Professor Stephen Louis Sass, who pioneered fundamental studies of crystalline interfaces and made great strides in increasing gender diversity in engineering, died in Ithaca, New York on August 15, 2019. He was 79.

Professor Sass was born on March 11, 1940 in Bronx, New York. He received a bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from the City College of New York in 1961 and then carried out graduate studies in the Department of Materials Science at Northwestern University, earning his Ph.D. in 1966. He spent the following year as a postdoctoral researcher at Technische Hogeschool, in Delft, The Netherlands as a Fulbright Scholar. In 1967, he joined Cornell University as an assistant professor, advancing to full professor in 1979. He was elevated to emeritus status in 2008.

Professor Sass was a leader in using transmission electron microscopy to investigate the structure of metals and ceramics at the atomic level. He published more than 130 articles in the refereed literature, which were cited thousands of times worldwide. His careful studies of crystalline interfaces were particularly influential. He worked collaboratively with many of the faculty across the university, and was a Fellow of ASM International, the professional organization of materials scientists and engineers.

He was extremely open-minded and had an infectious enthusiasm for science that sparked conversations and friendships around the world. Professor Sass was an accomplished author, penning the book "The Substance of Civilization: Materials and Human History from the Stone Age to the Age of Silicon". He was also a New York Times Op-Ed contributor, publishing “Scarcity, Mother of Invention” in August 2006. He was dedicated to creating closer connections between Cornell and Chinese universities and travelled to China frequently in that effort. He published another New York Times Op-Ed in January 2014, “Can China Innovate without Dissent?” in which he shared his concern that authoritarian policies can inhibit development of a robust culture of problem-solving.

He served as the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Materials Science and Engineering from 1988-1998 where he began publicizing the excitement of materials science in high schools across the
country, an effort that was instrumental in increasing undergraduate enrollment. He also developed a rigorous undergraduate research program which was a significant factor in recruiting women to the field of materials science and which opened doors for more women to participate in research. Professor Sass took great pride in this and alumni of the program considered it a lifechanging experience. He was very pleased by the outstanding subsequent accomplishments of his graduate and undergraduate research mentees. Among the many distinguished awards Professor Sass received, the Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellowship in 2002 was a source of special pride, recognizing his sustained and distinguished contributions to undergraduate teaching. He also was the first recipient of the Northwestern University Distinguished Achievement Award for Alumni of Materials Science and Engineering in 2012.

Professor Sass is survived by his wife of 53 years, Karen, his two sons Adam and Erik, and two grandchildren, Carol and Levi. He and Karen were very active in the Friends of the Library, Ithaca Chamber Orchestra, and were avid travelers and music lovers.

Written by Bruce van Dover and Lara A. Estroff

Edward Arthur Schano
October 9, 1918 – February 16, 2010

Professor Edward Schano grew up in Buffalo, New York, during the great depression. Money was scarce, jobs were difficult to find and government programs such as the WPA and CCC provided work for the unemployed. Nonetheless after graduation from high school in 1937, Ed found work for a few months in 1940 as a salvage clerk, gathering scrap metal in a radiator shop. He next landed a job bucking rivets at Curtiss-Wright Corporation. Before long he was a riveter, then assembler and eventually an experimental mechanic at the Corporation. He worked on a large variety of airplanes including military aircraft such as the B-17 Flying Fortress, B-24 Liberator, and Curtiss P-40 Warhawk, among others. He enrolled at the University of Buffalo and planned
to work on aircraft for Curtiss-Wright during summers. But in 1941 the Draft Board required that he work full time on aircraft. He managed to continue his education at the University of Buffalo by enrolling in evening courses that were offered by Millard Fillmore College while continuing to work on aircraft during the day. As World War II broke out, Ed was eager to join the Army Air Force but the Draft Board, likely because of his skill as an aviation mechanic, pressed him to continue his work on aircraft. Ed married Evelyn M. Hackspacher in 1942 and their first child, Edward was born a year later.

By mid-1943 Ed was allowed to join the Army Air Cadet Program, graduating as Navigator in 1944, and subsequently serving as Navigator in bombing missions over Europe. After the war, Ed held the position of Information and Education Officer in the U.S. Air Force at the European Air Depot. Ed was honorably discharged as Captain in 1947. He returned to the U.S. and continued his education at the University of Buffalo, completing his sophomore year. In a decision that started him on the path to his professional career, Ed accepted a job in 1948 with the Kreher Poultry Breeding Farm in Amherst N.Y. In 1949 he transferred to the College of Agriculture at Cornell University where he majored in Poultry. He became a member of the Cornell University Poultry Science Club and served as president of the Club in his senior year. He received a B.S. degree in 1951.

As an undergraduate, Ed Schano was employed part-time by the New York State Poultry Improvement Plan and then worked full time as a Record of Performance (R.O.P.) Inspector from 1951-1952. Ed accepted a position as a technologist in the Department of Poultry Science at Cornell University in the fall of 1952. He received an appointment as Assistant Professor in the Department of Poultry Science in 1953. Following completion of an M.S. Degree at Michigan State University in 1957, he was promoted in 1958 to Associate Professor Poultry Science at Cornell University. Ed was promoted to Professor of Poultry Science in 1978 and retired as Professor Emeritus in 1986.

Ed Schano’s charge was to develop an extension program focusing on youth. He developed a marvelous program that used poultry as the ‘hook’ to attract youngsters. He always emphasized that the program was not designed to teach ‘Poultry’ but to use poultry science to help kids develop strengths that would serve them well in their adult lives. Ed’s educational philosophy was summarized in his own words in the FORWARD of the Cornell University Poultry (4-H) Handbook. Ed wrote: “In New York State, we use poultry as an educational tool to help us develop in our youngsters all of the wonderful ideals of initiative, resourcefulness, competence, and integrity that we as parents, leaders, and teachers feel are so important. Let us hope that as we work to develop the potential of our youngsters we will in part begin to fulfill our own.”

Ed vigorously pursued this philosophy by preparing instructional materials and worksheets on a variety of poultry topics for 4-H members, as well as lectures, tapes, and written guidance for adult leaders. He organized 22 Regional Poultry Science Schools across New York State as part of a Teen Leader Program in which youth received training in various aspects of poultry science, public speaking and leadership. The 4-H Agents in each region selected the top candidates as Teen Leaders from their regions and these leaders were offered the opportunity to participate as 4-H Poultry Science Ambassadors at the NYS Fair. These Ambassadors progressed through a variety of positions and leadership roles until the very best of them were selected to participate in a Northeast Poultry judging team, while a few other outstanding Ambassadors were selected for
a Career and Education Opportunities Tour to learn more about the poultry industry. Ed’s gentle, encouraging touch and his infectious enthusiasm was evident throughout this important program.

Ed’s highly successful 4-H Incubation and Embryology Program was designed not only to promote interest in science, but to provide training in English grammar, composition, spelling, and mathematics. By the time of Ed’s retirement, approximately 4,000 teachers and 80,000 students annually benefitted from this outstanding educational activity.

Professor Ed Schano was the epitome of what land grant-based extension education has been and should continue to be in the service of public education. He was a master teacher who brought a passion, dedication, and enthusiasm to his youth and adult education projects that was literally infectious. Even if you worked outside of his area, the interactions with Ed made you want somehow be a part of or at least support these educational initiatives. He cared deeply about those he reached with educational materials and experiential exhibits and that caring infused all he touched. He was particularly committed to give young people the information and tools useful for pursuing a happy and fulfilling life. Ed always took the time to ask about what was going on in the life and career of others.

To work in the same department with Ed was a treasure that grew in richness over the years. In Ed’s eyes, each new day brought a marvelous new opportunity, a gift that should be cherished and enjoyed. When Ed was in a meeting, even his presence lighted the room and no topic, no matter how challenging could dampen the air of joy. In a specific example, Ed was a part of a meeting seeking solutions for fiscally challenging changes at Cornell where the economics of some educational resources were impacted. Ed had seen it all in his prior life’s experiences growing up in tough times and knowing how to be both resilient and resourceful. While he was a strong advocate for those to be educated, he was equally a sympathetic partner toward those seeking the economic solutions. Since Ed cared deeply about all things, he was equally effective as a listener as he was as an outstanding educator, and was able to understand and articulate different points of view. Even through these tough fiscal times, people left the meeting feeling uplifted and indeed you had been, because of Ed’s presence and active engagement in the discussion. Whether through spoken words or something beyond that, Ed helped to make us all better people and better Cornell faculty members.

Ed Schano was an excellent athlete who played high school football and was a member of an undefeated team that in 1936 won the Harvard Cup as the City of Buffalo champions. Ed also was a member of the straight and 4-oared crews that both won gold medals at the U.S. Rowing Association Championships in 1938 and 1939 and gold medals in the Royal Canadian Henley Regatta in 1938, 1939 and 1940. As an adult Ed played squash and tennis, among other sports and enjoyed camping with his family. He liked to hunt and fish. In fact, Ed loved the fellowship of his associates and the challenge of catching Walleyes to the extent that he continued to participate in the bi-annual fishing excursions of the departmental poultry group to Bob’s Lake in Ontario, Canada - even after it became physically challenging for him to do so.

Ed Schano and his four children suffered the untimely loss of Evelyn to cancer after 22 years of marriage. Ed married Mary Anna (Benedict) Perry and her eight children in 1967. Three children were born in subsequent years. At one point during his career at Cornell University, Ed recalled that he was asked what came first: “Is it that my work as a Youth Specialist using
Poultry Science as an educational tool has prepared me for life as the father of 10 boys and 5 girls, or did my experience as a father prepare me to be a youth specialist?” Ed’s reply – “One thing for sure, I’ve got to like kids.” Ed was a man of deep faith and truly lived it every day of his life.

Ed is survived by his wife Mary and 14 children including Thomas Perry, Eric Schano, David Perry, Richard Perry, Deborah Henry, Loraine George, Joseph Perry, William Perry, Mary Anne Flowers, Robert Perry, Margaret Wooley, Michael Schano, Catherine Llama, and Andrew Schano. Ed was predeceased by his oldest son, Edward Spencer Schano.

Richard E. Austic, chair; Rodney R. Dietert, Robert B. Gravani

Ernest Frederich Schaufler

December 29, 1923 – April 26, 2011

Ernest Frederich Schaufler, Professor Emeritus of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture (now Horticulture) died April 26, 2011 at Longview an Ithacacare Community in Ithaca, NY, at the age of 87. He was the pioneer leader who developed College of Agriculture and Life Science’s Cooperative Extension 4-H Floriculture and Ornamental program. This included developing plant science educational programs and resources for youth, teens and adult volunteers in county, regional and statewide 4-H programs.

Ernie was born in Brocton, NY in December 29, 1923 and grew up on a general family farm. He was an active member of 4-H and inspired by Chautauqua County 4-H agent Ken Coombs toward his lifelong profession in 4-H. Ernie graduated from Dunkirk High School in 1941 and matriculated into Cornell’s College of Agriculture, Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture in September of 1941.

The early 1940’s were very tumultuous times, as WWII was just starting. Ernie requested a leave of absence from Cornell during his sophomore year and joined the United States Army in 1943.
He served in the European theater as a member of the US Army Corps of Engineers, 1251st Treadway Bridge Company, from March 1943 until he was honorably discharged in 1946.

Ernie re-matriculated in the College of Agriculture in 1946, completed requirements and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1948. He was immediately hired by the Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture as an instructor and charged to develop a program to teach ornamental horticulture in New York State’s Cooperative Extension’s 4-H Program. At the same time he enrolled in the Department of Education and studied for his Master of Science degree in Education, completed requirements and was awarded the MS degree in 1952.

Ernie was appointed to Assistant Professor in 1954, Associate Professor in 1959 and Full Professor in 1976. He retired in 1983 and was appointed Professor Emeritus status in Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture. He continued working for the department, on a part time basis, for four years.

Ernie’s involvement in the 4-H program focused on building horticultural skills and youth development through learning-by-doing, completing projects, participating in meetings and submitting plant science exhibits for evaluation and competition. He worked with other faculty and staff with 4-H responsibilities and served as a mentor and role model to many. Gret Atkins in the College of Human Ecology commented:

Ernie’s interests, expertise and knowledge knew no boundaries. He saw that the goals of the 4-H curriculum are the same regardless of subject matter. I learned more about the philosophy behind 4-H and youth development, the role of the 4-H leader and the real-world responsibilities of the 4-H educators from him than from any other source on or off the campus.

He visited most every county in NY State, providing program development support and in-service education to both youth and adult leadership. As Niles Brown, former Cooperative Extension 4-H agent in Ontario and Chenango Counties, wrote:

We always looked forward to seeing and hearing from Ernie. His ideas were always fresh and ‘well thought out’. He truly believed in the 4-H program and teaching volunteer adults and teen leaders and helped train a generation or two of 4-H agents and volunteers.

Kermit Bossard, former Cooperative Extension 4-H agent in Chemung County, remarked:

Ernie taught us how to teach, how to make learning fun and how to successfully tie plants in with quality of life. Ernie was our connection to the college and through that connection kids learned about Cornell and research.

His travel habits were unique. Ernie knew every back road and short cut to his destinations. He knew every inexpensive motel and ‘best’ country diners, especially in upstate NY. His introduction to new faculty and staff to ‘life on the road’ was a learning experience.
He authored numerous college and department publications that were the cornerstone of county, regional and state-wide plant science 4-H programs. He developed a large number of teaching modules to provide instructors with subject matter information and included extensive detailed slide sets. This information served as the basis for many Northeast Regional 4-H publications and are still used today.

Ernie realized the potential of working through the public school system to reach a larger audience of youth. One of the successful programs he and his colleagues developed was the ‘Talking Plant Program’. This program included the curriculum and materials specifically designed to support those teaching plant science to middle school students. This program was used in middle school science curricula in more than 30 counties in NY State and 19 states across the country and Canada.

A multi-talented person, Ernie had a weekly radio program for 9 years in the early 50’s, operated by Cornell’s WHCU, where he discussed gardening and landscape problems and recommendations.

He served on numerous department committee’s and 4-H advisory boards. One of his favorite committee’s was the NY State Fair 4-H Committee, in which he participated for a number of years. He served as a judge for the Ornamental Horticulture projects submitted by 4-H members from counties all over the state. He interacted with the youth and volunteers and used the quality and effectiveness of the 4-H fair’s competition to evaluate the success of his in-service programs. He also judged thousands of plant science entries at local 4-H fairs and again was able evaluate the success of his plant science 4-H program.

Ernie was an elected member of a number of honorary societies: including Ho-Nun-De-Kah - Honorary Undergraduate Society at Cornell; Phi Delta Kappa- National Honorary Education Fraternity; Pi Alpha Phi - National Honorary Floriculture Fraternity; Epsilon Sigma Phi - National Honorary Extension Fraternity. He was a 40-year member of the American Garden Writers Association and a member of American Society for Horticultural Science.

Ernie received numerous special awards, including awards from his peers, Ornamental Horticulture industry and amateur gardening organizations, indicating his broad influence on Ornamental Horticulture; including: 1973 The Alice Doscher Horticulture Bronze Medal by the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State; 1977 Distinguished Service Award by Epsilon Sigma Phi the National Honorary Extension Fraternity and 1996 Gold Medal of Horticulture Award by the New York State Nursery/Landscape Association.

Ernie met his future wife, Beverly Harding Pratt, a student in the College of Home Economics (now College of Human Ecology) at a 4-H campus club meeting. They were married in 1949 and had 3 children: Donald, Katherine (’77) and Douglas.

Bev and Ernie purchased an old farmhouse at the intersection of Turkey Hill Road and Mt. Pleasant Road in 1951. It had a gorgeous view of Cornell, Ithaca and West Hill. In addition to renovating the house, they had a ‘Horticulturist’s Garden’, including shrubs, trees, perennials and annuals, plus a large vegetable garden with extensive plantings of berry bushes and fruit trees, many of the crops they canned and/or froze. He lived what he preached.
Bev and Ernie enjoyed camping and the family spent many vacations camping at state parks throughout New York and New England. After retiring, they purchased a 5-wheel travel trailer and migrated to Alabama’s Gulf Coast each winter.

Ernie was involved in a number of community activities. They lived in the small community of Varna. It had a volunteer Fire Department and Ernie joined and was an active member for 58 years. He took a leadership role serving as vice chairman for a number of years. He was chairman of the Acacia Corporation. He served on the Board of Directors for the Ithaca Coop Food Store. He was president of Ithaca Memorial Society. Since he had 2 boys, lived in a small community, it followed when they came of age they would get involved in Boy Scouts and so did Ernie. In addition to all the tasks involved in this activity, he served in a leadership role as a committeeman for the Varna Boy Scout Troop 45. Both of his sons achieved Eagle Scout.

In 2008 Ernie and Bev moved to Longview, a retirement home, where it was easier for them to enjoy life.

Ernie was a calm, quiet, hardworking individual, who had the ability to make one feel comfortable and welcomed. He enjoyed life, was a wonderful family man and a committed and dedicated horticulturist. He wanted everyone to understand enough about plants and horticulture to be able to enjoy them. He felt through 4-H, he had a platform to achieve this worthy goal. It would be interesting to obtain statistics to see how many children, teens and adult volunteers were inspired by Ernie’s interest and passion for horticulture and how his enthusiasm led to a lifelong interest in horticulture. We are sure it would be measured in the thousands and that is a real accomplishment.

Robert W. Langhans, Chairperson; Joann Gruttadaurio, A. Martin Petrovic
Herbert Schryver, DVM ’54, an emeritus professor with expertise in veterinary pathology, equine nutrition and biomechanics, died June 26 at the age of 89 in Ithaca.

During his tenure at Cornell, Schryver served as a professor of veterinary pathology and nutrition in the Department of Clinical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine and in the Department of Animal Science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He was also a former director of the Equine Research Program.

"He was a great scientist and a kind person," said Norm Durcharme, the James Law Professor of Surgery in the Section of Large Animal Surgery in the College of Veterinary Medicine and medical director of the Equine and Nemo Farm Animal Hospitals.

Schryver was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1927. He served in the U.S. Army from 1946–47 and graduated with a B.A. from Hofstra University in 1951. He went on to get his DVM degree from the New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell in 1954 and a Ph.D. in experimental pathology at the University of Pennsylvania in 1964. After receiving his degree, he was hired as an assistant professor of veterinary pathology. In 1966, he left Pennsylvania and joined Cornell's faculty as an associate professor of pathology and director of the newly established Equine Research Program.

At Cornell, he studied nutrition in horses, as well as aspects of physiology - such as growth, pregnancy, lactation and exercise - that influence horse nutrition. His studies included the metabolism and nutritional importance of such minerals as calcium, phosphorus, sodium, zinc, copper and magnesium. This research led to estimates of the dietary needs of these elements in horses of different ages and physical activity.
He also studied the biomechanics of locomotion, developing a mathematical model with faculty at the College of Engineering to calculate the physical forces on the lower forelimbs of horses at different gaits. His biomechanics research led him to investigate the roles of diet and exercise on bone strength in horses, as well as the effects of electrical stimuli on healing of bone fractures.

While at Cornell, Schryver travelled to the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, where he served as a visiting scientist in orthopedic surgery from 1971-72. He was also a fellow in biomechanics at Weill Cornell Medicine's Hospital for Special Surgery from 1979-1980.

He was a member of the American Institute of Nutrition, the American Society of Animal Science and the American Veterinary Medical Association, and he was a charter diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Nutrition.

Schryver retired from Cornell in 1990. He is survived by his widow, Elisabeth, and two sons.

This tribute was published on August 17, 2017 in the Cornell Chronicle and was written by Krishna Ramanujan
Richard (“Dick”) Schuler, professor emeritus of Economics and Civil and Environmental Engineering, passed away on February 13, 2019 at the age of 81. He joined the Cornell faculty as an assistant professor in 1972, after completing his Ph.D. in Economics at Brown University. He was active as a researcher, teacher, and administrator in several other Cornell departments, centers, and programs.

At Cornell, his research focused on the micro-planning, management and pricing of infrastructure and utilities, as well as the societal issues of their institutional structure, regional economic impact, and environmental consequences. He published extensively on the changing institutional and regulatory needs for the electric industry, including its deregulation. He also explored basic questions of organizational structure in the information age, using numerical simulation techniques, with colleagues at Cornell and the Santa Fe Institute.

Dick’s initial academic interest was in electrical engineering, which resulted in his obtaining a B.S. degree (1959) in that field from Yale University. He also received an MBA degree from Lehigh University in 1969. This initial academic background and training in many ways shaped his later research, and teaching career in economics and engineering. Indeed, his initial appointment at Cornell was jointly between the Departments of Economics and Environmental Engineering, and he was responsible for teaching a course on Economics for Engineers. His unique set of skills and knowledge made him a desirable contributor and partner in academic teaching and research projects and programs, as well as in government agencies and regulatory agencies, including as a consultant to various agencies. He had an astounding record of professional activities outside his two home departments at Cornell. For example, he was an adjunct professor in the Johnson Graduate School of Management from 1991-2005, teaching a course on “The Government Environment of Business” annually and on “Emerging Technologies, Business Opportunities and Social Concerns” in 2004 and 2005.

