Faculty Senate

October 11, 2017
Announcements
The Faculty Handbook Project

The Problems

Broken links, inconsistencies, illogical structure, hard to maintain

Proposed Solution

Visit this restructured, rough draft version of the Handbook obtained via cut-and-pasting and greater reliance upon links that work.

Would like to form a small group that will step through the tenure track promotion part and produce cleaner, consistent procedures.

All changes carefully reviewed by the Senate, the academic Deans, the Department Chairs, and the Provost.
The preliminary report gives “all-respondent” results to questions like

All things considered, if you had to do it all over again would you choose to be a faculty member/academic at Cornell?

To what extent do you have confidence in the decisions made by the central administration?
All things consider, if you had to do it all over again, would you choose to be a faculty member/academic at Cornell?

- TTT faculty: 6% Definitely not, 14% Probably not, 31% Maybe, 47% Probably would, 4% Definitely would
- Academic professionals: 4% Definitely not, 15% Probably not, 34% Maybe, 45% Probably would, 4% Definitely would
- Academic short term: 3% Definitely not, 8% Probably not, 19% Maybe, 30% Probably would, 40% Definitely would

If a candidate for a position similar to yours asked you about your department or unit as a place to work, would you:

- TTT faculty: 7% Not recommend, 39% Recommend, 54% Strongly recommend
- Academic professionals: 6% Not recommend, 46% Recommend, 49% Strongly recommend
- Academic short term: 8% Not recommend, 42% Recommend, 49% Strongly recommend
2016 Work-Life Survey Results

Faculty need to see what the responses look like by age, race, gender, rank, discipline, and college.

BUT, dashboards must be carefully designed to preserve anonymity.

See earlier survey reports.

Q. How do we interpret the results and elevate the campus discussion so that we make progress on the problems that are exposed?
Provost’s Review of the Social Sciences

So Far:

1. Internal committee report
2. External committee report
3. Input from faculty in the social sciences.

Next, three committees will work on:

1. Organizational structure of the social sciences
2. Identifying areas for Radical Collaboration
3. Administrative Issues
Provost’s Review of the Social Sciences: Timeline

Organization structure of the social sciences
Committee develops options followed by campus discussion

Identifying areas for Radical Collaboration
“What Idea Panels” spark public discussion followed by radical collaboration committee work

Administrative Issues
Address administrative concerns raised by reports and feedback.
Provost’s Review of the Social Sciences

For details and continued updates, see the Provost’s website:

http://provost.cornell.edu/academic-initiatives/provosts-review-social-sciences/

Questions, comments, or concerns email ssreview@cornell.edu
Modifying the Campus Code

This [webpage](#) has the Code and the rules associated with the modification process. The process looks like this:

1. Codes and Judicial Committee:
   - R. Bensel
   - R. Lieberwitz
   - D. Putnam

2. The University Assembly:
   - R. Bensel
   - M. Hatch
   - R. Howarth
   - E. Loew
   - C. Van Loan

3. President

4. Trustees:
   - B. Lowenstein
   - M. Wolfner

Only for Title 4 Changes (Public Order)
Need to Hold a Pro Forma Election

**UFC**
- Rosemary Avery  (Human Ecology)
- Cynthia Bowman  (Law)
- Harry de Gorter  (Dyson)
- Shannon Gleeson  (ILR)
- Kimberly O'Brien  (Nutritional Sciences)

**Nominations & Elections**
- Julia Finkelstein  (Human Ecology)
- Ruth Richardson  (Engineering)

**Senator-at-Large**
- Rosemary Avery  (Human Ecology)
- Michael Mazourek  (CALS)
- Rob Thorne  (A&S)
- Suman Seth  (A&S)

Bad math all over the Place:  \#vacancies \>= \#candidates. This is a serious problem that needs to be addressed.
On the Expanded New Student Orientation

Peggy Arcadi, Director

New Student Programs
Orientation is Longer Starting in 2018-19

Current: Fri – Sat – Sun – Mon

New: Fri – Sat – Sun – Mon – Tue - Wed

How should we use the extra time?
Orientation: The Players

New Student Programs + Graduate School Programs

College Orientation Programs + Field and Masters Programs
Challenges for New Student Programs

What’s Mandated vs. What’s Optional

Coordination with the Colleges

Making sure students always have something to do.

Recruiting and training 300-400 ugrad volunteers
Utilizing the Extra Two Days

Should the freshman book project be resurrected in some new form?

More on academic integrity?

More on the free speech issue?

