-12.