His breadth of activities and leadership roles, both at Cornell and elsewhere, are indeed remarkable. In particular, he assumed a leadership role successively in three interdisciplinary centers at Cornell.
As director of the Cornell Waste Management Institute, and New York State Solid Waste Combustion Institute (1987 to 1993), he was in charge of developing and providing interdisciplinary programs of research, education and community outreach services on solid waste generation and recycling, waste reduction and disposal, the transmission of effluents, risk management, systems analysis, public health impacts, and public decision-making processes.

Between 1992 and 1996 he was a senior fellow and associate director of Cornell’s Center for the Environment, whose programs focused on a sustainable society with particular emphasis on the roles of energy, infrastructure, waste management, urban/rural interfaces, and institutionalizing environmentally sound behavior by business and labor.

From 1995 to 2001, Dick was director of the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs. During his tenure he coordinated and strengthened public-policy-related MPA education and research across all Cornell colleges through a professional two-year MPA program enrolling 55 students (fellows), and he expanded the Institute from one to five senior core faculty members. Among other achievements as Institute Director, he coordinated over 100 faculty members from across the campus who are affiliated with the Institute through the graduate fields of Public Affairs and Public Policy, and who provide diverse policy expertise in specialties such as agricultural and nutrition policy, health administration and social welfare, economic development, international relations, environmental sciences, labor relations and human resources, technology and infrastructure, peace studies and city and regional planning.

Prior to joining the Cornell faculty, Dick spent a year as Senior Fuels and Energy Economist at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, Ohio. From 1959 to 1968 he was employed by the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company in Allentown, Pennsylvania holding various engineering, marketing and administrative positions.

His public policy interests, combined with his engineering and economics background, made him an ideal candidate to become involved with the New York State Public Service Commission. There, while on leaves from Cornell, he held the positions of director, Office of Research, from 1977 to 1978 and of commissioner and deputy chairman from 1981 to 1983.

Academic leaves were also spent as a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Center for Energy and Environmental Studies at Princeton University (fall 1994) and as a visiting scholar, at the Center for Operations Research and Econometrics at the Universiteit Catholique de Louvain, Belgium in 1981 and 1988.

Professor Schuler was a founding member of, and served on the Board of Directors for the New York State Independent System Operators (NYISO), responsible for reliably operating the electric transmission grid in New York State, while overseeing an efficient power market (1998 to 2012). He also was on the board of Aetherworks, Inc., a start-up telecommunications firm (1998-2000), as well as a faculty representative on the Cornell Board of Trustees (1994-1998), where he held several significant committee memberships.
In addition, at Cornell he served on the Executive Committee of the NSF-supported multi-university Institute for Civil Infrastructure Systems.

Professor Schuler also worked as a consultant to numerous government agencies and industries on pricing, management and environmental issues, and to the World Bank on energy and infrastructure investment programs for Thailand and the Philippines.

Who was this amazing individual who spoke the language of so many disciplines and diverse academic departments and agencies and who naturally took on effective leadership positions in many of them, and who applied his knowledge and talents to so many different problems and issues?

Richard E. Schuler was born and raised in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he also met and married Mary, his beloved wife of 56 years, who is a well-known artist. They have three children (Rick, Anne and Judy) and seven grandchildren.

He grew up in a blue-collar environment. While in high school, he excelled in science and math, leading to a four-year fellowship at Yale University, which was the key to entry into a very successful professional career in industry and in academics. And his wife Mary had a significant impact on this development early on. When he met her, she was taking an economics course, at Muhlenberg College, Pennsylvania, at night. He began tutoring her and using her Samuelson book. As Dick used to say, this started his subsequent career in economics.

His cheerful personality and positive outlook on life made him a welcome addition to any lively conversation and discussion group. He had a friendly word and smile for everybody. Even his grandchildren, when asked why they loved their grandpa, answered: “Because he is always smiling and joking.” And he loved to talk, no matter what the subject, also because he had a wide range of intellectual interests and experiences, not to mention well-founded opinions. He had many friends who considered him “their best friend.” He was always ready to help his friends with thoughtful advice when they were facing difficult situations. His humanism and love shone through in his inter-personal interactions.

One of his good friends, Robert Thomas, professor emeritus of electrical and computer engineering, recounts the following story that epitomizes Dick.

We were together at a meeting in Hawaii on issues associated with electric power systems. We were in a meeting room at a hotel listening to and participating in a series of talks. The room had no windows. There were about 40 eminent researchers in attendance when, during one of the talks, there was an electric power outage and the room went completely dark. Cell phones and computer screens started to light up, but the current speaker couldn’t go on because his PowerPoint presentation was no longer available. After a period of silence and consternation when it was clear the power wasn’t coming back any time soon, the session chair was about to suspend the session when a booming voice from the audience was heard to say, “I’ll volunteer to do my presentation. I don’t need a projector.” It was Dick, and the chair agreed. So, in a dark windowless room, with cell phone and computer screen the only light, Dick proceeded, without notes or slides, to give a wonderful 30-minute talk. He received an ovation when he finished and, as the ovation ended, the lights came back on. It was truly
memorable in part because there are few people left who can give a good technical talk without projecting slides.

Aside from his beloved extended family, he had two main joys in life, namely swimming and singing. He sang in the Bach Choir in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, when Mary and he first met. He was proud that the Schuler boys sang and carried on that tradition. He would have been thrilled to know that they sang at his memorial mass. During travels with their kids and later with their grandkids he was prone to break out in song, including ones with corny lyrics, which his audience cheerfully joined.

Swimming was probably in his DNA. Dick came from a long line of swimmers who would swim in the Lehigh River, winning competitions and medals. Body surfing in the waves at the beach was probably his favorite sport. Also, even at the age of eighty, he was seen repeatedly jumping off a dock at Lake Winnipesaukee to the delight of his kids and grandkids.

His grandkids also admired the fact that their grandpa was a snappy dresser. Jacket, with a pocket square, and tie were his usual attire, which clearly made him stand out, at least among his engineering colleagues. Yet, this apparent formality was wiped out quickly, as soon as he smiled and offered a cheerful greeting to anybody he met. During faculty discussions, he frequently showed his ability to see and stress the lighter and humorous aspects of an otherwise serious topic.

The large crowd of mourners present at his memorial service was an impressive testament to his unusually wide range of friends and colleagues from all walks of life who admired and cared about him. Dick, in turn, cared deeply for his family, friends and colleagues.

We fondly remember a wonderful human being, a dear friend, and a gifted colleague.

*Written by Arnim H. Meyburg (chair), Erik Thorbecke, and John F. Abel*
Ruth Schwartz was born in Berlin Germany, October 9, 1924, and in her early life endured the disruption that devastated Jewish families in Nazi Germany. Her father, from Kiev in the Ukraine, served as a Russian soldier in WWI, and was captured and imprisoned by the German army. He chose to stay in Germany after that war was over, to start a small cigarette factory and a family with his Polish wife, thinking that Germany would be safer than Russia after the Bolshevik revolution, but after Hitler came to power his business was shut down and he was deported to Czechoslovakia. Ruth stayed in Berlin with her mother and younger brother under steadily deteriorating conditions. The family finally separated in 1939, when Ruth was chosen for the Kindertransport (officially the “Refugee Children Movement”), through which Jewish children who were considered the most imperiled by the Nazi regime were brought to England in the nine months prior to the outbreak of World War II. She never saw her parents again. As Ruth found out later, her mother died on a train to Siberia after being sent by the Nazis to Russia following the start of the war, and her father was killed when he attempted to return to Russia from Czechoslovakia. Her brother was saved by others on the train to Siberia, and finally made his way to Israel in 1947.

Because Ruth was over 14 when she arrived in England, she was initially placed in training for domestic service. After two years of training, she was assigned as an ‘au pair,’ a job at which, she claimed, she showed no promise. But the family saw promise in her intelligence and spirit, so the mother of the family became her champion, battling the authorities to allow her to attend an academically oriented school. There she earned the equivalent of today’s ‘A’ levels in biology and chemistry. This accomplishment
allowed her to enter the University of London, where she received a B.S. in chemistry and physiology in 1947.

In 1951, she became an assistant to R. F. A. Dean, a pediatrician who established the Infantile Malnutrition Unit sponsored by the UK Medical Research Council at Mulago Hospital in Kampala, Uganda. This assignment made her a participant in the most critical studies of childhood malnutrition of that era. This group became well known for research on kwashiorkor, a form of severe malnutrition common in very young children in East Africa at that time. With Dean, Ruth published several papers on clinical and laboratory observations of children with the condition. During this period Ruth also spent some time as a WHO fellow in Guatemala at the Institute for Nutrition in Central America and Panama (INCAP), where she collaborated with investigators from INCAP and Washington University in St Louis on further studies to characterize the biochemical changes observed in children with kwashiorkor. She remained in Uganda until 1957 when she returned to the UK. On the basis of her work in Uganda and in Guatemala, she was awarded a Ph.D. in Nutritional Biochemistry by the University of London in 1959.

From 1960 to 1963, Ruth was a lecturer at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She came to the United States in 1963 as a research associate in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After two years at MIT she joined the faculty in the Department of Nutrition of the University of Connecticut. In 1970 she was recruited to the Department of Human Nutrition and Food in the College of Human Ecology at Cornell and later became a member of the Division of Nutritional Sciences when it was formed in 1974. She was promoted to Professor in 1979, and retired on September 1, 1993. She was named Professor of Nutrition Emeritus in 1998.

Ruth was a pioneer in the use of stable isotopes in the study of mineral absorption, retention, and excretion in both humans and experimental animals. A major question for nutritionists at the time concerned the ways in which diet composition affects nutrient availability, and how availability affects nutritional requirements when viewed in terms of food. In particular, Ruth was fascinated by magnesium, a mineral that had caught her attention through her work with kwashiorkor. Balance studies of this important mineral in malnutrition were (and still are) inconclusive, while refeeding regimens were designed to provide large amounts of the mineral in the belief that an important cause of pathology in kwashiorkor is magnesium deficiency. Ruth recognized the need for careful balance studies in both healthy young individuals and the elderly, as well as the need for a better understanding of the consequences of
magnesium deficiency for gut and pancreas function, both of which are affected in malnutrition.

To this end, Ruth worked closely with colleagues at the US Plant, Soil and Nutrition Laboratory (now the Robert W. Holley Center for Agriculture and Health) on the Cornell campus. With these colleagues she grew vegetables that incorporated a stable isotope of magnesium, $^{26}\text{Mg}$, that were then fed to experimental subjects, human and animal. For her studies with human subjects she collaborated with Herta Spencer-Laszlo at the Loyola University Medical School in Chicago.

Ruth’s research interests were not confined to magnesium, however. One of her first graduate students at Cornell, Elizabeth Mitchell Wien, carried out studies on iron availability for her dissertation before continuing to work with Ruth for many years on magnesium. Ruth also investigated the absorption and retention of calcium, zinc, copper and manganese in human studies. In later work, she studied the relationship of bone density to dietary protein and calcium intake in a population of Chinese women. Ruth’s work was funded by grants from the National Institutes of Health, The National Science Foundation and The United States Department of Agriculture. She spent a sabbatical leave at the National Institute of Dental Research in Bethesda, Maryland and she was awarded a Residency at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center in Bellagio, Italy in 1984. Her work was published in the Journal of Nutrition, American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, Analytical Chemistry, Journal of Micronutrient Analysis, and Biological Trace Element Research. She was a member of the Nutrition Society (Great Britain), American Institute of Nutrition, American Association for the Advancement of Science, New York Academy of Sciences, Society for Environmental Geochemistry and Health Sigma Xi, and American Chemical Society.

At Cornell, Ruth taught courses in the nutrition, physiology and biochemistry of the mineral elements, in laboratory methods, and in metabolic regulation. She was active on many University and departmental committees during her years at Cornell. In particular she served for 15 years on the University Committee on Human Subjects (now the Institutional Review Board for Human Participants), where her absolute integrity, coupled with her deep love of both science and humanity, served her and the university well.

Ruth was a private, but very kind and caring person, of remarkable inner strength. Her love of nature led her to spend considerable time hiking the many trails around Ithaca—she was an active member of the Cayuga Trails Club and the Finger Lakes Trails Conference. Her
appreciation of natural beauty is reflected in her strong yet delicate watercolors of flowers and landscapes—her love of painting was rekindled in her retirement.

Ruth maintained contact with her brother Jehuda in Israel and her nephew Doron and their family over the years. She also stayed close to her friends and foster family in the UK. In her later years, she felt fortunate to find her heart’s companion in Seymour Smidt, Professor Emeritus of Finance, who survives her.

Malden C. Nesheim, Kay Obendorf, and Virginia Utermohlen
Professor Emeritus Thomas W. Scott passed away on August 22, 2019 at Kendal at Ithaca, where he had made his home in recent years. He grew up on a dairy farm near Coraopolis, Pennsylvania. His parents were Elsie and John Scott. He received his B.S. degree from Pennsylvania State University in 1952 and then served as a Lieutenant in the Strategic Air Command until the end of the Korean War. Dr. Scott received advanced degrees from Kansas State University (M.S. 1956) and Michigan State University (Ph.D. 1959).

He came to the then Agronomy Department (now Soil and Crop Sciences) at Cornell University in 1959, serving in extension and research on the New York State Sugarbeet Feasibility Trial as an assistant professor. In 1965, he was promoted to associate professor with tenure. In 1969, he switched responsibilities to teaching and research in soil science concentrating on soil fertility management. In the preceding years Dr. Scott was the principle leader in the formation of the Empire State Soil Fertility Association, with a term as president in 1962. He was also active in the development of New York Lime Law, and he became active in undergraduate student affairs as advisor of the Agronomy Club and of Alpha Gamma Rho social fraternity.

Dr. Scott’s initial teaching responsibility was in Introductory Soils. He was a gifted teacher with the dual attributes of expertise in the subject matter and an obvious rapport and concern for students. One of his goals, which he regularly achieved, was learning the names and recognizing every student in his classes. In 1969, he received the Professor of Merit Award from the students in CALS. He was later selected as the Outstanding Advisor of CALS and received the teaching award of the Northeast Branch of the American Society of Agronomy. Professor Scott advised hundreds of undergraduate students who fondly remember his concern for them as a person as well as a student.

In the late 1960’s, Dr. Scott worked with a number of colleagues in CALS to develop an off-campus regional travel course in production agriculture with summer tours in the western states. The outstanding value and results of this approach was transferred to the mid-session course in international agriculture, and that method, spawned in part by Dr. Scott, is still included in the International Agriculture and Development curriculum. Dr. Scott shared his own skills as a soil...
scientist with international work in soil fertility in the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Panama, and Costa Rica. He also oversaw research projects in Africa and Asia.

Professor Scott was an outstanding citizen of the Cornell Community as well as the Ithaca community at large. At Cornell, he was Faculty Fellow with the University Residence Life Program in the 1980’s. He served on numerous college and university committees including the Academic Achievement and Petitions Committee. He was the University Ombudsman from 1991 to 1994.

He was also active as an elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, where he had a leadership role in establishing a school in Ethiopia. As he approached retirement, he worked with Madison Wright and Gary Fick to develop a course in sustainable agriculture and became one of its first teachers. In addition, he was a co-teacher of Soil and Water Management and of Ecology of Agricultural Systems. His retirement plan included volunteer teaching.

Upon his retirement, his family and friends set up the Tom Scott Scholarship Fund for students in CALS. He was preceded in death by his wife Nancy in 1984. At the time of his death, he had four living children, twelve grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. They are blessed to be a part of his family.

Written by Gary W. Fick, David R. Bouldin, and Kathleen C. Howard

Shayle R. Searle

April 26, 1928 – February 18, 2013
Professor Shayle Robert Searle, eminent Cornell University statistician, passed away on February 18, 2013. Born in New Zealand, Searle earned a bachelor's degree (1949) and a master's degree (1950) from Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand. After working for an actuary, he attended Cambridge University, where he earned a Diploma in mathematical statistics in 1953. Searle won a Fulbright travel award to Cornell University, where he earned a doctorate in animal breeding with a strong minor in statistics in 1959, studying under Professor Charles Henderson. In 1962, Cornell invited Searle to work in the university's computing center, and he soon joined the faculty as an assistant professor of biological statistics. He was promoted to associate professor in 1965 and became a professor of biological statistics in 1970. Searle has also been a visiting professor at Texas A&M University, Florida State University, Universität Augsburg, and the University of Auckland.

Professor Searle was a major intellectual figure in the field of statistics. He was a pioneer and world leader in the areas of linear models, mixed models, and variance component estimation. Searle was one of the first statisticians to use matrix algebra in statistical methodology, and he was an early proponent of the use of applied statistical techniques in animal breeding. His early and lifelong interest in translating important applied problems into solvable mathematical and statistical ones was arguably his greatest contribution to the field. He made a career out of proving that 'applied mathematical statistics' was, in fact, not an oxymoron but a deeply respected subfield of statistics. Searle’s work will have continuing impact in the fields of statistics and agriculture.

Professor Searle authored and coauthored a number of seminal statistics texts, including: Linear Models; Matrix Algebra for the Biological Sciences, Including Applications in Statistics; Linear Models for Unbalanced Data; Generalized, Linear, and Mixed Models; Variance Components; Matrix Algebra for Applied Economics; Matrix Algebra Useful for Statistics; and Variance Components and Animal Breeding: Proceedings of a Conference in Honor of C. R. Henderson. In particular, Linear Models, published by Wiley & Sons in 1971, had sales of more than 15,000 copies and another 1,800 in the paperback Wiley Classic Edition. This text made a tremendous contribution to the understanding of the theory and practice of linear models; in particular, it illuminated the complications emanating from unbalanced data. Matrix Algebra Useful for Statistics sold more than 10,000 copies. In addition to book writing, Searle authored more than 165 papers.

Professor Searle is responsible for introducing random effects and variance components concepts into our thinking. He was a
researcher whose contributions made his field both respected and admired, and he received worldwide recognition for his accomplishments from the international statistics and scientific communities. Searle’s pearls of practical wisdom on mixed models and unbalanced data have become an integral part of statistical theory and practice throughout the world. He maintained an active association with New Zealand, including a long-term collaboration with AgResearch, Ruakura, and he was a frequent visitor to New Zealand for conferences and seminar presentations.

Searle was a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and the Royal Statistical Society, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. He also received the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt U.S. Senior Scientist Award. In 1999 he was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand, a rare honor for New Zealand scientists who reside overseas. The Royal Society, the counterpart of the National Academy of Sciences in the United States, bestows the fellowship on scientists who have contributed significantly and with excellence to New Zealand science. Searle was awarded the D.Sc. Honoris Causa by his alma mater, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

Under Shayle’s gruff exterior was a compassionate man with a strong desire to give to others and community. Searle was always ready to invite others to share his intellectual voyages, and he was always generous in giving credit to others for their role in the process. He enjoyed teaching and sharing his knowledge for the betterment of his students, colleagues, and family. He was ready to be a mentor when he encountered someone he could help. He was deeply devoted to his wife and daughters and took great pleasure in playing a round of poker with his colleagues. Shayle loved grilling up New Zealand lamb to entertain visitors and once calculated he had imported over two tons of lamb chops to the United States. Our dear friend and colleague will be missed and remembered fondly.

Shayle was preceded in death by his wife Helen and is survived by Susan Searle Thomas (Ted) and Heather Searle Selvaggio (David), and Tracey Armstead (Charlie Ackerman).

Martin T. Wells, Chairperson; Charles E. McCulloch, Steven J. Schwage
Harry W. Seeley, Jr. -- microbiologist, administrator, navigator, and good friend -- was born on March 5, 1917 in Bridgeport, Connecticut. His parents, Genevieve Quinlan and Harry W. Seeley, brought him up in their family home in Stratford, Connecticut where he received his early schooling. After high school, he briefly attended Tufts University, and then transferred to the University of Connecticut where he earned both Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees, and, subsequently, was appointed to the rank of Instructor. It was there he met his life’s partner, Peggy (Margaret E. Johnson), whom he married in 1940. Seeing great opportunities to specialize in bacteriology under Professor James M. Sherman, who was head of Cornell’s Laboratory of Bacteriology and a dominant figure in the emerging field of dairy bacteriology, he transferred to Cornell where he earned his Ph.D. degree in 1947. He was appointed Assistant Professor in the Laboratory of Bacteriology and a dominant figure in the emerging field of dairy bacteriology, he transferred to Cornell where he earned his Ph.D. degree in 1947. He was appointed Assistant Professor in the Laboratory of Bacteriology at Cornell, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1951 and to Full Professor in 1954. He also served concurrently as Professor of Bacteriology in the School of Nutrition from 1954 to 1957.