More cross-college intermingling?
Evaluation of Cornell’s Learning Management System (LMS): An Update

Julia Thom-Levy

Vice Provost for Academic Innovation
Cornell’s LMS: Blackboard Learn

• Last evaluated in 2007. License up for renewal June 2018
• Major educational technology tool at Cornell* - important that it meets faculty needs now and in the future
• Chance to evaluate experience for teachers and students, look at alternatives
• Chance to widen/unify use across campus, and use of effective pedagogical technology in the classroom
• Project started in Spring 17 with a faculty survey. Today’s talk is a mid-point project update. No decisions have been made.

*Roughly 2/3 of CU courses use Blackboard. Exceptions: CIS, CVM, Weill, individual instructors. Reasons: Blackboard not best fit, or reluctance to use any LMS
LMS evaluation plan- overview

Achieve broad faculty/students/staff participation in the review process to ensure that Cornell’s needs are met as best we can

Who is conducting the review:

• Team co-led by staff from CIT and Center for Teaching Innovation: Todd Maniscalco, J.P. Brannan, Rob Vanderlan, Chloe DeShong, Matt Ouellett

• Academic Liaison: Julia Thom-Levy

Outcome of the Review:

• Report to the Faculty Senate and to the Provost

Review content:

• Feedback and data about current Blackboard system (and support service), and if it meets the current and future needs

• In-depth feedback about 3 alternative products: Canvas, Brightspace, Blackboard Ultra
LMS Evaluation Overview: Timeline

Begin
Initial evaluation of needs and options

Instructor survey, interviews; Technical testing

Pilot FA 17
Canvas, Brightspace, and Blackboard Ultra

Decision
Report findings to Provost’s Office for decision.

Dec 2016  Feb 2017  Aug 2017  Nov 2017  Apr 2018  May 2018
Begin  Initial inquiries, testing  Pilot  Eval  Decision
Completed

• Sent faculty survey to 2,566 faculty, **28%** response rate

• Completed and transcribed over **50** faculty interviews. Analysis in progress.

• Procured and implemented pilot systems with Blackboard Ultra, Brightspace, and Canvas.

• Completed an initial summer pilot session with one course in all three systems.

• Recruited representative faculty and launched **32** Fall pilot courses.
Ongoing

• **Fall Pilots**
  • Our fall pilot consists of a diverse and representative group of faculty from all colleges, wide range of disciplines and use cases.
  • Almost 3000 students are enrolled in pilot courses and their feedback will be included in the analysis

• **Requirements Gathering**
  • Continuing to meet with faculty and staff from around the campus to gain a clear understanding of their needs.
Upcoming

• **Round Table Discussions**
  • Discussion groups are being planned for TAs, administrators, and students. If you know anyone who would like to be involved, please have them contact us at lmseval@cornell.edu

• **Student Blackboard Poll**
  • Students who log into Blackboard will be prompted with an opportunity to provide feedback in a survey similar to faculty survey sent in March.
November Information Sessions

A chance to leave input, ask question, see LMS systems, try out empty test course.

These will be held at:

- Sage Hall Atrium: November 2nd from 10:00am – 1:30pm
- Duffield Hall Passage: November 6th from 11:00am – 3:00pm
- Mann Library Lobby: November 7th from 11:00am – 3:00pm
- Klarman Atrium: November 9th from 11:00am – 3:00pm
Get Involved

Try It Out

Go to it.cornell.edu/lmseval and click on “Try it out” to request an empty test course.

Your feedback is critical to the success of this project. To share your thoughts please email us as lmseval@cornell.edu.
Spring 2018

• **Final Report**
  - Will include the faculty survey and interview analysis, requirements comparisons, pilot analysis, cost comparison, and implications of each option.
  - To be presented to the Provost and Faculty Senate in the Spring of 2018
Backup material
# Team Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Project Role(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Julia Thom-Levy</td>
<td>Provost</td>
<td>Project Sponsor, Executive Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Maniscalco</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Project Director, Executive Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.P. Brannan</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Project Manager, Executive Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marina Tokman</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Technical Lead, Survey Development, Testing, User Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Balko</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Communications, Surveys, Testing, User Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Cheatle</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Communications, Interview Analysis, Surveys, Focus Groups, Testing, User Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe DeShong</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Business Analyst, Surveys, Interviews, Focus Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danica Fisher</td>
<td>CIT</td>
<td>Communications Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Graham</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Technical Team, Testing, User Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roberta Militello</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Moss</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Technical Team, Testing, User Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Udall</td>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Technical Team, Testing, User Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Vanderlan</td>
<td>CTE</td>
<td>Communications, Interviews, Surveys, Testing</td>
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An Overview of Cornell’s Bias Assessment and Review Team