Harry’s research was centered on the nutrition, metabolism, biochemistry, and classification of lactic acid bacteria, particularly the genera *Streptococcus* and *Pediococcus*, important organisms in dairy and other food fermentations. He is perhaps best known for his authoritative contributions to *Bergey’s Manual of Determinative Bacteriology* in which he described the family *Streptococcaceae*. Harry is also known for a surprising discovery made with T. W. Ritchie in 1974, following up on research of his colleague Paul VanDemark at Cornell. They showed that *Streptococcus* (now *Enterococcus*) *faecalis*, an important opportunistic pathogen, could make cytochromes and carry out aerobic respiration when provided with heme in its growth medium. Lactic acid bacteria were considered fermentative and unable to use oxygen for respiration. Only now, in the genomic era, do we know that *E. faecalis* and some other lactic acid bacteria possess genes for respiration but not for heme synthesis, and giving them heme allows them to lead “double lives.”

During the 1960s, Harry’s time was increasingly devoted to administrative work. In 1965 he was appointed Chair of the Section of Microbiology in the newly formed Division of Biological Sciences. The Section contained members of the old Laboratory of Microbiology and several
new faculty members from allied disciplines such as biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology. But this created a split culture within the Section. In addition, at the time there was a general de-emphasis on organismal biology at most major universities. Thus, because of these circumstances and differences within the new unit, the Section of Microbiology was eliminated from the Division and its faculty members were reassigned to other Departments and Sections. In 1972, Harry and several colleagues with interests in microbes as organisms in their own right recreated the Laboratory of Microbiology within the Department of Food Science with Harry as Professor in charge. Ultimately, in 1978, he became the chair of the newly created Department of Microbiology, in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. With the hiring of a new chair and several new faculty members in 1979, Harry retired and became Professor Emeritus.

Harry’s teaching career was legendary. For more than 30 years, he continually developed, taught and supervised the Department’s flag ship General Microbiology lecture and laboratory courses (now BioMI 2900 and 2910). These are still popular microbiology courses that serve many undergraduate programs within the University. He also taught Advanced General Microbiology (now BioMI 3910), and he managed the graduate student seminar program. Perhaps his biggest impact was with two very successful laboratory manuals, *Microbes and Man* and *Microbes in Action*, which he co-authored with Paul J. VanDemark. After he retired, Harry remained active in editing new editions of the popular lab manual, which was used widely for many years at universities and colleges across the country. The 4th and final edition of *Microbes in Action* was published in 1991.

Harry served on numerous college and university committees including the University Faculty Council. He also served as President of the New York Branch of the American Society of Microbiology and also as Visiting Lecturer of the American Institute of Biological Sciences. For several years, he served on the Postdoctoral Fellowship Selection Committee of the National Academy of Sciences-National Science Foundation. He was a member of numerous professional organizations including the American Society for Microbiology, the Society of General Microbiology, the Society for Applied Bacteriology, the American Association of University Professors, and the honorary societies Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Xi. He was awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship in 1958 and was elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

Harry had a lifelong interest in water activities, especially sailing. He worked during the summers of his college years in Bedell's Shipyard near Stratford, and he spent time sailing in Long Island Sound and along the coast of New England in personally owned or rented schooners. He also held a license from the Bureau of Navigation for operating passenger-carrying vessels. For a number of years he was a member of the Ithaca Yacht Club, and also the City Club of Ithaca. Most of the summers of his retirement were spent at his home on Block Island, RI, where he was a charter member of the Block Island Conservancy, and he pursued many saltwater activities, especially surf-casting.
Harry was a kindhearted, supportive, sensitive, generous and loving husband, father, neighbor, colleague, and friend – a true gentleman. He will also be remembered for his fondness of animals and birds, his dry sense of humor, and, especially, his avid cloud-watching.

William C. Ghiorse, chair; Stephen H. Zinder, Carole C. Rehkgler
with contributions from Cathy J. Shappell
Alain Seznec, emeritus professor of Romance studies, former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and former University Librarian, died at home in Ithaca on February 21, 2017 after a lingering illness. He was 86. Alain who was born in Paris, March 20, 1930, and educated in France, came first to the U.S. with his family as they fled German occupied France in 1940. Alain studied at a French lycée in Canada during the long years of the war. At the war’s end the family returned to France, where Alain finished his education at the Sorbonne where he graduated with two degrees; one in Law and another in Letters. Alain Seznec returned to the U.S. first as a lecturer at Harvard. Then, in 1958 Alain joined the Cornell faculty as an assistant professor in the Department of Romance Studies. Alain’s main area of academic focus was the French seventeenth-century. He was a particularly fervent admirer of the great dramatists of that era, Molière, Corneille and Racine. His edition of *La Princesse de Clèves* was another example of his love of and help in celebrating the glories of French neo-Classicism.

“Alain's keen-eyed Gallic wit made him a great citizen of the college and university and a wonderful friend,” said Don Randel, the Given Foundation Professor of Musicology Emeritus, former Cornell provost and former dean of Arts and Sciences. “He could deflate the inflated and represent insistently those humanistic values that are, or ought to be, at the heart of the university. In his several roles, he was a steadfast advocate for the best in liberal education. And he was marvelously good company.”

"When I came to Cornell more than 30 years ago, Alain Seznec was more than a guide and mentor. He was an educator with a mission,” said David Feldshuh, professor of theater. “As an experienced actor who loved theater, Alain encouraged me and my colleagues to create productions in the new Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts that exemplified Cornell’s dedication to great plays, past
and present, produced to engage a diverse and enthusiastic audience. His message to me was succinct: ‘Great plays. Well done. Fill the seats.’”

During his long tenure as a faculty member, Seznec served in numerous positions, including chairman of the Committee on Residential Colleges, member of Cornell’s Commission on Undergraduate Education, and director of undergraduate studies for the Department of Romance Studies. He was also active as an amateur thespian, performing with the Cornell French Players. As a professor and administrator Seznec was passionate about the importance of teaching and was honored with the Clark Distinguished Teaching Award.

“He was a superb teacher, admired and respected by generations of students and alumni,” said Glenn Altschuler, the Thomas and Dorothy Litwin Professor of American Studies, who cotaught a Cornell Adult University theater course with Seznec. “In everything he said and did, Alain Seznec was a great gentleman.” Seznec was named associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and director of Cornell’s six-year Ph.D. program in 1969, and he became dean of Arts and Sciences in 1978.

“Those who knew Alain as a marvelous teacher, a resolutely upbeat colleague and an accomplished actor may have been surprised to discover, when he took the helm of the College of Arts and Sciences, that he was also a superb administrator,” said Philip Lewis, emeritus professor of French literature and former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “His savvy leadership enabled the college not only to emerge from a deep structural budget deficit but to launch a long-term program for rehabilitating its major buildings. Subsequently his human qualities--great warmth coupled with firm rationality--were invaluable when he served as University Librarian during a period of rapid transition. His long career of unfailingly constructive contributions on many fronts is the stuff of which Cornell legends are made.”

As dean, Seznec oversaw the building of the Performing Arts Center (renamed the Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts in 2001). Keith Johnson '56, former chairman of the college's advisory council, noted in 1986 that “Alain was the most persistent and enthusiastic advocate of [the Arts Center's] construction, and I think it's sort of a monument to him.”

After stepping down as dean in 1986, Seznec was appointed University Librarian. He told the Cornell Alumni News that a library “is a place of discovery. It is an extension of the classroom or the lab. It reaches out—through its holdings and the service and guidance of its librarians—and shows you a world you didn't know was there.”

During his 10-year tenure as University Librarian – he stepped down in 1996 – Seznec oversaw many important developments, including the library’s first online integrated library system in 1986, the construction of the Carl A. Kroch Library in 1990, and the opening of the underground special collections library in 1992, housing the newly formed Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections and the Asia collections. During Seznec’s administration, the library’s acquisitions budget rose to more than $7.8 million a year and the library grew to more than six million volumes.

Anne Kenney, current University Librarian, said that “among other things, we have his political acumen and fundraising ability to thank for the construction of Kroch Library,” she said. “A
traditionalist at heart, he nonetheless championed the Library’s investment in digital research and development. He was also a gentleman, bon vivant, and a wonderful conversationalist.”

Seznec was an avid fan of all things Cornell and a devoted follower of Cornell athletics, attending hundreds of football, hockey, and lacrosse games. He traveled and fundraised exhaustively for the University.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Janet (Grade) Seznec; five children Anne Carignani, Peter Seznec ('74), Catherine Rentz, Dominique Lightbody ('82) and Michael Seznec ('85); and 11 beloved grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Seznec is predeceased by his parents, Jean and Simone Seznec and Genevieve Seznec, and a daughter, Caroline.

Written by Mitchell Greenberg and Linda Glaser
Dr. John Sherbon was a wonderful mentor to many of us. He represented a healthy balance of academic life and personal life. John started out in Idaho and brought with him a Westerner’s understanding of the world. He did his undergraduate work at Washington State and graduated in 1959. He spent the next year in Denmark as a Fulbright Scholar, using the first month to learn enough Danish to capitalize on the opportunity to learn about cheese-making. Upon his return to the United States, John went straight to the University of Minnesota where he completed his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. Minnesota is also where he met and married his beloved wife Ruth, who was originally from South Dakota. They would go on to share 56 years of a loving partnership through the joys and challenges that life would bring. They came to Cornell shortly after John completed his Ph.D., as he succeeded the respected food scientist, B.L. Harrington. The outgoing and incoming faculty taught the food analysis course together for one year, after which John taught the course for many years, eventually splitting it into two courses: one for sophomores and another, more advanced version, for graduate students. At heart, John was an analytical chemist who took seriously the issues involved in doing careful scientific work and equally careful management of data. Later in his career, John’s research focus was on ice cream. Throughout his career, John consulted on dairy issues around the world and was energized by his sabbatical leave in New Zealand and work on milk fat fractionation. He often demonstrated for his classes that removal of the highest melting fractions of milk fat
made excellent candles on the way to producing a more spreadable butter.

John was a gifted and dedicated teacher who emphasized critical thinking about problems and the importance of following instructions, especially when expensive laboratory equipment was involved. For example, in one experiment, John gave students a powdered salt/sugar mixture for analysis of its salt content. Unfortunately for the students, he hadn’t mixed the sample. So if you only took a top sample, you got close to 100% salt or sugar, depending on which one went in first. This was a lesson about sampling that students never forgot.

On another occasion, John gave a fairly long quiz with the instruction: “Read the entire exam first before starting to work.” Only one student left the exam early. He had followed instructions. The third question from the bottom said: “If you have come to this point, put a check mark here and hand in your paper.” John really knew how to get students’ attention.

John was one of the most welcoming faculty members of the department. He and Ruth often invited students and their families for dinner, especially for holidays when some of them could not get home. Ruth was a great cook and we all looked forward to these opportunities. When they traveled west each summer to visit family, they offered their home and boat to a young couple. For some, it was an opportunity to learn how to run a household for the first time. We also learned that a collie can get sunburned and that the vet school would tattoo its nose to protect it from the sun. The household generally had dogs, cats, rabbits or other pets around.
Much of John’s interaction with students occurred outside of the classroom. He always had — or made — time to speak with undergraduates and graduates alike. He got to know students (and faculty) so well that he could predict their grades in courses taught by other faculty.

John and Ruth dedicated themselves to their two children, Barbara and Bill, sparing no effort in supporting their academic, social, musical, or athletic activities. John was actively involved in the early formation of a girls’ hockey league and its development. John coached the early morning girl’s hockey and would arrive to teach his 8 o’clock class after hockey practice. The first thing he did was post the Ithaca Shooting Stars hockey scores from the weekend on the blackboard. Many of his students at that time called him “coach.” He really was, and John had a knack for getting the best out of his students. In later years, John and Ruth took great pride and delight in their two granddaughters, Chelsea and Leah (daughters of Barbara and Mike Wood).

John was a man of many talents. In addition to being a scientist, he was facile with technology of all types. He could fix anything. The teaching assistants in John’s instrumentation course got first hand training in trouble shooting problems and keeping lab equipment running well. An accomplished musician, he played the trumpet throughout his life, adding to others’ pleasure by participating in special musical events. John took up duck-decoy-carving and created beautiful pieces that he shared with friends. An athlete in his formative years, John kept himself in excellent shape throughout his life. In their retirement, he and Ruth enjoyed extensive travel, including many outdoor adventures that required hiking, biking or boating. They appreciated nature and bird-watching in particular.

Most of all, John was a mensch. He and Ruth were very active members of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Collegetown and John was a long-time member of the Lansing Lions. If there was work to be done or someone in need, John was there to help. He will be sorely missed.

Joe M. Regenstein, Chair; David M. Barbano; John W. Brady
Professor John E. H. Sherry taught his first course in “Laws of Innkeeping” at the Cornell Hotel School in the fall semester, 1972. Born in New York City, he grew up in Morningside Heights, near Columbia University, received his B.A. degree from Yale University, his L.L.M. from New York University, and his J.D. from Columbia University, where he was a classmate of Cornellian and U.S. Supreme Court associate justice, Ruth Bader Ginsburg. His father, John H. Sherry, a prominent New York hotel attorney, who famously commuted from New York to Ithaca by train, taught law at the Hotel School for over forty years.

John and his father are testimony to the family’s commitment to the law and to education. Together they taught law and educated the future leaders of the hospitality industry for nearly sixty years. They taught many, many generations of Cornell alumni. And, they remain unique in the history of the School -- the only father-son combination of faculty members to teach at the School.
The Hospitality Industry -- hotels in particular -- have some very special issues in regard to the law of business. Hotels historically have the right of Innkeeper’s Lien, whereby a hotel can seize the luggage of a guest who tries to skip out on the bill, keep it, and sell it to satisfy the unpaid rent. In modern times, the universal use of national credit cards, and the fact that most hotels insist on a credit card upon check-in, has relegated the use of the Innkeeper’s Lien law to history. However, it allows interesting, and sometimes humorous classroom discussion. John used such incidences to keep the mood light and fun.

On a more serious side, hotels are faced with some very strict rules having to do with the guest experience, and safety in particular. John was well-versed in these issues, and particularly those instances where the hotel’s liability might be increased. This type of knowledge is highly important to the student who might make a career in Lodging.

John loved the Cornell and Hotel School community. He proudly served on many university committees, often representing the Hotel School. He regularly attended, and was a longtime season ticket holder, to both Cornell football and hockey. He enjoyed any university event that served Cornell BBQ chicken! Within the Hotel School, he supported both "Quantities" classes by regularly dining in the old Rathskeller and the Statler dining room as well as the newer facilities. He attended many Hotel Ezra Cornell (HEC) weekends, and, between John, his father and his daughter, his family has an extensive and much cherished collection of HEC china.

His colleagues at the School sought him out for his expertise and guidance about legal issues and many remember him as “counselor.”

He developed and taught the course “Business and Hospitality Law” in the Hotel School as well as courses in international law at Cornell Law School.

John traveled extensively throughout his career, including sabbatical leaves to China and Israel. He is remembered by his family and colleagues for his scholarly intellect, profound commitment to his students, his work ethic and his sense of humor punctuated by a deep bass laugh. To this day, his daughter meets Hotel School alumni who share wonderful recollections of their experiences in his classes or how he helped them individually.

He served in the Korean War with the 17th Field Artillery Battalion and in the Army Reserve through the early 1960s, when he was called
again to active duty during the Cuban missile crisis, ending his service with the rank of captain.

The family’s belief in the importance of education continued. A son and daughter graduated from Cornell University -- John E. Sherry, earned a B.A. from the College of Arts & Sciences in ’84, and Suzanne Sherry Lee, received a B.S. from the School of Hotel Administration in ’89. A second son graduated from SUNY Albany - Douglas M. Sherry, earned a B.A. in History in ’88. Inspired by their father, both John and Douglas went on to graduate school. Douglas is a Ph.D. and is now carrying on the family tradition as a college professor. John is an medical doctor, practicing in VA.

A member of the Cornell hotelie family, now gone but not forgotten.

* A. Neal Geller, Richard H. Penner, Michael H. Redlin
Joseph Sieczka, professor emeritus of horticulture and worldwide expert on potatoes, died July 29, 2018 at his home in Mattituck, New York. He was 79 years old.

Hailing from Blasdell, New York, outside Buffalo, New York, Joe received an associate degree in agronomy and soil conservation from the State University of New York at Alfred, in 1960. It was at SUNY Alfred that Joe, the vice president and social director of his fraternity, would often break out in song with his deep baritone voice. Singing and dancing were always a big part of his life, his daughter Liz, reminisced, remembering her dad as someone who could be very serious at times, especially when he spoke in his deep, stern voice. But then, he’d break out in song. “Everybody would laugh, ‘Oh, Dad, not again,’” she recalled. “He could go from spouting off scientific data to being goofy.”

After receiving his associate degree, Joe worked briefly at Birdseye in Avon, New York and originally planned to join the U.S. Navy and “see the world.” Those plans changed when he and his friend, Fred Muehlbauer, stopped at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia to visit some friends working on degrees in agronomy. There they met the department chair who convinced them to stay on for bachelor’s degrees, a degree Joe received in 1963. He immediately came back to New York, joining Cornell Cooperative Extension, as an extension educator, in Steuben County. It was to be the start of a long career with Cornell, lasting almost 40 years.

In 1968, Joe joined the Department of Vegetable Crops as an Extension Specialist, received his M.S. from Cornell in 1973, and became associate professor in 1981. His research and extension program focused on horticultural aspects of potatoes, but also studied numerous other vegetables. In 1980, he became coordinator of the Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center at Riverhead, where he stayed until he retired in 2002.

Though he conducted research on many vegetable crops, Joe focused on potatoes. He evaluated nitrogen rates and spacing for promising clones and newly named varieties to determine optimum
Joe also conducted rate experiments which led to growers reducing phosphorus fertilizers by 50%. He evaluated the effects on yield and quality of other nutrients such as calcium. Due to the concerns of nitrate in the groundwater on New York’s Long Island, Joe conducted nitrogen leaching studies. Evaluation of preemergence and post-emergence herbicides and vine desiccants were conducted, including evaluating the effects of vine killers on Colorado potato beetles. Most fumigants were banned from use on Long Island. Research demonstrated that marigolds could control root-lesion nematodes, however it was difficult to seed this crop. Joe evaluated commercial planters for field seeding raw marigold seeds and investigated marigolds as a rotational crop with potatoes and other vegetable crops.

Working with the Cornell potato breeding program, he helped develop twelve new potato varieties, all of which are resistant to golden nematodes, a major international potato pest. As a collaborator in the Golden Nematode Technical Work Group, comprised of extension, university, state and federal players, this group received the “United States Department of Agriculture Certificate of Merit.”

Joe shared his expertise and efforts in developing new potato varieties with the entire east coast potato community. He participated in the regional project NE-107 (then NE184) with potato researchers from nine eastern states. During this period, he was involved in the release of four varieties from the USDABeltsville breeding program and two from the University of Maine. These efforts received the “Northeastern State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors’ Award for Regional Research Excellence” for participation in regional project NE-184, which had the goal of developing new potato clones for environmental and economical sustainability in the Northeast.

He had been an active member of the Potato Association of America (PAA), a professional society for the advancement of knowledge on all aspects of the potato. He served in many capacities, including as President (1993) and was elected an Honorary Life Member (2000), the highest award bestowed by that organization. Joe was co-chair of the local arrangements committees which hosted the PAA annual meetings in Buffalo (2008) and in Ithaca, (1986). He was co-author of two editions of the association’s handbook, “Commercial Potato Production in North America.” Joe was also a co-author of “The Complete Book of Potatoes: What Every Grower and Gardener Needs to Know.”

“Joe was extremely knowledgeable in all things ‘potato’ and had an encyclopedic memory,” said Donald Halseth, professor emeritus of Horticulture. “He knew things about more potato varieties than anyone I have known. During the 1980s, at the PAA summer meetings where variety ID field plots were held, Joe consistently was able to identify more lines than anyone, even when most of the entries were not even grown in the eastern U.S.” Dale Moyer, former potato specialist and agriculture program director for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, mentioned “I always remember Joe telling both new and old staff during harvesting and grading, usually several times a year – ‘treat the potatoes like eggs.’” “From a personal point of view, I always valued the uncommon amount of ‘common sense’ that Joe showed when I would ask for his advice, which I did very often,” said Elmer Ewing, professor emeritus of Horticulture. “He had sound judgment on important issues and was able to see the broad picture.”

Joe spent substantial time researching other vegetable crops. He investigated broccoli varieties, plant population studies, suitable herbicides and post-harvest handling for the crop’s production and
marketing on Long Island. This was an effort to develop an alternative or rotation crop for potato
growers. Joe worked on variety selection, fertilizer rates and cultural practice trials on sweet corn,
peppers, tomatoes, onions, broccoli, cauliflower, brussel sprouts, kale, cabbage, specialty melons,
winter squash, pumpkins and calabaza (tropical pumpkins). Joe conducted nitrogen rate and timing
at planting and sidedress studies for sweet corn to determine the most efficient rates and methods for
high production and to minimize nitrate impacts to the groundwater. He evaluated the use of
Presidedress Soil Nitrate Tests (PSNT) in cabbage and sweet corn production. This was also an
effort to minimize nitrate leaching into the groundwater. As herbicides were removed from the
market on Long Island, weed management became an issue for the vegetable growers. In the late
90s, Joe evaluated innovative cultivation equipment including the brush hoe and finger tine weeder.