Vijay Pendakur
Dean of Students
UFC-Sponsored Resolution

On Recent Racial Incidents

Professor Durba Ghosh
Resolution: On Recent Racial Incidents

Whereas, throughout the month of September 2017, in several well-publicized incidents detailed in the *Cornell Daily Sun* and the *New York Times*, Cornell students used racial slurs and insults against other students, and

Whereas, on September 15, 2017 one or more students allegedly used racial slurs against a Black Cornell student and violently assaulted him; and
Resolution: On Recent Racial Incidents

Whereas, should the allegations prove true, we note that these incidents are violations of the Campus Code of Conduct to:

“harass another person...by acting toward that person in a manner that is by objective measure threatening, abusive, or severely annoying and that is beyond the scope of free speech,” or

“assault or cause any physical injury to another person on the basis of disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation or affectional preference;” and

Whereas, we, the Faculty Senate, are appalled by these recent attacks and incidents; therefore,
Resolution: On Recent Racial Incidents

Be it Resolved, that the Faculty Senate unequivocally condemns these violent, racist actions; and

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate commits to ensuring that incidents of harassment against persons based on disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation or affectional preference be fully investigated and persons responsible for these acts of harassment be held accountable, and

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate charges all members of the Cornell community to consider how best to heal these harms, and how best to accord all members of our community the equal dignity and respect that is the promise underlying Cornell’s motto, “I would found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study.”
Vote
DoF-to-Faculty Communication Issues

C. Van Loan
Overview

The Dean and the Associate Dean work for the faculty. Their formal responsibilities are set forth in the Faculty Handbook. In particular, the Office of the Dean represents the interests of the faculty to the Trustees and the Administration as well as to students, employees, and alumni. Conversely, it is the responsibility of the Office of the Dean to ensure that the faculty is fully informed about campus issues and the concerns of each university constituency.

Shared governance is one of the keys to creating an environment that genuinely supports faculty teaching and research. Working towards that end, the Office of the Dean strives to make sure that the collective wisdom of the University Faculty is expressed through the Senate and the network of committees that surround it.

Faculty members are encouraged to contact us for assistance in navigating the complexities of both their profession and their university.

Presupposes that faculty regularly visit this page!
Another Way to Reach 1600 Faculty

Presupposes that the committee’s outreach effort is campus-wide inclusive and that committee members are willing to spend a few minutes looking up email addresses etc.
Yet Another Way to Reach 1600 Faculty

mailto: DOF-FACULTY-L

Presupposes no political bias.

Presupposes that “announcing an event” is not equivalent to DoF endorsement of its contents.
Dear Colleagues:

We as faculty must take a stand against racism both on campus and beyond. We must offer unambiguous and tangible support for a fully inclusive Cornell remembering that the opposite of good is indifference.

The Cornell Coalition for Inclusive Democracy is holding an event on the Arts Quad at 12:30 this Wednesday (9/27). It will address current events and reaffirm the call for racial justice. [More details in today's Cornell Sun.]

See you there!
Charlie Van Loan
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The **Cornell Coalition for Inclusive Democracy** is holding an event on the Arts Quad at 12:30 this Wednesday (9/27). It will address current events and reaffirm the call for racial justice.

More details in today's Cornell Sun.

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More details in today's Cornell Sun.

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**Cornell Republicans** are holding an event on the Arts Quad at 12:30 this Wednesday (9/27). It will address current events and reaffirm the call for racial justice.

[More details in today's Cornell Sun.](#)

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More details in today's Cornell Sun.

Have a nice day!
Charlie Van Loan
My Dilemma is a Practical Dilemma

Do I want to spend time trying to figure out what’s political and what isn’t, what’s an endorsement and what isn’t, what’s an exercise in free speech and what isn’t, etc., etc.

Or

Do I want to spend time trying to figure out with colleagues how we might (for example) actually do something constructive about the cultural component of the curriculum as requested by the BSU and other groups?
Going Forward: Principles

A strong and effective faculty needs to be fully informed and fully engaged, especially if we are to promote dialogue and positive change.

We will continue to use the DoF website and the DoF list-serve in this direction.
Going Forward: Steps

1. Promote inclusive outreach by helping event planners do as much of their own advertising as possible.

2. Remind ourselves 24/7 that listening to a talk or attending a protest has nothing to do with content endorsement.

3. “Judgment calls” that concern the DoF website and list-serve will be made by the UFC—not just the DoF.
Good and Welfare

Professor Eric Cheyfitz
Professor Yuval Grossman