“Joe had an incredible knowledge of potatoes,” said Steve Reiners, chair of Cornell’s Horticulture
Section. “But if I saw anything odd in any vegetable crop, he was the first person I called as he
could always recall a similar problem and, more importantly, a solution from the past. I miss his
incredible knowledge and recall. He was a great mentor for me as he was to countless other
extension educators.” “Joe was such a noted expert on potatoes and other vegetable crops that it
earned him tremendous respect from the entire agriculture community,” said Mark Bridgen,
professor in the School of Integrative Plant Science and the current director of the Long Island
Horticultural Research and Extension Center.

After retirement, Joe would always be eager to make grower visits to discuss production practices,
new variety performance, or diagnose production issues. He was very willing to assist extension
educators with questions. His nearly forty years of experience was invaluable to growers and
extension personnel.

While working as an extension educator in Steuben County, Joe met the extension home economist
there, Mary Ann Sabolsky. Mary Ann had grown up in Marianna, Pennsylvania and came to New
York after receiving her degree at Mercyhurst College. The two married in 1966. Mary Ann passed
away in 2014, after nearly 48 years of marriage. She implored her husband to remain active and
continue doing what he loved - singing, dancing and traveling. He made good on that promise. He
was a long-standing member and past president of the North Fork Community Theatre and belonged
to numerous singing and dancing groups and clubs. Joe even performed at open mic nights, both
locally and in The Villages, Florida, singing show tunes primarily.

In addition to performing and travel, Joe’s hobbies included gardening, biking, and swimming, with
golf and pickleball added in retirement. He enjoyed working on old cars, including 1937 and 1939
Chevrolet Coupes and a 1955 Cadillac, and was a member and secretary of the Peconic Bay Region
Antique Automobile Club of America. “He was very active until the last minute,” said his daughter
Liz.

Joe enjoyed traveling both in the U.S. and internationally. He planned to take each of his five
grandchildren on trips. In 2018, shortly before his death, he traveled to London and Paris with two
of his grandchildren, Jessica and Lucia. Earlier he took another granddaughter, Kimberly, to Poland.
Sadly, grandsons James and Alexander missed their opportunity to travel with their grandfather.

Joe was predeceased by his wife Mary Ann in 2014. He is survived by their children, Elizabeth
(James Felakos) of Brooklyn, New York, Michael (Heather Cameron) of Bellingham, Washington, and
Michelle (David) Scheer of Mattituck, New York; and grandchildren Kimberly and Jessica Scheer, Lucia Sieczka, and James and Alexander Felakos.

Written by Donald E. Halseth, Dale D. Moyer, and William J. Sanok
Cornell’s Carl Becker long ago observed that a successful professor is “one who thinks otherwise.”

Joel Silbey exemplified Becker’s insight. Born in Brooklyn, New York on August 16, 1933, he became not only a distinguished historian of American political history, but an ardent fan of baseball’s New York Giants. He often recalled how the Giants defeated the favored Dodgers in the memorable 1951 playoffs, and how he had to remain in his house for three days rather than risk being beaten up by neighboring Dodger fans. Thinking otherwise could, contrary to Becker, have unhappy consequences.

But thinking otherwise could also develop a distinguished national and international academic career. Joel graduated from Brooklyn College in 1955, then earned a Master’s degree in 1956 and his Ph.D., in 1963 from the University of Iowa. His pioneering dissertation used quantitative techniques, borrowed from the social sciences, to develop what he termed “the Civil War synthesis.” That synthesis offered a new explanation for both the development of the post-1828 two-party system and the causes of the American Civil War. After initially teaching at San Francisco State College (now San Francisco State University), the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Maryland, he began a 36-year career at Cornell in 1966. Joel became an associate professor the next year when his revised dissertation was published as The Shrine of Party: Congressional Voting Behavior, 1841-1852. He was named a full professor in 1968 and then given the President White chair in 1986. He became an emeritus professor on his retirement in 2002.

As a fabled undergraduate teacher, Joel usually alternated his two major year-long classes, a survey of 200 years of American political history and an examination of the Civil War and Reconstruction. In 1986, he received the prestigious Clark Distinguished Teaching Award. In an introductory lecture in these courses, he often announced that the students’ final grade depended on their scores on the midterm and final, short papers, and how the New York football Giants were doing in December.
During his office hours he reassured the students who took him seriously.

He chaired the Honors Committee for scores of outstanding upperclass students. One was Evan Stewart, now a prominent New York City lawyer who, understanding that Joel’s Olin Library study had become virtually his second home, gave a gift that named the study for Joel. Fittingly, Joel served a term as head of the Cornell Libraries Board. At the graduate level, he chaired the committees for ten doctoral students. One of the undergrads he taught in the mid-1960s and talked to at length in his office was David Maisel, a fellow Brooklynite who wrote for the Cornell Sun. In 1995-1996, David established an annual lectureship co-named for Joel that brings noted political leaders, diplomatic officials, and academics to campus.

His teaching was not limited to Ithaca. In the late 1970s, he joined Professor Ted Lowi of Government to establish the Cornell-in-Washington program. As director of the program between 1992 and 1998, Joel helped persuade Cornell’s President and Provost to authorize the purchase of the building that now houses year round classes and student rooms. He was quietly but justifiably proud when his son, David (a published and highly favorably reviewed historian), became the leader of the Washington program.

Over the years, Joel became a star attraction on the Cornell alumni circuit. He convened the first alumni group that met on an island off the coast of Washington state. Along with Dean Glenn Altschuler, Joel taught hundreds of alumni in classes at the Mohonk Mountain House resort, in New Paltz, New York, that analyzed upcoming congressional or presidential elections. Joel also learned to know many alumni when he met them with his wife, Rosemary, who served with Cornell’s Office of Alumni Affairs and Development. He often enlivened these gatherings by thinking otherwise – by arguing, for example, that third parties were harmful to democracies. Joel served as well as an unofficial adviser to Harold Tanner, chair of the Cornell Board of Trustees, who sought his advice at a 7:00 a.m. breakfast at the Straight whenever Harold was in town.

Joel published eight books and, remarkably, edited or co-edited 16 other single volumes or multivolume sets. In this work, he employed quantitative along with more traditional methods and sources to specify how the modern U.S. political system had been born and evolved while focusing on the intensifying debates in the pre-Civil War years. His hero for these two developments was not one of the usual suspects, such as Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk, or Abraham Lincoln. It was Martin Van Buren, long ignored by historians because of his weak, one-term presidency of 1837-1841. In his biography of Van Buren, Joel transformed this maligned, and ignored, president into one of the first and most astute of the nation’s professional politicians who played a crucial role in establishing the two-party system.

Such thinking otherwise on these crucial issues shaped most of his books, including *A Respectable Minority* (1977), on the too often overlooked role of the Democrats during the Civil War; *The Partisan Imperative* (1985); a magisterial volume, *The American Political Nation, 1828-1893* (1991); and *Party Over Section: The Rough and Ready Presidential Election of 1848* (2009), innovative and the first study of that important election in forty years. *Storm Over Texas: The Annexation Controversy and the Road to Civil War* (2005) was praised in *The Journal of Southern History* review for being authored by a
“distinguished scholar [who] has opened a new promising path to be explored in the causation of the
American Civil War.” It was a fitting judgment for a lifetime of outstanding scholarship.

Joel also influenced international analyses of the U.S. political system. During the 1990s, he became
a leading figure in an initiative in which distinguished scholars from Russia and the United States
convened in Moscow to study and debate American political history in ways that might be useful to
post-Communist Russia. Joel edited the volume that emerged from these discussions,
Russian-American Dialogue on the History of American Political Parties (2000). In his Preface, he
emphasized the fresh “transnational perspective” that produced this important volume: “direct,
cogent, and sharp…but also with the gloves off.” In 2005, he was awarded the prestigious
Harmsworth Visiting Professorship at Oxford University.

Justifiably proud of his influential teaching, path-breaking publications, and sterling reputation
among alumni, Joel always affirmed that his first love took precedence. Rosemary and Joel were
married 58 years; they were inseparable. He was devoted to their daughter, Victoria (a lawyer), and
son, David (a historian of military and U.S. history and Associate Director of Cornell in
Washington). Both graduated from Cornell and enjoy marked success in their professions. Joel was
devoted as well to his grandchildren Abigail, Thomas, and Madeline, daughter-in-law Mari Silbey,
and son-in-law Thomas Hogan. Joel meanwhile looked forward each day to his teaching, which
influenced so many students and alumni, and to thinking otherwise about American political
institutions in the Olin Library study that now bears his name. His scholarly legacy includes a more
nuanced understanding of the Civil War’s causes and crucial new insights into the role of the
nation’s two-party political system as a cornerstone of American democracy.

Written by Walter LaFeber (chair), Glenn Altschuler, and Sandra Greene
Dr. Sang J. Shin, Professor Emeritus at Cornell University’s College of Veterinary Medicine passed away on June 3, 2018 at his residence in Glen Mills, Pennsylvania surrounded by family; Dr. Shin was 78 years old. Dr. Shin was a long-time resident of Dryden, NY. Survived by his wife of 49 years, An Suh Shin; his daughter Jennifer Shin Han (David Han); his son Bryant Shin (Laurie Shin); 3 grandchildren, Alexandria Han, Kate Shin, and Anna Shin; his many brothers and sisters; and many nieces and nephews.

After serving proudly in the Korean Army as second lieutenant Sang graduated from Seoul National University in Seoul, South Korea and The Seoul National University Veterinary School receiving his DVM degree. He was a long-time professor at the Cornell University’s Veterinary College and began working at the Diagnostic Laboratory (DL) at Cornell in 1973. Dr. Shin became a diplomate of American College of Veterinary Microbiology in 1985. He retired from Cornell in 2006 after having dedicated his life to microbiology research for 33 years. He was a great inspiration to the many staff and students he touched, and was a leader in advancing the Diagnostic Laboratory to being recognized nationally and internationally as one of the best.

Sang was deeply committed to his family, sustaining all with love and inspirational advice.

Sang was a long-time member of the Cornell University Golf Course and loved the game of golf throughout his life. He loved to share his gregarious nature with his many friends from all over the world.

Within veterinary microbiology Sang had wide-ranging interests, but he will be remembered most for his intense interest and dedication to the discipline. We want to highlight just a few of programs that Sang initiated with the early team from the DL, especially Valerie Patten as lab supervising microbiologist. Sang came to us from the University of Chicago where he had cultivated an interest in anaerobic infections and in mycology; he was well versed in enteric bacteriology and was also on top of antimicrobial susceptibility testing; in fact the first time Dr. Pat McDonough remembered working with Sang was in 1973 when his graduate advisor Dr. John F. Timoney sent him to Sang’s lab in the “DL” to learn the
relatively new technique of Kirby-Bauer disk diffusion Antibiotic Sensitivity Test. Little did Pat know that he would be working for Sang in 1975 up until he retired! With Sang’s guidance our Bacteriology/Mycology lab at Cornell’s DL bloomed over the years. For much of that time Dr. John T. Timoney was a key collaborator on many of our microbiology projects.

Sang was well known for his interest and expertise in the infectious infertility and microbiology of the reproductive tract of cattle, horses and dogs; this was an area that would become perhaps the best know area for the DL (and Cornell Vet College) as a “go to” resource in the coming years for guidance and diagnostic expertise. Sang developed the methodology to validate all cattle semen extenders for the bovine artificial Insemination industry and worked with the Certified Semen Industry group in Wisconsin to do this. He also extended Dr. Louise Ruhnke’s (Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Ontario) protocols and refined her culture techniques for detecting *Mycoplasma spp*. Dr. Shin was principle or co-principle investigator in over 50 research projects and published over 70 peer reviewed scientific papers.

Along with Dr. Peter Timoney (University of Kentucky, Lexington Kentucky) who was on the faculty of Cornell Vet at that time, Sang co-developed and validated the gold standard culture technique for Contagious Equine Metritis/*Taylorrella* bacteria that is still used, with some modifications, by the United States Department of Agriculture/National Veterinary Service Laboratories, Ames, Iowa.

Sang also was greatly involved in Dr. Donald Lein’s “3 Diseases” program in the Johne’s disease diagnostic area. He and our team developed and validated the liquid culture technique for culturing *Mycobacterium avian paratuberculosis* that significantly shortened the time for cultural diagnosis over the then gold standard of solid culture. The lab worked closely with Drs. Susan Stehman and Chris Rossiter in applying our cultural to the Johne’s control programs that were to become a key part of the New York State Cattle Heath Assurance Program, Johne’s Disease Module in collaboration with Dr. John Huntley, State Veterinarian for the Division of Animal Industry, NYS Dept of Agriculture and Markets.

Dr. Shin worked tirelessly to apply, validate and use Dr. Leland Carmichael’s *Brucella canis* serology to the practical diagnostic application for canine brucellosis. To this day the lab at Cornell is a serological reference lab for the global veterinary community for the diagnosis of canine brucellosis.

Dr. John M. Fairbrother (Faculté de médecine vétérinaire Université de Montréal) was our first graduate student in Sang’s lab and began our interest in leptospirosis diagnosis and complemented Sang’s interest in cattle abortion and infertility.

Dr. Shin was the great ambassador between Cornell and Korea. Sang was the faculty advisor for over 400 Korean undergraduate and 180 graduate students at Cornell. Dr. Shin organized the visits for President Frank H T Rhodes to Korea and nine Veterinary College faculty members for various meetings. Dr. Shin organized the training of Korean equine veterinarians at Cornell for equine health service at the Korean Summer Olympics. Also, Sang organized training for several Korean academic scientists, graduate students and interns at Cornell. Dr. Sang Shin was President of the Korean Veterinary Society of
America (1981) and advisor and organizer of several meetings for Korean veterinary research institutes, laboratories, vaccine companies, and practicing veterinary organizations. Sang was recognized for his work by receiving the “Most Distinguished Alumni of the Year Award” in 2003 from his alma mater and the “Distinguished Honorary Scientist Award” in 2004 from the Rural Development Administration of the Republic of Korea. In memory of Dr. Sang Shin, the College of Veterinary Medicine at Seoul National University held a memorial ceremony to honor him for his contributions to the University and named a laboratory and planted a tree in lasting memory.

Written by Patrick H. McDonough, Richard H. Jacobson, Leland E. Carmichael and Donald H. Lein
Albert Silverman had a long and distinguished career in Physics, coinciding with "the Golden Age of Elementary Particle Physics" in the last half of the Twentieth Century. He was never far from the frontier of particle physics during that exciting era.

Silverman was one of the first physicists to join the Laboratory of Nuclear Studies (LNS) at Cornell, after its formation by distinguished founding members coming from the Manhattan Project. Born in Boston, after serving in the US Navy from 1944-1946, Al received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1950 before coming to Cornell. His entire subsequent career was spent at Cornell, continuing long after his retirement in 1990.

The physicists at LNS began building a succession of five state-of-the-art electron accelerators, increasing in energy and intensity, enabling faculty and staff at Cornell to work at the very frontier of particle physics in a home-grown facility while most universities were closing down their accelerators. Cornell became a rare university environment, where graduate and even undergraduate students could participate at the frontier of physics. Al made significant contributions to every phase of construction of these accelerators, and particularly to the development of new particle detectors and the experiments that made major contributions to discoveries in physics. He led several pioneering experiments, including, at one of the earlier accelerators, evidence for the existence of a new particle, later established to be the "ρ" vector meson. At the next Cornell accelerator, Al led one of the several efforts around the world that definitely established and explored the properties of the ρ meson, along with successively more massive vector mesons.

The next stage in advancing the frontier required the building of the electron-positron storage ring and collider called CESR (Cornell Electron Storage Ring). In 1975, Al coordinated a group of physicists from Cornell, Harvard, Rochester, Syracuse, and Vanderbilt, to initiate the design of a particle detector to utilize the unique capabilities of CESR. During the next four years Al worked tirelessly to bring a diverse group of physicists from these and other institutions together to form the CLEO Collaboration. This was an association of individual, far-flung university groups accustomed to working independently on much smaller projects with relatively little time pressure. All of Al's skills of negotiation and persuasion were required to focus these individuals on the collaboration's goals and keep the construction on schedule. He succeeded admirably and
the CLEO detector was ready to take data when CESR was completed in 1979. The first results (including discovery of an important new particle) were obtained late in 1979 and were announced to the high energy physics community in a holiday greeting card. The card was an instant sensation and riveted the attention of colleagues world-wide. Since then, CLEO has been one of the most productive collaborations in high energy physics, discovering the B meson and pioneering detailed measurements of the newest particles containing of b quarks and of c quarks.

While leading the construction of the CLEO detector, Al steered the group into a particularly collegial style for collaboration governance. Leadership was vested in a few elected officers, each with responsibilities in a particular area, such as the detector or the software that processed the data and performed the analysis. The elections of these officers, and other decisions were decided by democratic votes of the members. The votes of individual graduate students and postdocs counted as much as the votes of the most senior and distinguished professors. This method of operation was enshrined in a constitution, elements of which have been adopted by later collaborations. The CLEO Collaboration is heavily indebted to Al for guiding it in these formative years and establishing such an effective and collegial tradition. This tradition of collegiality and friendliness is certainly not common in other large collaborations around the world!

Al's contributions were not limited to organization and governance of the collaboration. He took a very active part in the physics results produced by the group. He often served as an "elder statesman," guiding younger colleagues through the complications of their analyses of data on their ways to discoveries, and smoothing relationships among colleagues. He continued this activity into retirement. As a leader, he was always kind and gentle with his colleagues, always welcoming to new arrivals, leading by example and by persuasion. To work with him was to be part of a close-knit family.

Al was a true interdisciplinary scholar. He had broad interests in music and art as well as in science. His multiple sabbaticals and visits to the University of Rome were almost as much about art as about physics. This made Al the de facto leader of a kind of informal “sister institution” relationship in which sabbatical leaves were traded with what had earlier been Fermi's nuclear laboratory. In later years, he collaborated with colleagues in other departments at Cornell in the use of physics for the investigation of archaeological objects.

Al was an early supporter of and participant in the COSEP program for bringing minority students to Cornell. He taught introductory physics courses for students in the program to help them bridge the (often substantial) gap between their high school physics courses and the courses that they would encounter at Cornell.

Al also taught an interdisciplinary course for "poets," i.e., non-science undergraduates. His enthusiasm for physics and his talent for helping students understand the subject created immediate rapport with young students.

During his career, Silverman served on many national advisory boards: the Program Advisory and Scientific Policy Committees of the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center; the Visiting Committee and Board of Overseers of Fermilab; and the Trustees of the Universities Research Association.

With his warm humor, wide range of interests in science and beyond, Al was a superb companion. He had a special talent for introducing and discussing topics that could elicit responses from even the quietest members of a group. All of his colleagues and everyone else who knew Al Silverman miss his warmth, his humor, his wide range of interest and knowledge, and his enthusiasm for all aspects of life.
Daniel G. Sisler—a Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor Emeritus and a Cornell trustee emeritus—is one in the pantheon of Cornell’s greatest teachers and mentors. Raised on a small farm in rural Wales Center NY (near Buffalo), he had first-hand exposure to the economics of the farm sector, but his success as a scholar and teacher in agricultural and development economics could hardly have been predicted in his youth. Indeed, because of his family’s timber operations, he matriculated at Purdue University (with a football scholarship) to pursue an education to be an industrial chemist specializing in wood adhesives.

His life and career took a major turn when, sensing that he was about to be drafted, Sisler took a leave of absence from Purdue and enlisted in the Air Force. He became a survival and rescue specialist, and this expertise led to his teaching survival techniques to aircraft crews. An explosion during a training mission in March 1954 left Sisler blind in both eyes. After many months of rehabilitation at a hospital near Chicago, he returned to Purdue. But, he thought that his disability would likely be a problem for a career in the physical sciences, and he turned his focus to agricultural economics. After obtaining a bachelor’s degree (1956), he completed a master’s degree in agricultural economics at Purdue in 1957.

Dan was admitted to the Ph.D. program in agricultural economics at Cornell, and did his doctoral research under the direction of Kenneth L. Robinson, a distinguished and respected student of agricultural policy. The resulting dissertation, titled “Direct Producer Payments in the Feed GrainLivestock Sector of American Agriculture,” was recognized as an outstanding dissertation by the national association of agricultural economists (now the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA)). This award was an early indicator of the quality of Sisler’s work, but the Cornell faculty must have recognized his potential even earlier, because he was asked to teach an introductory course, the Economics of Agricultural Geography, while still a graduate student.
Appointed a Lecturer for the 1961-62 academic year, he considered himself “the luckiest man in the world.”

This appointment was the start of a distinguished, remarkable career. Appointed an assistant professor upon completion of this Ph.D. in 1962, Sisler rose through the ranks, and ultimately was named a Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor in 1987, a title previously held by his dissertation adviser, Ken Robinson. Dan retired August 30, 1995.

He taught the introductory course in agricultural economics over his entire career, and just three years after starting to teach, the seniors in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences elected him a Teacher of Merit. He would go on to receive the New York State Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching (1975), the AAEA’s Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award (1978), and the Distinguished Educator Award from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (1985). He also received the Edgerton Career Teaching Award in 1992.

The introductory course became extremely popular, with enrollments initially limited by the size of the largest available auditorium, but by adding television monitors in two classrooms, annual enrollments frequently exceeded 600. Dan also taught other classes, including an influential graduate course on research methods, which combined topics in research philosophy and methods. He surely taught more than 10,000 students at Cornell. Moreover, his approachability, warmth, and generous nature made a lasting impression on the many hundreds, perhaps thousands, of students who entered his office for advice and “just to talk.” These students included numerous athletes, as Sisler was an academic counselor for Cornell’s Department of Athletics.

Of equal or possibly greater significance was his mentorship and guidance of graduate students. From the 1960s onward, Cornell attracted many applicants, often with Peace Corps experience, interested in development economics, and Dan shifted much of his professional work to the economics of development, with research on a variety of topics and in a variety of locations. He supervised 76 theses, four of which won awards, and he was, of course, a minor member of many more guidance committees.

Sisler believed that his graduate students should do field work to collect original data and motivated them to do so. This required finding funding, which was often difficult, and undertaking travel to remote rural parts of countries such as Nepal, Bangladesh, and Malawi. Such travel did not seem to faze Dan, and the consequence was excellent, original research as well as lasting friendships with his students. His last doctoral student, Jan Low, is quoted as saying that “When someone supports you as much as Dan did, it helps push through the tough times … as you cannot imagine telling him you are going to give up.” Jan was the co-winner of the World Food Prize in 2016, and Dan was able to attend the awards ceremony. Earlier, he was one of a small group of Cornell faculty invited to attend the inauguration of Cornell alumnus Lee Teng-Hui (Ph.D. 1969) as the president of Taiwan.

The depth and effects of his teaching, counsel and friendship are conveyed by the numerous messages from former students, many of which were collated into a 12-page document by Professor Gillian Hart of the University of California, Berkeley. This massive outpouring of memories is reflected in statements such as “a man of extraordinary perception, insight, good humor and humanity,” and summarized by “He was truly one of the Greats.”
Early in his career, Sisler published on topics related to agricultural trade policy, e.g., a paper on “International Trade Policies and Agriculture” presented at the 1970 International Conference of Agricultural Economists in Minsk and a coauthored article on the exports of developing countries (The Review of Economics and Statistics, 1971). From the early 1970s onward, however, his research was almost exclusively done in collaboration with graduate students, and he was either a junior coauthor or merely an acknowledged contributor to their work. Thus, although Dan contributed much to the research of his students, his resume does not have a lengthy list of publications. His focus was very much on the success of his students and on the contributions of their work to the well-being of society.

Dan provided much service to Cornell and to society at large. He helped prepare the proposal that resulted in establishing and funding the Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development (CIIFAD). He was a consultant on hunger issues to the presiding bishops of the Episcopal Church USA from 1980 onward; a member of the General Committee of the Cornell Graduate School, 1979-1982; a Cornell faculty trustee, 1979-1984, and on the Trustee’s Executive Committee, 1982-84; and a member of the Board of Trustees of Hellen Keller International, starting in 1980, serving as Chairman, 1994-2006. Although much of his service went unrecognized, Sisler received an honorary Doctor of Agriculture degree from Purdue in 1989 and was named a Fellow of AAEA in 1987.

Notwithstanding his busy professional life, Dan found time to cross country ski, paddle down whitewater rapids, and especially to fish. His students and colleagues were a part of these activities, and the stories of their trips are numerous and legendary. He was also active in his local church and local organizations. In other words, Dan Sisler led an amazingly full life, much of which was devoted to helping students and the under-privileged of the world. Sisler is survived by his wife Carol, two sons, Steven and Peter, and three grandchildren.

*Written by W. G. Tomek and D. L. Call*
Professor Emeritus Floyd Slate died in Florida at the age of 88. He was a professor of materials in the Department of Engineering Mechanics and Materials (the precursor of the Department of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics) and subsequently of the Department of Structural Engineering in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering from 1949 until his retirement in 1987. Born in Indiana and raised on a farm in that great state, Slate was no stranger to hard work. He attended Purdue University where he majored in chemistry, receiving a B.S. in 1941, a M.S. in 1942 and a Ph.D. in 1944. From 1946-49 he was an Assistant Professor at Purdue, where he worked on the Joint Highway Research Project as Chief Chemist, and on the Manhattan Project as Chemical Supervisor.

He joined Cornell University in 1949 as an Associate Professor, received full professor status in 1973, specialized in engineering materials – particularly concrete and masonry – and studied the relationship between internal structure and engineering properties. His passion and deep expertise in all things related to concrete materials began with his Ph.D. dissertation at Purdue, where his background in chemistry was called upon to advance the development of a new type of paint for marking highway pavements. In what became his characteristic method for tackling a new problem, he threw himself into the study of Portland concrete to fully understand the substrate to which his new, extended-durability paints were to adhere. As is absolutely true in the case of Professor Floyd Slate, “the rest is history.” His background in the well-organized literature of pure chemistry, combined with his in-depth exploration of the concrete literature led to a life-long passion for that literature and a firm requirement that each of his graduate students match their time in the laboratory with equal time in the Cornell library, where,
Floyd was fond of saying, that within the extensive collections at Cornell, “A scholar can follow a footnote home.”

Alumni fondly and enthusiastically recall the courses he taught: Engineering Materials, Differential Equations for Engineering, Strength of Materials, Structure and Properties of Materials, and Advanced Plain Concrete (concentrating on the material itself), to name a few. His materials courses were always accompanied by a weekly hands-on laboratory component, most frequently under the watchful and dedicated supervision of Stanley Olsefski, professional lab technician extraordinaire and Floyd’s co-author and long-time friend.

Among the innovative and interdisciplinary courses not previously offered on campus, Slate co-developed "Low-Cost Housing” with Professor Henry Richardson of Cornell’s College of Architecture. The course provided a forum in which Floyd could engage students across campus and share knowledge and insight gained in his extensive international travel to study indigenous construction methods, materials, and cultures. Within a comfortable setting of his numerous stories and broad collection of slides and photos, students took on individual projects to explore a country or region and to suggest new ideas for improving the human condition. While encouraging creativity, Slate was quick to point out that advances in the technology or economy of building materials or systems must be compatible with the culture and traditions of any particular society for such innovation to be successful, and his lectures always included photos of well-intentioned technologies that led to social failures. His breadth of knowledge on the topic enabled him to compile the publication, "Low-Cost Housing for Developing Countries, an Annotated Bibliography 1950 – 1972."

Professor Slate supervised many graduate students who majored in structural and transportation engineering, but he may be best known in the field of concrete for his landmark, break-through work on identifying and proving the existence of hair’s-width “microcracks” within the concrete matrix, and correlating these cracks with the macro behavior of reinforced and unreinforced concrete under multi-axial loading. The existence of such cracks had been postulated, but it was only when Slate and Olsefski recovered and refurbished a used X-Ray machine from the Cornell School of Veterinary Medicine, and pioneered techniques for using it to study thin slices of concrete, that the cracks were positively identified and mapped. Slate and his co-authors then went on to describe the effects of these cracks on the most basic of concrete behaviors: the shape of the stress-strain curve, and that was only the beginning of a long-list of award-winning papers. Slate’s successors extended X-Radiography to Neutron Radiography, and sustained what has become the Cornell hallmark of connecting micro- to macrobehavior.

On these pivotal projects and papers Floyd worked closely with many of his CEE colleagues such as George Winter and Arthur Nilson. He also interacted with colleagues at other Universities, particularly in the Mideast and South Pacific. He was a member of the American Institute of Chemists (AIC), American Concrete Institute (ACI), American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM), and American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and served on several professional committees. He won the ACI Wason Medal for Materials Research for the "best original research work in fields of cement and concrete" a remarkable three times, in 1957, 1965 and
1974. In 1983, he was the recipient of the ACI Arthur R. Anderson Award for “outstanding contributions to the advancement of knowledge of concrete as a construction material.” And in 1986, he won the Wason Medal for most meritorious paper published by the ACI. His work also contributed to Cornell’s structural engineering laboratory earning ACI’s Charles S. Whitney Medal in 1988 for contributions to the field. In 1992, Floyd was elected to ACI Honorary Membership. Within Cornell CEE he won the award "for outstanding and consistent contributions to bettering faculty-student relations" and received top teaching recognition from Tau Beta Pi. Always looking for innovative solutions to practical problems, Floyd Slate was sought-after as a consultant to governments and industry and traveled to many foreign countries lecturing and consulting on concrete, masonry, corrosion, and indigenous, culturally compatible, affordable housing.

A key to Professor Slate’s success was that he liked nothing better than to be in his lab, and in that lab he absolutely insisted on painstakingly careful experimental technique. He had carried this passion from his Purdue training, where Floyd’s first Ph.D. student, Professor William Dolch (who went on to great renown in concrete research) recalled, “Professor Slate personally showed me exactly the right way to fold filter paper.” In the concrete, masonry, and timber labs at Cornell he enforced strict compliance with ASTM test methods, even to manually controlling rate of loading with older- generation hydraulic test machines not built to make such control easy. He equally applied the notions of scrupulous care and attention to detail in his early pre-computer, pre-finiteelement analysis of stress and strain via numerical methods and the graphic “Point Matching” technique, working with Professor Harry Donald Conway and involving hundreds of tedious yet critical calculations. And when the analytical or experimental work was done, Slate required that his students “write it up in such manner that the reader could exactly duplicate the work in every detail.”

So complete was his mastery of concrete materials, and so keen was his interest in learning more that in only a few years he came to prominence as an invited speaker in the most influential national and international conferences and venues, where his published conference proceedings are every bit the landmark contributions of his work in more readily available journals. His personal friends and associates in the field constituted a virtual “Who’s Who” of concrete research, which has paid huge dividends to Floyd’s subsequent students as an entree to that community by virtue of association with Professor Slate.

While Floyd Slate’s many outstanding and pivotal technical contributions can be readily verified and appreciated again and again in his beloved “Literature,” it may be on the non-technical side of his Cornell career that he made his most profound contributions. While always an award-winning teacher, he was also a mentor, equally willing to discuss career directions, teaching styles and policies, and advice for balancing career, family, and personal time. Further, his international travel gave Floyd a deep knowledge of languages, customs, traditions, and cultures. Dinner at Floyd and Midge’s house was always an international affair, with cuisine and guests representing many lands. Afterdinner discussion was never about concrete (that was for the office), but always about insights from differing world cultures. Never-favoring any custom or belief system over another, Floyd embraced them all, searching to discover meaning and inspiration in
words and their origins, rituals and their significance, and people and their hearts and minds. To become one of Professor Slate’s graduate students was to become a member of an international community, temporarily represented in Ithaca but sharing ideas and languages from faraway places. For Floyd each day was a celebration of Cornell’s international nature, mission, and opportunity.

Floyd Slate not only loved Cornell deeply and appreciated its countless technical, cultural, and social opportunities, but he loved the Finger Lakes region and counted it among the most beautiful and peaceful environments in the world (and he would know, having visited most of the world). Early one cool, crisp fall morning he called several colleagues that he knew to be photographers to alert them that the sky that day had an unprecedented clarity and shade of blue, and that he recommended that the schedule for the day be adjusted to take advantage of the illumination, which he knew would not last long. Likewise one recalls another day when Floyd received a letter informing him that one of his past students had just received a prestigious academic award at his home university in the Middle East. Floyd’s uninhibited joy in his student’s success knew no bounds as he fairly danced around his office saying that it was “A great day for Cornell.”

Professor Slate is survived by his children, two daughters and one son. His beloved wife, Margaret – known to many as "Midge," predeceased him on August 16, 2004.

Kenneth C. Hover, Chair; John F. Abel
Professor Seymour Smidt (Sy) was the Nicholas H. Noyes Professor of Economics and Finance in the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell. Professor Smidt earned three degrees from the University of Chicago, studying social psychology, economic theory, and econometrics. He received his Ph.D. in 1954.

Soon after his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army, Sy joined the faculty at Cornell in 1956 as a newly appointed Assistant Professor of Managerial Economics in the Graduate School of Business and Public Administration (B&PA). He was promoted to associate professor in 1959 and to professor in 1965. In 1978, he was appointed to the Noyes Chair. On his retirement from Cornell in 2005, he became Professor Emeritus. As a tribute to his legacy up to that time, a seminar room in Sage Hall was dedicated in his honor by his colleagues, friends and former students.

Sy Smidt arrived at McGraw Hall and Ithaca in September 1956. The office was small, drafty and without a fire escape. Sy and his wife Rita rented one-half of a house in Collegetown on Dewitt Place. The street was half way up the hill and was difficult to get to in the nice weather and even worse in the bad weather so common to Ithaca. In spite of their initial settings, Sy thrived personally and professionally and came to love the Ithaca area and Cornell.

His contributions to the intellectual life of the school and to the successful careers of his students over the next decades would be invaluable. From his first day, Sy engaged intellectually with his colleagues and students in research and teaching. He was intelligent and curious. His longest collaboration was with Professor Emeritus Harold Bierman, Jr. Together they significantly influenced the field of finance. On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of
the American Finance Association, the AFA commissioned 19 videos on the history of financial thought. Professors Bierman and Smidt were interviewed in the following video: http://www.afajof.org/details/video/6982451/The-History-of-Financial-Thought-HalBiermanand-Sy-Smidt.html

Sy and Hal were in good company; eleven of the 19 videos featured Nobel Laureates. The AFA interview was based on the impact that Sy’s (and Harold’s) career had on financial analysis in academe and in the business world. The essence of the contribution is captured in The Capital Budgeting Decision, originally published by Macmillan in 1960 and coauthored Professor Bierman. The book has been published in nine editions and ten languages.

Sy authored or co-authored many other influential articles in corporate finance, market microstructure, commodity futures markets and electric-rate regulation. He also authored books in finance and decision theory. Most of all, he enjoyed working with colleagues on any research topic. Sy had a breadth of knowledge and curiosity that allowed him to contribute across the business disciplines. Lunch discussions and random meetings in the hallways were both an enjoyable and fruitful aspect of his collegiality.

Sy also enjoyed teaching, and he influenced MBA and Ph.D. students for over 50 years. He taught a spectrum of required and elective MBA courses, and he supervised many Ph.D. theses. One of his Ph.D. students, Scott Stewart, is now a clinical professor at Johnson and a co-author of this memorial statement. For a recent Cornell Chronicle article, Professor Stewart said “Sy Smidt was instrumental in maintaining and building Johnson’s culture, which encourages professors to promote very high standards and give students strong support. … He helped me hone my research techniques and showed me new ways to think through the theoretical side of a problem. … The opportunity to study with Sy Smidt was a great gift.”

In addition to his scholarship, Sy held many academic and government leadership positions. When Cornell was looking for a volunteer family for an assignment with METU in Turkey in 1962, Sy and Rita packed up their young family and headed out …always interested in a challenge. Later, from 1993 to 1995, Sy organized a graduate management program and served as the founding dean of the School of Business at Koç University in Istanbul, helping hire much of the new faculty.

In 1969, Sy accepted an invitation to work in Washington DC with the SEC on a market research study and was associate director of the Securities and Exchange Commission’s Institutional Investor Study. Sy recognized that this experience would enrich his understanding of economics and the markets and make him a better researcher and teacher at Cornell. Locally, when asked if he would be the nominee and stand for election, he helped form the Village of Lansing in 1974 and was the first mayor, from 1975 to 1981.

After moving from Collegetown, Sy and Rita’s house in Lansing was filled with two children along with many colleagues and friends who were always happy to join in the festivities and enjoy Rita’s superb cuisine. Rita predeceased him. He is survived by his children Tammi Tolentino (Ernest) and Stan Smidt, by three grandchildren, Sean Smidt, Omar Tolentino and
Eliana Tolentino, and many close friends. Sy was a critical part of the culture of the Johnson School for over fifty years. He stayed engaged in teaching, research and with alumni years after his retirement. He was generous with his time for both professional and personal activities. Sy radiated a warm smile, good humor and great ideas. He will be sorely missed.

Thanks Sy.

Written by Harold Bierman, Jr., Thomas R. Dyckman, Scott D. Stewart and L. Joseph Thomas
Donald Frederick Smith, age 66, passed away on October 29, 2016 following complications related to a stroke. Don was born on November 25, 1949 in Picton, Ontario, Canada, and was the son of David and Pearl Smith. He grew up in a rural environment, working on the family dairy and vegetable crop farm. He attended the University of Guelph, achieving his DVM degree (with distinction) in 1974. It was there that he met his future wife, Doris Dempster. Don subsequently completed an internship in large animal medicine followed by a residency in large animal surgery at the University of Pennsylvania.

Following his residency training, Don joined the faculty at New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University and quickly established himself as a premier food animal surgeon with a masterful understanding of bovine anatomy and physiology. This area of expertise was strengthened by his research on metabolic disorders in cattle and fluid replacement therapy.

From 1983 until 1987, Don was Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgical Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He then returned to Cornell and served as Professor and Chair of the Department of Clinical Sciences. In 1991, he became Associate Dean of Education and in this role he was instrumental in establishing the College’s pioneering problem-based-learning curriculum for veterinary medicine. Don served as Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine from 1997 until 2007 and in this role hired outstanding faculty and oversaw departmental reorganization and the building of the state-of-the-art Animal Health and Diagnostic Center.

Don was a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons and a member of the National Academies of Practice. He was widely published and spoke nationally and internationally. In 2007, Don was named Veterinarian of the Year by the New York State
Veterinary Medical Society and also received recognition from the President of the American Veterinary Medical Association. Don pursued many professional interests following his term as Dean. He initially studied the human-animal bond while simultaneously working on a project that quickly became an enduring passion: recording (in spoken and written word) the history of veterinary medicine and veterinary education at Cornell. The audio recordings he collected, as well as written transcripts, images, and biographical sketches of more than 30 Cornell alumni and other notable veterinarians are available as “An Enduring Veterinary Legacy” at eCommons Cornell or at his blog “Veterinary Legacy” (veterinarylegacy.blogspot.com). The majority of his interviews targeted Cornell veterinarians graduating in 1920-1949 and are truly fascinating accounts of different eras, when the typical veterinarian slowly changed from caring for the working horse to companion animals. He also recorded the many roles veterinarians assumed during World War II. Later in his research, he focused in particular on the contributions of women and minorities to the profession of veterinary medicine. He interviewed many women veterinarians around the world and relished the stories they told of practice and of their contributions to the profession. This new interest continued to evolve and Don developed a popular course at the College of Veterinary Medicine focused on the history of veterinary medicine, as well as a seminar series on woman’s leadership. That seminar series evolved into a book co-authored with Julie Kumble entitled “Leaders of the Pack: Women and the Future of Veterinary Medicine (new directions in the human-animal bond)” which contains many more of his interviews. He also authored several journal articles and a book on the history of veterinary medicine, “Pathways to Progress, The Vision and Impact of Members of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges at the Fiftieth Anniversary (1966-2016)” that was commissioned by the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges. More recently, Don helped found, organize and advise a newly established woman veterinary leadership group. He encouraged all young faculty and students to be lifelong learners and to take leadership roles in the profession and in their community.

Don loved being outdoors and hiked many national parks with his family. He loved classical music, played the piano, and was active in his church, the Christ Chapel of Ithaca, NY. Generous and gregarious, he was loved deeply by friends and family and will be profoundly missed. Don is survived by his wife, Doris, and their three adult children: Darryl Smith, his wife Corey, and their two sons Maddox and Bishop of Atlanta, GA; Debra Bourne, her husband Robert, and their daughter Abigail of Pittsburgh, PA; and Dennis Smith and his wife Rachel of Scottsdale, AZ. Don’s siblings, Dorothy, Catherine and Robert also survive him. His father David passed away in 2007 and his mother Pearl passed away a short time after Don.

At the time of his death, Don was Professor of Surgery and the Austin O. Hooey Dean Emeritus. He will be remembered as a true family man, a role model for his students and trainees, a brilliant surgeon, and a caring administrator. His uncanny diagnostic ability with dairy cattle was truly unique and he raised the standard of care for farm animals in the northeastern United States. Those of us who follow in his footsteps will be forever grateful.

Written by Susan L. Fubini (Chair), Richard P. Hackett and Nita L. Irby
Edward Holman Smith, Professor Emeritus at Cornell University, died peacefully at home, surrounded by his loving family, on June 23, 2012, at the age of 96. He was born on September 2, 1915, in Abbeville, S.C., to Joel Allen and Anne Holman Smith, the only son in a family of seven children that included two sets of twins, of which he was one. He was preceded in death by his six sisters: Grace Smith Harrison of Asheville; Anne Smith Cook of Teaneck, NJ; Rebecca Cothran Smith of Columbia, SC; Blanding Smith Guignard of Columbia, SC; Hettie Smith Carter of Asheville; and Meta Lythgoe Smith of Asheville.

Ed graduated from Clemson Agricultural College in 1938 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture-Entomology and a commission in the U.S. Army. He went on to receive Master’s and Doctorate degrees in Entomology from Cornell University. During World War II he served as an officer in the European Theater and retired from the U.S. Army Reserve as a colonel.

Ed’s entomological career began as an agricultural extension agent working with fruit growers in New York State’s Finger Lakes Region. In 1964 he was named Chairman of the Entomology Department at North Carolina State University, in Raleigh, NC. He was an early advocate for the writings of Rachel Carson and testified against the excessive use of DDT at U.S. Senate hearings in the 1960s. He returned to Cornell University in 1967 to become Director of Cooperative Extension for New York State, shepherding that agency through the financial trials following New York City’s declaration of bankruptcy during the 1970s. He ended his career where it began, at Cornell’s Comstock Hall as Chairman of the Entomology Department. His knowledge and expertise took him to Afghanistan, China, Kenya, Thailand, Peru, and Malawi where he worked to improve the quality and quantity of food production in those countries. Throughout his life he was a tireless advocate for the environment, instilling in his children, grandchildren and extended family a love of and respect for nature.

In 1998, Ed and his wife of 64 years, Janet Ritchie Smith, moved from Ithaca, NY, to Asheville, NC, for what he described as their “late harvest” years. Here they made new friends, connected with old ones, and continued their work on the biography of entomological pioneer Charles
Valentine Riley. Ed served on the Board of Visitors of Warren Wilson College and continued to write in his capacity as the “elder statesman and historian” of the Entomological Society of America. From raising Imperial Moth caterpillars for a granddaughter’s first grade class, to sampling new tomato varieties developed at the Fletcher Experimental Station, to picnics at The NC Arboretum, his love for and fascination with the natural world was boundless.

In addition to his beloved wife, Janet, he is survived by four children: Janet Smith Moore of Asheville and her husband Parker Moore; Rebecca Cothran Smith and her husband Keith Mendelson of McLean, VA; Joel Allen Smith and his wife Katherine Megrue Smith of Pottersville, NJ; and Jane McNaughton Smith of Arlington, VA.

His legacy is in the capable hands of the next generation in whom he had so much faith: his grandchildren – Daniel, 25; Hannah, 25; Amelia, 23; Samuel, 21; Lydia, 20; Henry, 19; Laureana, 17; Edward, 15; Allen, 13; and Sarah, 11; nieces and nephews, their children and grandchildren.

Jeffrey G. Scott and Rebecca C. Smith
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 lighthearted 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
Robert J. Smith, the Goldwin Smith Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Asian Studies, died on October 11, 2016. After completing specialized training in Japanese language and serving as an interpreter for the 25th infantry of the U.S. Army in Japan, he completed his BA in anthropology at the University of Minnesota in 1949. Shortly thereafter he joined the then Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Cornell as a Ph.D. student. At the time of his death, he was the last surviving anthropologist to have carried out research during the Allied Occupation of Japan.

Bob, as he was known by his colleagues, remained associated with the Department of Anthropology for his entire academic career. He first joined the faculty as an instructor in 1953 subsequently becoming Goldwin Smith Professor of Anthropology in 1974 and retiring in 1997. Over this forty-four year career on the faculty, he chaired either the Department of Asian Studies (1961-66) or the Department of Anthropology (1967-71; 197678; 1979-82) for some 13 years, significantly through turbulent times for Cornell and for the Department of Anthropology in the late 1960s. Among his recognitions nationally and internationally, he delivered the prestigious Morgan Lectures in Anthropology at the University of Rochester in 1980, he was elected President of the Association for Asian Studies in 1988, and received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays from the Government of Japan in 1993, the latter for his outstanding contributions to mutual understanding between the United States and Japan.

This brief summary of highlights of his career as an anthropologist and a key member of the Cornell community hardly does justice to his extraordinary contributions to Cornell, to anthropology, and to the study of Japan. He was often overheard responding – with characteristic self-deprecation – to those who complimented him on being the leading anthropologist of Japan of his generation, “I lived longer than my peers.” This modesty
was very typical, but very inaccurate. For over 50 years, his research and publications on Japan set the standard and led the field of the anthropology of Japan in North America. In addition to research in both rural and urban Japan, he also conducted a study of ethnic Japanese in Sao Paulo, Brazil. His formal anthropological work was complemented by a deep appreciation for Japanese art and he and his wife Kazuko Smith accumulated an excellent collection of different art forms all of which they have since donated to the Johnson museum along with a substantial endowment in support of enhancing the museum’s collection. From his first publication in 1952 – “Cooperative Forms in a Japanese Agricultural Community” – he contributed almost ninety research pieces and about 60 reviews up through the early years of this century. Among these are eight books he authored, co-authored, or co-edited (omitting from this list the translations of his books into Japanese and other languages): Kurusu: A Japanese agricultural community (1956); Japanese Culture: Its Development and Characteristics (with Richard K. Beardsley) (1962); Japanese Painters of the Floating World (with Martie Young) (1966); Ancestor Worship in Contemporary Japan (1974); Kurusu: The Price of Progress in a Japanese Village: 1951-1975 (1978); The Women of Suye Mura (with Ella Lury Wiswell) (1982); Japanese Society: Tradition, Self, and the Social Order (1983); The Diary of a Japanese Innkeeper’s Daughter (translated by Miwa Kai and edited by Robert J. Smith) (1984).

During his long career of research and writing, Bob examined and pioneered many important aspects of the study of contemporary Japanese society and culture, including: the social organization of community life; changing kinship structures; the historical demography of urban life; ancestor worship and popular religion; urban anthropology; and gender studies. Bob Smith’s corpus constitutes exemplary ethnographic work. He found his academic home as much in East Asian area studies as in anthropology. Although he eschewed theoretical cant and obfuscation, his work was analytically sophisticated and subtle. He advised his graduate students to “keep their own voices down” and attend to the voices of their interlocutors, a practice he carried over in his mentoring of students.

Bob trained dozens of graduate students over his years at Cornell and many of those students went on to become leaders in subsequent generations of anthropologists of Japan. He was, moreover, more than generous to other fledgling scholars in Japanese studies from other universities. As one of his graduate students, Jan Zeserson, remarked, he was more of a mentor than a guru who guided students by taking them seriously. He was an exemplary listener who was often skeptical of the latest theoretical fashions and encouraged his students to listen to the voices of the people they studied rather than imposing a particular explanatory grid on their lives. He inspired his students through his own meticulous ethnographic research. His final Ph. D. student, Joshua Roth, remarked, “There was something about Professor Smith that inspired his students to want to prove to him that we were worthy of him.” Bob Smith was also a brilliant lecturer and taught generations of Cornell undergraduates. His lectures were masterfully fluid, well turned, and well timed with a quotient of wry humor.

Bob Smith was born on a farm in the very small township of Essex in southern Missouri. His family moved to Baltimore where he completed elementary school feeling like an outsider with his southern accent. His family later relocated to Washington where he went to high school. His students and colleagues remember him for his capacity for listening and letting others do a majority of the talking. He kept, as one colleague and friend noted, “His own emotions pretty much to himself, and he seemed to have a life as calm and orderly as
his uncluttered desk, something for which I envied him no end.” He will be long remembered by his students and colleagues for his warm collegiality and support, his quips on the outrages and foibles of academic life and politics, his principled and ethical demeanor, all with a genuine sense of humor and respect for the dignity of the people he studied.

Written by David Holmberg (Chair) and Ted Bestor
Thomas A. Sokol, professor emeritus of music and Cornell’s former director of choral activities, who taught at Cornell from 1957 to 1995, died April 28, 2019 in Ithaca, New York at the age of 89. “Professor,” as he was called by his students, was responsible for transforming the Glee Club from an independent men’s club, whose repertoire then featured show tunes, college songs, and other popular ditties, into an official ensemble within the Department of Music. Three years after his arrival at Cornell he created the Cornell University Chorus out of the remnants of the Women’s Glee Clubs, and led both the men’s and women’s groups into challenging repertoire performed at a high musical level. The choral program as it exists today owes its foundations to his organizational and musical leadership.

Tom was born in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania on July 28, 1929 to John and Mary Sokol, immigrants from Hungary, and was raised in the small town of Sewickley, Pennsylvania outside Pittsburgh. He studied trumpet from the age of ten and began leading the choir at St. James Catholic Church by the time he was fourteen. After graduating from high school, he attended Virginia Military Institute on a football scholarship, before transferring to Emory and Henry College in Emory, Virginia in 1951, where he continued to excel in sports as well as music. He earned an M.A. in musicology and composition in 1953 from George Peabody College (now part of Vanderbilt University) while also directing choirs; after studying conducting at Harvard and Tanglewood, he became assistant conductor for the Harvard Glee Club and Radcliffe Choral Society. While in Cambridge he also occupied acting positions at Newton College of the Sacred Heart, New England Conservatory, and with the Handel and Haydn Society, in addition to cofounding Cambridge Records.

In 1957, Tom was recruited to organize the choral activities at Cornell, which then officially included the University Chorus and the Sage Chapel Choir. Invited by the Musical Clubs Council to also conduct the Glee Club, Tom accepted only with the proviso that doing so would be part of his university duties, a position in which he was supported by President Deane Malott. His new vision for the Glee Club was put on display in December-January 1960-61 when the group became the first American university ensemble to give formal concerts in the Soviet Union; their repertoire
included pieces in French, Latin, Italian, English, and Russian (Shostakovich’s “Song of Peace” and the Russian national anthem). After one soldout concert, the Sovetskaya Cultura newspaper reported that “for the students of Moscow State University, the artistry of their comrades from across the ocean spoke straight to the heart. And this is understandable; congenially to the soul, it is better to sing of peace and work than to prepare for war.” In 1966, the Glee Club was invited by the U.S. State Department to tour Southeast Asia, where over the course of three months they performed in 10 countries and gave 49 formal concerts, not to mention many informal performances.

Another international tour, nine concerts in West Germany in 1970, produced a memorable addition to the Glee Club’s repertoire. Following a recording session at the Frankfurt Radio Network, the network’s music director, Franz Biebl, offered Tom some of his own choral compositions. Upon its return, the group gave the American premiere of Biebl’s “Ave Maria,” a sumptuous setting for seven-part men’s voices. Not only did the work enter the permanent repertoire of the Glee Club (it was performed during the 2019 Homecoming concert), it was soon adopted by other choirs, mostly notably by the San Francisco-based professional choir Chanticleer, and has become a staple of the twentieth-century choral repertoire.

In his role as director of choral activities at Cornell, Tom oversaw and frequently himself conducted the Cornell Chorale, the Sage Chapel Choir, and the Chamber Singers, as well as the Chorus and the Glee Club. In addition to programming works from the centuries-long repertoire for unaccompanied voices, Tom was committed to giving his students the opportunity to perform major choral works with orchestra. In 1962, the combined Chorus and Glee Club performed Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with the Philadelphia Orchestra, conducted by Eugene Ormandy, who wrote afterwards to the students: “I want to send you my heartiest congratulations on your superb singing with our orchestra, both at Cornell and in Philadelphia. I do not exaggerate when I say you made choral history…You have an inspiring director in Mr. Sokol.” The collaboration was repeated in 1966, at the opening ceremony for the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, summer home of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Tom collaborated frequently with his colleague and friend, composer Karel Husa, who conducted the Cornell Symphony Orchestra for many years, including Beethoven’s Missa Solemnis, Poulenc’s Gloria, the Berlioz Requiem, Mahler’s Symphony No. 2 (“Resurrection”), Orff’s Carmina Burana, and Husa’s own Apotheosis of This Earth, which Cornell students performed not only on campus, but at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center. With outside orchestras Tom prepared his Cornell choirs for major works such as Honneger’s Le Roi David, Handel’s Messiah, the Verdi Requiem, Bach’s Mass in B Minor, and the Monteverdi Vespers.

Tom’s activities as a conductor outside of Cornell included directing the Dessoff Choirs in New York City (1968 to 1972) and the Buffalo Schola Cantorum. Honors include a Ford Foundation grant in the Humanities and Arts, the National Orchestral Association’s Conducting Award, a Carnegie Fellowship in Teaching, and grants from the New York State Council on the Arts.

In his 38 years at Cornell, Tom led the choral ensembles in animating virtually every major university event: the annual commencement ceremonies; convocation; presidential inaugurations; freshman orientation; homecoming; parents’ weekend; senior week; and countless events for the Board of Trustees. He served as chair of the Department of Music from 1985 to 1992 and
mentored several generations of Cornell graduate students in conducting, including prominent composers David Conte (San Francisco Conservatory) and Byron Adams (UC Riverside).

Upon Tom’s retirement in 1995, the united Chorus and Glee Club performed Beethoven’s Missa Solemnis with the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra in Bailey Hall to a standing ovation by an audience that included large numbers of his former students. In 2005, to honor his 75th birthday, Glee Club alumni initiated an endowment in his name whose proceeds go to commissioning new choral works; this legacy continues to nourish the choral repertoire not only at Cornell, but at other institutions as they adopt these works.

Thomas Sokol is survived by his wife Donna, his former wife Nancy, and their five children.


Written by Rebecca Harris-Warrick
Roger was born in England, in a thatched cottage in Barford St. Michael and St John, a double churched village between Oxford and Banbury. He grew up next to the tallest spire in Oxfordshire, in nearby Bloxham, where his grandfather, a self-taught historian, was the local butcher. After concentrating on math and science at Banbury Grammar School, he graduated from Birmingham University with an honors degree in physics. He went on to the University of Edinburgh where he earned a one year Diploma in Biophysics under the mentorship of Jack Dainty. Elwyn Williams supervised Roger’s Ph.D. work, including his early research on ion transport, using the large internodal cells of *Nitella translucens*, which were harvested from a mountaintop pond in Perthshire. Roger continued his studies of characean cells as a Nuffield Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow with Enid MacRobbie in the Botany School of Cambridge University. Roger made major and pioneering contributions to the understanding of basic ion transport processes in plant membranes. Central to Roger’s work was the integration of reductionist theoretical and experimental techniques with a systems perspective in order to understand the physical processes that make life in general, and plant life in particular, possible.

In his late teens, Roger became a Humanist, the principles of which, as explained by Bertrand Russell in “Why I Am Not a Christian”, he followed for the rest of his life. Roger focused his endeavors on science and denied the supernatural. Although he tolerated the religious beliefs of others, he had no personal use for religious
principles. He believed we were capable of striving to make the world a better place for all individuals, no matter their culture or creed. We did not need religion for this behavior, just a belief that we should do unto others as we would have them do to us.

Roger was first and foremost a scientist. He found the best organism to answer a fundamental question, developed a sound experimental design, built or modified apparatus to perform the experiment, and developed or used a sound theoretical framework to plan and analyze the experiment. Thus he developed the technical and analytical skills necessary to make the best use of the experimental method; questioning and re-questioning the accuracy and precision of the results; employing his encyclopedic knowledge of the literature related to the question to be answered; and honestly, fairly, and clearly communicating the results to others.

On arriving at Cornell University as an Assistant Professor in 1967, Roger joined the Section of Genetics, Development and Physiology in the Division of Biological Sciences. He was one of a new group of plant physiologists recruited along with Rod Clayton, Andre Jagendorf and Peter Davies. The Section eventually became Plant Biology, and later, the Department of Plant Biology. Roger became an Associate Professor in 1973 and a Full Professor in 1979. In 2001, he moved to the Department of Biological and Environmental Engineering, where he enjoyed colleagues who shared and appreciated his scientific philosophy and expertise. As a teacher, in *Transport of Solutes in Plants*, and *Transport of Water in Plants*, he inspired students with that expertise, his vast general knowledge, personal stories and historical anecdotes. He carried those attributes in to the development of a new course in *Metabolic Engineering*; Roger the innovator was absolutely in his element.
In 1972 Roger published a groundbreaking paper in which he presented evidence for the existence of an ATP-dependent electrogenic proton pump in the membrane of characean cells. This H⁺-ATPase was distinctly different than the ATP-dependent Na⁺/K⁺ exchange pump found in animal cells so disproving the then-prevalent assumption that plants cells were like animal cells. He showed the H⁺-ATPase generated voltage across the membrane of plant cells was greater than that produced by the Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase of animal cells. Roger published a review on Electrogenic Ion Pumps in the Annual Review of Plant Physiology in 1981 that put an end to any idea that, in terms of electrophysiology, plants were just slow animals.

Roger began to direct his intellectually diverse group of graduate students and postdocs with two goals in mind: expanding our understanding of transport in plants, and developing the human potential of each individual member of the research team. He considered each one of his students, whether undergraduate or postdoc as an individual with much to offer. Thus a library dormouse was as special as a laboratory rat. Each merely had to pass on information gleaned, and Roger was delighted. The research was focused on understanding the physicochemical basis of transport and an understanding of the integrated complexity of transport. Roger steered his research team down the reductionist path by working with purified H⁺-ATPase, and discovered that there were distinctly different proton-pumping ATPases in the plasma membrane and vacuolar membrane. They also found that the electrochemical proton gradient established by the H⁺-ATPase was able to drive transport of sugars, amino acids and other ions through co-transport of a proton with the other substrate. Following the complexity path, members of Roger’s lab also elucidated how sugars were transported from the maternal tissues of the plant into the embryos of the developing seeds, how ammonium and nitrate were transported into the roots, and how insectivorous plants generated a neuron-like action potential that allowed them to capture their prey.
Roger worked for a second time at the Botany school in Cambridge as a Senior Visiting Fellow in 1973-74, and in 1981-82, was awarded a Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship to study at the University of California, Davis. He received the accolade of Highly Cited Scientist from the Institute for Scientific Information, and was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Roger was cited twice by Merrill Presidential Scholars as the Professor at Cornell who had most affected their undergraduate career.

Roger married Helen Walker in Edinburgh in 1963. They had two sons, Andrew and Robert, as well as three grandchildren. Roger and Helen looked on his graduate students, postdocs and colleagues as extended family and had great pride in their accomplishments. In 1996, Roger was diagnosed with prostate cancer, was treated and seemed cured. In 2008, he developed multiple myeloma. Always optimistic, he considered the treatment of his cancer as another experiment; he actually enjoyed the science behind his treatments, was grateful for the medical care he received, and never gave up hope that each new procedure would give him more time to work. He was rewarded with five more productive years, but the disease finally took him from us on February 12, 2014. Friends, colleagues and family celebrated Roger’s life with a memorable symposium at Cornell in June of that year. Our loss of Roger’s intellect is great. Yet he will continue to affect the lives of those of us who knew him well. We loved him and he loved the entire world.

Larry P. Walker, Chair; David Warren Keifer; Randy O. Wayne; Peter Davies; with assistance from Enid MacRobbie
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 internationally. Through this early period in his career his work was collected by the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Hirshhorn 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 preColombian 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*
George Staller was introduced to Economics in the traditional European manner – as a student in the law faculty at the Charles University (Prague) from which he received his degree in 1949. He continued his studies at Hastings College (Hastings, Nebraska) earning his B.S. degree in 1942 and entered Cornell’s Ph.D. program in Economics that same year.

George quickly acquired an enviable reputation as a graduate teaching assistant for the large lecture courses in introductory Economics, taught by senior members of the faculty. He combined a conscientious dedication with a remarkable capability of exposition and patience in explaining the key concepts introduced in the lectures, made palatable by a generous supply of Czech humor.

He completed his Ph.D. degree in 1957 with the defense of his thesis entitled, “Czechoslovakia’s Industrial Production 1947-1957,” and spent the academic year 1957-58 at Harvard working at the Russian Institute with Professor A. Bergson.

George was a scholar who studied the planned economies of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe with a special interest in Czechoslovakia. Most of his scholarly work involved trying to compile data for those countries so that it would be possible to measure their growth rates and then to utilize that information to make comparisons in a consistent fashion between planned and free-market economies.

Several of his papers dealt specifically with trying to understand the economy of Czechoslovakia. During the 1940s and 1950s the centralized system of Czechoslovakia worked extremely well. In fact, Czechoslovakia did as well as or better than not only many of its communist neighbors but also many of the European nations that maintained a free-market economy after the War. As George argued
in his work, Czechoslovakia’s success could largely be explained by strong demand within a completely protected market, underutilized and expanding capacities, and a skilled labor force. The Soviet bloc nations needed Czech-manufactured goods for their reconstruction and, in return, were willing to supply Czechoslovakia with fuels, raw materials and foodstuffs at favorable rates. In the 1960s, however, the situation was very different: the Communist bloc nations slowed down their industrialization drive, their manufacturers started competing with Czech exports; and, in addition, they could reach outside the bloc for sophisticated, high-quality machinery the Czechs could not match because their research and development had fallen behind. Thus, between 1961 and 1965, unlike during the 1940s and 1950s, the Czech economy virtually stagnated.

In trying to understand the workings of the Czech planned economy, George had much broader interests in mind. He wanted to discern not only whether planned economies in general could compete with capitalistic ones in terms of growth but also whether they could overcome some of the flaws inherent in the capitalistic system. When adherents tout the superiority of planned over free-market economies, they typically make several claims. These claims include: planned economies grow faster, they provide full employment, they are not subject to fluctuations in output, and they have more stable international trade. Many economists had studied the first two of the claims. George decided to analyze the veracity of the last two. In his paper, “Fluctuations in Economic Activity: Planned and Free-Market Economies, 1950-60” in the American Economic Review, 1964, George argued that the planned economies of the Communist block were subject to fluctuations in economic activity to a degree equal to or greater than that experienced by the free market economies of the OECD. In a second paper, “Patterns of Stability in Foreign Trade: OECD and COMECON, 1950-1963,” American Economic Review, 1967, he found that the OECD countries and the United States had more trade stability than COMECON countries and the Soviet Union.

Thus, while a large part of his academic career was spent studying planned economies as such, his special interest focused on trying to
determine how planned economies stacked up against capitalist ones, and from his research, he concluded that planned economies could not be shown to be superior to free market economies.

George’s research formed the basis for his undergraduate courses on the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and his graduate seminar on Comparative Economic Systems. He particularly enjoyed participating with his friends Myron Rush (Government) and George Gibian (Russian Literature) in teaching multi-disciplinary courses on the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. These efforts, coupled with his continued involvement with the Introductory and Intermediate Macroeconomics courses, now in the role of professor guiding a halfdozen graduate teaching assistants, led to his receipt of the Clark Teaching Award (College of Arts and Sciences). Other forms of recognition followed: in 1998, on the occasion of its 650th anniversary, his alma mater, Charles University (Prague), where he had taught annually since 1990, awarded him its Doctor Honoris Causa degree; in 2002, he received an Outstanding alumni award from Hastings University; and in 2009 the first annual George J. Staller Lectureship in Economics was delivered by Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen in honor of George’s teaching at Cornell.

In addition to deep devotion to and pride in his family, George will be remembered by his students and colleagues for his generous hospitality, centered around good food and drink, both at home and in the office, where his door was always open, and often the last to close. He could be as entertaining as any stand-up comedian when the occasion required, and could offer profound insight and advice – often with proverb in Latin, French, German, or Russian, which he would quickly, if somewhat loosely, translate.

*Tom E. Davis, Chairperson; Alfred E. Kahn, Uri M. Possen*
John Richard Stamer was born in Plankinton, South Dakota. He obtained his B.A. in Biological Science and Chemistry at Dakota Wesleyan University in 1950, M.S. in Bacteriology and Biochemistry at South Dakota State College in 1952 and Ph.D. in Bacteriology from Cornell University in 1962 with Professor Van Demark as his advisor.

He was appointed Research Specialist in Microbiology at the Department of Food Science & Technology at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva campus of Cornell in 1962, Assistant Professor 1963 – 1969, Associate Professor 1969 – 1977, Professor of Microbiology 1977 – 1986 and Emeritus Professor 1986 until his death.

He developed a reputation as the world authority in the field of basic physiology and nutrition of lactic acid producing microorganisms and was the featured speaker at the Symposium on Lactic Acid Bacteria in Beverages and Food conducted at the Long Ashton Research Station in the United Kingdom 1973. He wrote chapters in several books.

While his research focused on fundamental studies in microbiology, he was always interested in the practical application of his results and he worked closely with the food and beverage industries to develop safe, wholesome and nutritious foods, especially fermented vegetables. This work was appreciated by these industries.

The National Kraut Packers Association wrote to Cornell as follows:
“It was a feeling generally shared that we could never find anyone in the Nation that would not only interest himself in the peculiar fermentation problems of the kraut industry, but would have the talent to push even more of the mysteries aside.

“Much to our astonishment, Dr. John Stamer appeared on the scene. Almost immediately he attracted interest and gratitude on the part of our industry because we recognized that here was a man who was moving into new and most exciting directions. In a short span of time Dr. Stamer has demonstrated to the members of this industry that he has the capabilities, the interest, for fundamental research approaches to the problems of this industry, but also what is to us very vital and important, the ability to see the problems from the viewpoint of the plant operator and to talk to him, to communicate and motivate him.

“In summary, we wish to send these words of appreciation to you folks in positions of research and administrative leadership who spotted this talent, and please accept our sincere thanks for allowing him to follow up his ideas on kraut. Dr. Stamer’s ideas are very valuable to this industry’s development and we are excitedly looking forward to his association with the operators. We only hope and pray that we will find that he is intending to stay with Cornell and that he keep up his work on kraut fermentations and related problems.”

Thanks in large part to John, and his predecessor, Professor Carl Pederson, New York State became the leading state for production of sauerkraut. In some years New York produced more sauerkraut than Germany.

John served in the U.S. Navy from October 1943 through April 1946 and was assigned to a mine sweeper. During those years he became an expert in radio communication and he continued to be a ham radio enthusiast for the rest of his life making contact with ham radio aficionados around the world. He kept a map of the world on a wall of his home with a pin wherever he had contact with other ham radio operators. This map looked like a forest of pins.

He was a member of the American Society for Microbiology, Sigma Xi and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

He is survived by son, Mark of East Rochester, N.Y.; daughter, Anne of Springfield, P.A.; daughter-in-law, Donna of Malvern, P.A.; grandchildren, Kelly, Kyle and Keith of Malvern, P.A.; brother-in-law, Joseph Andose (Jeannette) of Cranbury, N.J. John was predeceased by his son, Richard in 2010. His wife of almost 55
years, Amelia Andose Stamer died August 13, 2013, just twenty weeks after his passing.

Malcolm C. Bourne, Chairperson,
Yong D. Hang, GilbertS.
Stoewsand
Professor Emeritus Stuart W. Stein of the Department of City and Regional Planning died June 24, 2014, age 84. In his 31 years as a faculty member (ending in 1993) and more than 50 years as an Ithaca resident, he had a remarkable impact on Cornell, our local community, and his many students. His death brought forth an outpouring of appreciation from the University and the broader community that surrounds it.

Stu enjoyed 59 wonderful years of marriage with Sandy, his best friend. He leaves her along with their four children and spouses/partners: Tom (Hale Aylanc), Peter (Jill), Catherine/Katie (Frithjof Hungnes), and Jenny (James LaVeck). He also leaves seven grandchildren, Avi, Rachel, Tova, Chloe and little Stuart Stein, and Maya and Matthias Stein Hungnes, in addition to many nieces and nephews, cousins.

Stu was born in Brooklyn, New York, to Tillie and Herman Stein, with older siblings Anita and Danny, all now deceased. The family resided in Queens, where Herman, a Polish immigrant, owned a lumberyard. Enduring several lengthy hospitalizations in his youth, Stu developed an abiding compassion for those facing uphill struggles. Upon graduating from Brooklyn Tech High School, he entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), becoming the first in his family to attend college. There he completed his undergraduate degree in Architecture in 1952 and his Master of City Planning degree in 1954.
Stu quickly gained respect and reputation as an urban planner. Employed by the Rhode Island Development Commission for three years, in 1957 he joined with Lachlan Blair to create Blair & Stein Associates in Providence, RI (which eventually added offices in several other cities, including Washington, DC). Their work attracted national attention with the publication of *College Hill: A Demonstration Study of Historic Area Renewal* (1959), a plan for an historic area adjoining Brown University in Providence.

At a time when historic buildings were typically razed and replaced with new ones, the College Hill plan called for their retention and rehabilitation, with sensitive in-filling where new buildings were needed. It became a model for preservation efforts in many places. This effort reflected what became a recurring theme in Stu’s work, a willingness to innovate in ways that excited and united communities, rather than fomenting conflict and fear of change.

Blair & Stein worked for towns and cities in Rhode Island and further afield: e.g., preparing downtown plans for Binghamton, NY and Fort Wayne, IN. They also worked in places of great natural beauty, such as the Cape Cod National Seashore. As the firm grew, Stu developed a knack for empowering others to be their best. Increasingly, he saw his calling as teaching and cultivating young professionals interested in serving the common good.

In the early 1960’s Burnham Kelly, Stu’s former MIT professor and then Dean of Cornell’s College of Architecture (now the College of Architecture, Art, and Planning), was attempting to balance design theory in the Department of Architecture with social science-based planning in City and Regional Planning. Dean Kelly realized Stu’s dual background in architecture and planning, along with his practice-oriented design capabilities, made him an ideal candidate for a new faculty position, and Stu accepted a joint appointment in the two departments.

By 1969, Stu’s appointment was wholly in City and Regional Planning. Focusing largely on physical planning, his courses dealt with a wide array of subjects, including urban design, plan-making, site planning, survey methods, historic preservation, issues regarding urban renewal, housing, urban transportation, the needs of minority groups, and urban planning in developing countries.

Of particular significance, his community workshop courses, offered over many years, formed the core of Stu’s accomplishments as an educator. Under his guidance, planning students applied themselves in helping to solve community and neighborhood issues in the Ithaca area and more broadly throughout the Finger Lakes Region.
Students benefitted from Stu’s unique combination of creativity and ethical idealism while learning to master the best professional practices in the planning arena. He became a master of connecting students with local groups and communities which needed assistance, and connecting those planning efforts to emerging initiatives at state and federal levels.

Stu’s effectiveness led to several leadership positions at the University. For a number of years in the 1970’s there were two planning departments in Sibley Hall, and Stu chaired the Department of Urban Planning and Development. After the departments recombined, he became the first Director of City and Regional Planning’s new Urban and Regional Studies undergraduate major; and during two different periods he was Associate Dean in the College.

From his first years at Cornell, Stu involved himself in local public affairs. In 1963 the City asked for his help with re-invigorating Ithaca’s decaying downtown. In collaboration with three other faculty members, he helped develop a plan to convert a section of State Street from an automobile thoroughfare to an expansive and welcoming pedestrian mall, leading eventually to creation of one of Ithaca’s defining features, the Ithaca Commons.

After serving on Ithaca’s Board of Zoning Appeals, in 1971 he was elected to its Common Council for one year. With these efforts he began a series of expanding official public roles that for roughly two decades paralleled his academic duties. Over time he chaired the City’s Planning Board and held seats on its Urban Renewal Agency, Board of Public Works, and Downtown Mall Steering Committee.

Eventually Stu undertook far wider public responsibilities at the county level. He completed five four-year terms as an elected member of the Tompkins County Board of Representatives (1982-2002). Serving as the Board’s Chairman from 1993 to 1996, Stu was recognized for his unique ability to bring together often contentious Democratic and Republican contingents. He fostered bipartisanship by understanding seemingly incompatible positions and forging from them a creative synthesis differing parties could accept. Highlights of his years on the Board included a broad initiative to invigorate the arts and tourism, creation of the first economic development strategy for the county, and consolidation and expansion of the county’s public transit system.

Stemming from his role as a county legislator, Stu also gave years of service to the Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council, the Tompkins County Industrial Development Agency, the Board of
Directors of the Finger Lakes Association, the Tompkins County Strategic Tourism Planning Board (which he helped found and for which he served as chair), and the Tompkins-Tioga Electric and Gas Alliance. On his retirement from the county legislature, he became a co-founder of the Municipal Electric and Gas Alliance Inc. (MEGA), a non-profit, community-based energy cost savings program that is benefitting more than 100 communities and more than 30 counties state-wide.

Stu’s public service extended far beyond Tompkins County. He was appointed a member of the New York State Board for Historic Preservation in 1977 and served as the Board’s Chairman from 1979–1995. Other significant positions included the NYS Committee on Registers (dealing with the National Register of Historic Places, 1977-95); the Commission for the Restoration of the New York State Capitol (1980-92, and 1995-2001); the NYS Parks Council (1979-95); the NYS Urban Cultural Parks Advisory Board (1986-95), and, at the federal level, lengthy service on the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission.

Stu earned numerous honors, including:

--- his election as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners in 2000;

--- the Finger Lakes Association’s George F. Train Memorial Tourism Award in 2001 and the Tompkins County’s Tourism Partner Award in 2013;

--- the Certificate of Merit from the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, in 1995;

--- the Tompkins County Community Action Award in 2001 recognizing his years of effort in fighting poverty in Tompkins County; and

--- the Community Arts Partnership’s “Friend of the Arts” award recognizing his significant contributions to the growth of arts and culture in Tompkins County, an award received just five days before his death.

One of Stu’s proudest moments as a legislator flowed from his efforts in helping amend Tompkins County's Fair Practices Act to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. At the time, this
was very controversial, and Stu’s impassioned statement of support helped the measure pass by just one vote. The local LGBT community honored him for his moral courage and influential role in achieving this important legal and cultural milestone.

Stuart Stein was a professor in the very best sense of the word – teaching, yes, but far more importantly imparting to decades of students an understanding of how to make good things happen in a
difficult, messy world. He combined his role as a teacher with major contributions as a public servant, making his community and many other communities better places to live and work. Cornell is proud of his many accomplishments and contributions, and his abiding humanity.

Richard S. Booth; Pierre Clavel; John W. Reps
Rose E. Steidl, professor and former Chair of the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis (DEA) in the College of Human Ecology, was born on March 1, 1921 in Paris, Illinois and died on December 10, 2016 in Jacksonville, New York. Rose received her B.S. in Home Economics from St. Mary-of-the Woods College in Indiana in 1942, her M.S. in Household Economics and Management from Cornell in 1949, and her Ph.D. in Household Economics and Management from Cornell in 1957. From 1942 until 1947 she was a teacher in secondary schools in Illinois. Rose also taught summer sessions at Cornell, the University of Tennessee, and Nassau Community College.

Rose was appointed as an assistant professor in the Department of Household Economics and Management in the College of Home Economics at Cornell in 1947. In 1969 the College of Home Economics evolved into the College of Human Ecology, and Dr. Steidl played a major role in developing the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis, and was promoted to associate professor and Assistant Chair. In 1975 she was promoted to professor and was elected Chair of DEA, a position she held until 1980 when she retired.

Professor Steidl’s areas of expertise included human work costs, activity analysis and management, and functional design and arrangement in homes, especially kitchens. In this area, Professor Steidl led the widely cited *Functional Kitchens* project. In that study, she set up single frame movie cameras in a selected group of kitchens around the United States. Those cameras filmed everything that took place in those kitchens every day for several weeks. The project formed the basis for designing kitchens around the world. One of the best known findings from that project was the focus on the kitchen work triangle, sink to range to refrigerator, the distance of which should be less than 23 feet for maximum
efficiency. Professor Steidl also experimented with adding supplemental sinks to kitchens, a radical idea in its time, but a common feature in kitchens today.

Professor Steidl was well known for a college textbook she co-authored with Esther Crew Bratton, *Work in the Home*, which became a major reference around the world for students studying the management of human resources through the design of work and workplaces. This book, which was translated into Japanese, was popular with manufacturers of household equipment and kitchen designers. It also became a useful reference for specialists in various fields and professionals who worked with the disabled.

Professor Steidl’s professional memberships included the American Home Economics Association, the Human Factors Society, the International Ergonomics Association, the Gerontological Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She was an elected member of Omicron Nu, Phi Kappa Phi, and Pi Lambda Theta.

Professor Steidl’s service to Cornell included memberships on President Corson’s Search Committee for Director of University Libraries, the College Grievance Committee, College Grants Committee, and Faculty Search Committees. She also chaired various tenure review committees, and was a member of the Evaluation Panels at the Center for Consumer Product Technology, National Bureau of Standards, and The National Research Council.

Rose was an invited speaker at numerous national and international conferences, a Visiting Scholar at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and the author of numerous articles in refereed journals including *Ergonomics, Home Economics Research Journal, Journal of Home Economics,* and *Human Factors.*

For many years, Professor Steidl was an active parishioner of St. Catherine of Siena Church in Ithaca. Her personal interests included genealogy, traveling, and nature, as well as a fondness for the Cornell Botanic Gardens and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Her colleague, Paul Eshelman, remembers Rose as having a gentle spirit that belied personal strength and a disciplined approach to her work as a home economist and researcher of domestic ergonomics. She was chair of the DEA department at the historically important and challenging point in time when the department and the College were in the throes of operationalizing the transition from a home economics perspective to that of human ecology. Her teaching touched the lives of many students and her academic research contributions changed residential designs and the way that Americans and others around the world live.

*Written by Joseph Laquatra, Paul Eshelman and Alan Hedge*
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*
Gilbert S. Stoewsand
October 20, 1932 – July 4, 2016

Professor Gil Stoewsand was 83 years old when he died, after a very productive academic career that spanned over 30 years, publishing 103 research manuscripts, 14 subject reviews and 13 book chapters. He served as major advisor for 7 graduate students and as minor advisor for 20 graduate students. He taught “Introductory Chemical Toxicology” from 1972 to 1983. He was Professor Emeritus of Toxicology in the Food Science Department of Cornell University where he began in 1967, doing research at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva and teaching in Ithaca.

Professor Stoewsand was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. He earned his B.S. degree in 1954 in animal sciences from the University of California, Davis. He then served for 2 years in the Army during the Korean War as a volunteered draftee, in the Quartermaster Corps at Fort Richardson, Alaska. He was discharged with a Good Conduct Medal after his assignment. He returned to UC Davis for his M.S. degree which he completed in 1958 in Animal Sciences.

In 1958 Gil drove with his wife Ellen and his brother Darriel from California to Ithaca, NY to join Cornell University as a Research Associate in the Department of Poultry Science under the supervision of Professor of Nutrition Milt Scott. He started his Ph.D. program in animal nutrition and biochemistry while working, finishing his studies in December of 1963. His research focused on the stress that high protein diets produced in chicks, evidenced by changes in the cells of the adrenal glands and adrenal hormones. He then took a job as a Research Nutritionist at the Food Division, Nutrition Branch of the U.S. Army Natick Laboratories, thus he moved to Massachusetts with his wife and two daughters, who were born in Ithaca. Gil worked in several projects and became interested in food toxicology while involved in a study to evaluate if of a petroleum by-product, butanediol,
could be used as a safe, food source of energy for humans for a short amount of time, if agricultural areas were contaminated or destroyed due to war. His research showed that the by-product tested triggered problems in lipid metabolism when consumed.

Dr. Stoewsand left Natick in 1966 to become a Research Associate in the Institute of Experimental Toxicology and Pathology at Albany Medical College. He enhanced his toxicology knowledge by working with pharmacologists, pathologists, and reproductive toxicologists in several projects including the safety of the artificial sweetener cyclamates. A public presentation on laboratory animal nutrition in 1967 draw the attention of Dr. Willard Robinson, the head of the Food Science and Technology Department at Cornell’s NYS Agricultural Experiment Station. Dr. Stoewsand was recruited to fill the position of Assistant Professor of food toxicology and specifically to work on the potential toxicity of hybrid grapes and wines.

Dr. Stoewsand was appointed Assistant Professor on September 1, 1967, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 1973 and became a full Professor in 1979. His first project was critical for the NY grape and wine industry: to determine if American grapes (\textit{Vitis labrusca}) or hybrids bred from American grapes were toxic. A German viticulturist, Hans Breider, had published reports claiming that a compound present in American grape varieties caused malformations in chicks when hens were fed diets containing American or hybrid grapes, juices or wines. A newspaper columnist, Jack Anderson, published a column in The Washington Post on Jan. 13, 1971 based on Breider’s work headlined “Wines Cause Deformities,” that ran in 600 newspapers. As a result, wine retailers removed New York wines from their store shelves. Fortunately, Professor Stoewsand’s four years of research categorically refuted this false claim, showing that American grapes did not cause malformations. In fact, he proved that the Breider’s studies had used an experimental feed deficient in protein and B vitamins which caused the anatomical malformations. Professors Stoewsand and Robinson reported at the American Society of Enologists meeting in 1970 that Breider’s chickens suffered from chronic and acute nutritional deficiencies due to their poor diet, not from being fed juice or wines from hybrid grapes. The results were published in a NYS scientific bulletin in January 1971, which was further validated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration saying there was no cause for alarm. The Washington Post subsequently published a story on Dr. Stoewsand’s research. The NY grape and wine industry were very grateful to him. The successful hybrid grape program at Cornell continued to grow and the NY wine industry prospered.

Professor Stoewsand research interests focused on the food safety and public health effects of natural components, additives and environmental contaminants in plant foods. With his graduate students, he investigated anti-carcinogenic compounds (organosulfur phytochemicals) present in cruciferous vegetables, utilizing animal models to study the interactions of diets containing Brussel sprouts, cabbage, broccoli or cauliflower and cancer.

He collaborated with Professor Don Lisk, Toxic Chemical Laboratory in Ithaca, to study the effects of disposing such wastes as fly ash and municipal sludge on crop lands. They found that heavy metals, such as cadmium, went from soil to leafy food plants like lettuce, cabbage or spinach, potentially causing serious health problems.
Twenty years after working on wine toxicity, Professor Stoewsand investigated the effect of the carcinogenic compound ethyl carbamate, which is naturally present in small amounts in wine. He discovered that ethanol and wine intake inhibited ethyl carbamate induced tumor development in liver and lungs of a certain strain of mice. He further assessed that the ethanol in wine acts as a competitive inhibitor that disrupts the metabolism of converting ethyl carbamate into a carcinogen.

Professor Stoewsand was recognized for his expertise by many organizations: he was a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Toxicology & Environmental Health from 1979- to 1994; a member of the Institute of Food Technologists Expert Panel on Food Safety and Nutrition from 1982 to 1985; a member of the Toxicology Study Section of the National Institutes of Health from 1975 to 1979; a member of the American Institute for Nutrition Ad Hoc Committee on Nutritional Standards from 1973 to 1978; a consultant for the National Library of Medicine Toxicology Information Program from 1977 to 1985.

Professor Stoewsand retired on August 30, 1995 and was granted Emeritus status on December 8, 1996. He continued to be active in the department, always open to provide advice to new faculty members with his collegial and friendly personality. He is survived by his wife, Ellen and his two daughters Corrine Stoewsand and Cathryn Vose.

*Written by Olga I. Padilla-Zakour and Randy W. Worobo*
Robert William Storandt '40 died April 27, 2013 at age 95 at his home in Ithaca, New York. At the time of his death, Bob was Director of Admissions Emeritus, having retired from the University in July 1983 following a career of thirty-six years in undergraduate admissions. He had been named at a Faculty Senate meeting an honorary member of the Cornell faculty.

A Rochester, New York native, Storandt enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences in 1936, beginning what would become a passionate lifelong devotion to the university. As an undergraduate, he joined Kappa Sigma fraternity, WVBR and also was a member of Quill and Dagger senior honor society. In addition, he was active in the Lutheran Church Student Council and several other student groups. As editor-in-chief of The Cornell Daily Sun, he was a strong advocate for Touchdown IV, Cornell’s live bear mascot. He urged Cornell administrators officially to recognize the bear cub as the university's mascot, but to no avail, especially after a group of alumni celebrating Cornell’s football victory over Ohio State in 1939 took the bear to a Cleveland nightspot where Touchdown perhaps overdid things a bit by climbing a potted palm tree. Shortly thereafter, Touchdown IV was ‘retired’ to an animal preserve. In his 2008 book, Touchdown: The Story of the Cornell Bear, author John Foote '74 acknowledged Storandt's oral histories of Touchdown IV and said: "I hope that this book is a fitting tribute to Bob's enthusiasm, love and respect for Cornell."

Storandt began his career at the fledgling American Airlines immediately after graduation from Cornell, though he was soon called to serve in the Army, 1st Infantry Division, in World War II.
He served mainly in Germany, reaching the rank of technical sergeant. After the war, he returned briefly to American Airlines, but soon received an invitation to join the Cornell admissions office as the Assistant Director from then Director of Admissions, Herb Williams. Storandt explained that prior to World War II, getting into college was not very competitive. The GI bill changed all of that and suddenly Cornell had 15,000 applicants and needed an admissions office and staff. He remained in undergraduate admissions for the rest of his working life, serving nineteen years as director of undergraduate admissions. He retired as Associate Dean of Admissions.

During his tenure as Director, Storandt was involved in enrolling almost 100,000 Cornellians chosen from nearly one-half million applicants. At the time of his retirement, fully one-third of Cornell’s living alumni received their acceptances for admission with Storandt’s signature.

Storandt was proud that, during his tenure, Cornell was in the vanguard of minority outreach and need-blind financial aid policies. During his career, he was involved in all aspects of Admissions: selection, interviewing, school visits, advising alumni through the Alumni Secondary School Committee program, writing publications, streamlining processing and creating policy. He also administered the freshman financial aid program for many years, and served as a member of the Cornell National Scholarship Committee for more than 15 years. He was a member of the College Scholarship Service Committee of the College Board and completed a term on the Trustee Committee on Membership of the College Board. He also did a three-year term as a member of the National Merit Scholarship Selection Committee. While working in admissions, Storandt also contributed to the campus in many ways, through Cornell United Religious Work, serving on the Board of Managers and Board of Governors of Willard Straight Hall, and serving on and chairing the Board of Directors for the Cornell Daily Sun. He retired in 1983, at which time the employee newsletter ran an article paying tribute to Bob. It captured his character in a very special way.

“…Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work for someone who treated everyone fairly and with respect? Wouldn’t it be great to work for someone who cracked a joke or told a funny quip upon noticing that you were feeling down or when the work load is hectic and everyone else seems to be at each others throats? The staff members in University Admission Office have had…the(se) luxuries because they’ve worked with and for Robert W. Storandt.” The article went on to describe Bob’s omnipresent smile, his deep appreciation of the staff, especially during the
holidays when the rest of the University was on vacation but admissions staff were busy preparing files to be read. “I don’t know of another boss who at holiday time comes trudging into the office with boxes of 40+ corsages…!”

To honor his retirement, the first named Cornell Tradition Fellowship was created in Bob’s honor. The kindness Bob showed his staff and his colleagues also impacted the students who received the honor of being named the Robert W. Storandt ’40 Cornell Tradition Fellow. “I found him to be extremely kind, thoughtful and caring – wonderful and memorable traits to an impressionable 18- year-old freshman,” wrote Douglas Rutzen ’87, the first Storandt named fellow. (Rutzen now is President and CEO of the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law.) In 1987, Storandt was named director of undergraduate admissions emeritus.

Bob and his wife, Jean Cummings Storandt Cornell ’42, had a love of travel, especially aboard ships and across waters of all sizes, from the Atlantic Ocean to the canals of Canada. For decades, their favorite retreat was their camp on Wolfe Island in the Thousand Islands. Their retirement home, however, remained their first house in Ithaca because Storandt wished to be ‘within the sounds of the Chimes,’ even in retirement.

Besides his wife, two sons, three grandchildren and one great-grandson survive Storandt.

Susan H. Murphy with the assistance of Mary F. Berens

Lynn Stout
September 14, 1957 – April 16, 2018
Lynn Stout, Distinguished Professor of Corporate and Business Law and Director of the Clarke Program on Corporations & Society at Cornell Law School, died April 16, 2018 in Ithaca, New York, at the age of 60. Born on September 14, 1957, Lynn received a B.A., summa cum laude, and a Master of Public Affairs degree from Princeton University, and she held a J.D. from Yale Law School.

Lynn began teaching law in 1986 at George Washington University Law School, and went on to teach at several leading law schools, including NYU Law School, Harvard Law School, Georgetown University Law Center, and UCLA School of Law, before joining Cornell Law School.

Among other positions, Lynn served as the Director of the Chartered Financial Analysts Institute and as a Committee Member to the Office of Financial Research with the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Lynn was also a Member of the Board of Advisors for the Aspen Institute’s Business & Society Program, Executive Advisor to the Brookings Institution Project on Corporate Purpose, Advisor to the Conference Board's Governance Center, and a Research Fellow for the Gruter Institute for Law and Behavioral Research.

Lynn also served as the principal investigator and founder of the UCLA-Sloan Foundation Research Program on Business Organizations, as a Member of the American Bar Association’s Task Force on the Changing Nature of Board/Shareholder Relations, as a Member of the Board of Directors of the American Law and Economics Association, as Chair of the American Association of Law Schools Section on Law and Economics, and as Chair of the American Association of Law Schools Section on Business Associations.

As one of the most cited and respected corporate law scholars worldwide, Lynn produced scholarship that had a profound impact both inside and outside of academia. Her pioneering work on corporate purpose and on derivatives is now canonical. As her colleague Robert Hockett reiterated, Lynn was a uniquely brilliant, creative, courageous and energetic academic. Lynn was also renowned for her uncompromising ethics and morals, both values that informed not only her scholarship, but also all aspects of her life.

Lynn wrote and co-authored a number of books and scholarly articles. Her most prominent books include Cultivating Conscience: How Good Laws Make Good People (2011); and The Shareholder Value Myth: How Putting Shareholders First Harms Investors, Corporations, and the Public (2012). Her article with Margaret Blair, A Team Production Theory of Corporate Law (1999), is one of the most-cited articles of all time in corporate and securities law. Lynn’s dedication to her scholarship is exemplified by the fact that she devoted the last several weeks of her life working on another book, Citizen Capitalism: How a Universal Fund Can Provide Influence and Income to All (forthcoming 2019).

Lynn was a force of nature in her personal life as well: she lived boldly and practiced many sports. Lynn rode on the Princeton equestrian team, she was an avid runner, polo player, hiker, skier, biker, kayaker, and boxer. She enjoyed extreme sports such as heli-skiing and hot air ballooning, and she was an active member of the Ithaca Dragon Boat Club.

Lynn will forever be remembered for her humane values and qualities; she was a beloved constituent of the Ithaca community—where she excelled in bringing people together—as well as a generous and
caring friend, a passionate teacher, and a supportive mentor. She is survived by her two beloved sons, David and Dan, her sister Kay, and her brother Warren.

*Written by Sergio Alberto Gramitto Ricci and Diogo Magalhaes*
Professor emeritus of sociology Gordon F. Streib died in Gainesville, Florida at the age of 92. He taught at Cornell for 26 years, retiring in 1975, after which he accepted a graduate research professorship at the University of Florida, retiring in 1988. He was internationally known for his work in gerontology and retirement housing in particular.

Born in Rochester, New York, Streib earned a BA in history in 1941 from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois. During World War II, Streib registered as a conscientious objector and served in various capacities which included building roads in upstate New York, as a cook's helper at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital and volunteering for human hunger experiments. While working at the hospital he earned a master's degree in sociology (1946) at the New School of Social Research. After the war he helped transport horses to Poland for the American Friends Service Committee to help rebuild Poland's agricultural stock.

Streib authored or edited eight books, including *Retirement in American Society: Impact and Process*, with Clement J. Schneider (1971); and *Old Homes -- New Families*, with W. Edward Folts and Mary Ann Hilker (1984), and 150 journal articles.

He was honored by the Gerontological Society of America with the Robert W. Kleemeir award for outstanding research and received the Distinguished Contributor to Sociology of Aging award from the American Sociological Association. He was a founding member of the Southern Gerontological Society that named their Gordon F. Streib Distinguished Academic Gerontologist award after him.

Gordon Streib had an adventurous mind. He successfully administered a survey questionnaire to Navajo families despite the opinion of anthropologists that Navajos would not respond to a structured instrument. Another example occurred in Russia where he was a visiting lecturer. At one point in his talk on retirement housing, he remarked that he probably had nothing new to tell the
Soviets in view of their well-known innovations in organizing friendly and productive communities. At Cornell, Streib was a productive researcher and a genial mentor to students. Ruth Streib, his wife and companion, died just one day later. They lived for seven years at the Oak Hammock Continuing Care Community which Streib co-founded. Their survivors include four children and their families.

Frank W. Young, Chairperson; and Susan Lang
Cushing Strout taught at Cornell for over thirty years until his retirement in 1989. In the fall of 1943, he left Williams College to serve in the army as an enlisted man in the 87th Infantry Division of the Third Army. He survived the Battle of the Bulge, an experience that generated many stories he would retell to friends and family.

After graduating from Williams College in 1947, he received a 1952 Ph.D. from Harvard in American studies, and then taught at Williams College, Yale University and the California Institute of Technology, before he came to Cornell, first as a visiting professor in 1962 and then as member of the tenured faculty in the English Department.

A member of the faculty since 1964, he held the Ernest I. White Chair of American Studies and Humane Letters from 1975 until his retirement. He wrote many scholarly essays and books on American intellectual and literary history, including *The Pragmatic Revolt in American History: Carl L. Becker and Charles A. Beard* (1958), a pioneering study on Becker and Beard’s economic readings of constitutional history, and *Making American Tradition: Visions & Revisions from Ben Franklin to Alice Walker* (1990).

“Cush” was a keen minded and engaging conversationalist; a principled, wide ranging scholar; a supportive colleague; and a stimulating teacher and a valued friend.
Cushing wrote five books, edited five others, and published scores of articles and reviews on the philosophy of history, the American image of Europe, the interplay of American religion and politics, and many other aspects of American literature and history. He was also co-editor with David Grossvogel of a book on the political crisis at Cornell in 1969.

Respected as one of the luminaries of the Cornell Faculty and, throughout the world and as a significant figure in the field of American studies, Professor Strout achieved distinction in many ways. He was a Fulbright Fellow at the Center for American Studies in Rome, a resident scholar at the Rockefeller Study and Conference Center in Bellagio, Italy, and a Senior Fellow at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina.

A brilliant, innovative, and important scholar in American Literature and American Studies, Cushing was a paradigm of personal and intellectual integrity. He was admired by his peers for his knowledge, curiosity, brilliance, articulateness, and fervent belief in both reason and the life of the mind. Young scholars regarded him as a generous mentor from whom they could always get sound advice.

Cushing often acknowledged many teachers who had been important to his intellectual development. These include William (Bill) Miller who taught American History and Literature at Williams College; Perry Miller at Harvard; R.G. Collingwood, the Oxford philosopher who stimulated his interest in the philosophy of history; and in later years Erik Erikson who pioneered in the application of Ego Psychology to the humanities.

As a scholar, Cushing was a man of remarkable erudition. His range
of reading, understanding, and recalling seemed to span any topic remotely related to the sprawling and burgeoning discipline of American Studies.

He was equally well informed and passionate about magic. Not only was he able to perform multiple tricks, but he also knew the history of each one, and the best way to perform it according to books written by professional magicians. Ever the scholar even while pursuing his hobbies, he published a book on close-up card magic in 2005.

Similarly, Cushing was not content to be a gifted and enthusiastic tennis player. He knew the history of the game and studied the strokes and tactics of those who dominated the sport in different eras.

He was enthusiastic about movies and his memory was remarkable. He could recall where and when and with whom he had seen films no matter how long in the past. He loved detective fiction, but he was not fond of the most recent film adaptations on PBS of Sherlock Holmes. His last published work was a review of a book about Sherlock Holmes in the Summer 2013 Sewanee Review.

To those who came to know him in a scholastic setting, Cushing was the paradigmatic academic: knowledgeable, clever, and above all, as objective as possible and open-minded. In any discussion, his arguments were always crafted by reason, based on thoughtful sifting of information, and rarely colored by emotion. On rare occasions, however his close friends became aware of deeply-felt and passionate emotions.

In academic arguments, he fought like a fencing master and gave no quarter but he always relied on his belief in logic, knowledge, and truth. To the entire world outside of academia, he was always gracious and never domineering, a gentle person, and a gentleman.

Jean and Cushing raised three sons: Nathaniel, Benjamin and Nicholas. Cushing loved his dogs and his family summers in Maine. He thought of himself first and foremost as a family man, father of
three sons and wife of Jean with whom he shared more than sixty-five years of marriage. Their first date, by Jean’s bemused recollection, was “a romantic moonlit night” sitting on a rocky shore where they discussed the problem of free will and determinism. Thus began a conversation that continued through 65 years of marriage. His beloved Jean remained steadily at his side until the end.

He was also a loyal and valued friend. Even in his final months, which were so hard, he responded to those who visited him with graciousness and good humor. Throughout the progression of his illnesses, he welcomed visitors, greeting them with a characteristic grin and soon launching into a discussion of the books he was reading or the reviews he was writing.

Cushing’s life was celebrated at a touching memorial service March 2, 2014 at Kendal Auditorium, which hundreds attended. Friends and family spoke eloquently about this man who was a wonderful parent, teacher, scholar, colleague, and human being.

Daniel R. Schwarz, Chair;
Howard Feinstein; Peter D. McClelland
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
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

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), 197174, 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
Robert S. Summers was the William G. McRoberts Professor Emeritus of Research in the Administration of Law at Cornell Law School. Bob was a prolific scholar and teacher in two major separate fields, legal theory and commercial law, an inspiring and dedicated teacher, and a valuable citizen of Cornell Law School and Cornell University for 42 years. Bob enjoyed a worldwide reputation through his books, articles, lectures, visiting professorships, and honors.

Bob graduated from the University of Oregon in 1955, where he was student body president and member of Phi Beta Kappa. Bob then graduated from Harvard Law School in 1959, before practicing law in Oregon for two years. In 1960, Bob began his law-teaching career at Oregon Law School. In 1969, Bob joined the Cornell Law School faculty.

Bob published more than 50 books and 100 articles, including a major treatise (with James J. White) on the Uniform Commercial Code, now in its sixth edition, that has been cited by innumerable courts over the years. His scholarship also included major works on legal realism, statutory interpretation, and the form and substance of the law. Bob’s work has been translated into eight languages.

Bob spent many sabbaticals in England as a visiting scholar. In 1991, he was appointed the Arthur L. Goodhart Visiting Professor of Legal Science at Cambridge University. Bob was also a visiting professor abroad at the University of Sydney, the University of Vienna, and the University of Warwick, and in the U.S. at Stanford Law School and the University of Michigan.
In 1983, Bob co-founded the Bielefelder Kries, an international research group of scholars from 10 countries that published two books on comparative legal method. In 1993, the Russian government asked Bob to help draft that country’s new civil code. Later, he served as an adviser to the Drafting Commission for the Egyptian Civil Code, and as principal drafter for the Code of Contract Law for Rwanda.

Bob earned many honors over his 50-year academic career. He received honorary degrees from the University of Helsinki in Finland (1990) and the University of Gottingen in Germany (1994). In 1994, he was a Festschrift honoree, the subject of a collection of published essays written by 44 scholars from 12 countries, entitled “Prescriptive Formality and Normative Rationality in Modern Legal Systems.” Bob was also elected a Corresponding Member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. In 2007, Bob was selected as a Brettschneider Cornell-Oxford Scholar, and spent the 2007 spring semester at Oxford University.

Bob’s contributions in the U.S. extended beyond his scholarship and teaching. Among the most notable, he was instrumental in the 1960s in paving the way for the CLEO (Council on Legal Education Opportunity) program, a national organization dedicated to increase the representation of minority and low-income students in law schools.

Generations of Cornell alumni know that Bob loved the Socratic Method and was an inspiring teacher. Students in his classes appreciated that Bob was a dedicated teacher who cared greatly about the success of his students. He remained in contact with and supported many of his students throughout their careers.

Perhaps even more important than Bob’s remarkable career, he was a wonderful person. Bob was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend, with unbounded enthusiasm for life and learning. He was dedicated to and supportive of his wonderful wife, Dorothy, and his five children and 14 grandchildren. Somehow, Bob also had plenty of love and support as well for his many friends around the world.

Bob’s absence at Cornell Law School has left an unfillable chasm. But we are all very fortunate that Bob was with us at Cornell for most of his outstanding career.

Written by Robert A. Hillman
Bob (Robert D.) Sweet died January 30, 2014, at his residence in Jacksonville, N.Y. Bob and Virginia, his wife of 62 years, had resided on Slaterville Road for most of their 70 years in Ithaca. Bob touched the lives of many folks in the community. He was well known for telling stories and having a sense of humor. His stories often began with his passion—sharing a lifetime of experiences growing vegetables in New York. Bob credited his lifelong learning and thoughtful approach to issues to his parents who operated a small vegetable farm in northern Ohio.

As a member of the Kiwanis Club of Ithaca for over 50 years, Bob participated in fundraising projects to support Kiwanis community projects. Bob’s long tenure with the club provided a sense of local history as well as an incentive to keep current with local club goals and projects. Bob remained an active member of the St. Paul’s Methodist Church congregation from the mid-thirties until he died. Throughout his life he was an avid reader and spent much time visiting the Trumansburg and Ithaca Public Libraries. His daily
reading of the Ithaca Journal kept him informed about community issues. Bob was loved by his daughters, Charlotte and Christina, his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren. He left his family and friends a treasure trove of memories.

Bob completed his B.S. degree in education at Ohio University with the intention of teaching vocational agriculture in Ohio. No jobs were available in 1936 and his advisor suggested that he pursue an M.S. degree at Cornell University, where he was offered an assistantship involving lettuce breeding. He completed his degree in 1938 and began work on his Ph.D. in vegetable crops, plant breeding, and plant physiology, completing the degree in 1941.

He joined the faculty as the Extension Specialist for commercial vegetable crops in 1940 prior to completing the Ph.D. He knew that vegetable growers were desperate for hand-laborers to hoe or hand weed crops such as carrots and onions and that is why he began a career that focused on weeds. Bob began as a Vegetable Crops Instructor in 1940 and subsequently was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1943, Associate Professor in 1946 and Professor in 1950. He served as Chairman of the Department of Vegetable Crops from 1975 to 1982.

When Bob began his studies at Cornell, it was not uncommon for growers to feel compelled to pay for up to 200 hours per acre for hand weeding. The advent of World War II severely decreased the availability of hand-laborers. Bob attended a weed conference in California in the early 40’s and learned that carrot growers there were using what was called ‘stove oil’ to kill weeds successfully in carrots. The ‘stove oil’ left a particularly bad taste and smell on the carrots so that they could not be sold. To deal with this Bob worked with H.L. Yowell of Standard Oil of New Jersey to conduct field trials with Stoddard Solvent, which was found to be safe and effective. By 1946, Stoddard Solvent was used by nearly all of New York’s carrot growers. Thus, Bob was one of the creators of the first successful chemical weed control technique for vegetable crops in the northeastern United States.
Bob had a long and distinguished career as a weed scientist in vegetable crop production beginning with his first appointment as Instructor in the Vegetable Crops Department in 1940. He was a pioneer investigator in the use of chemicals to replace tillage to control weeds in row crop vegetables. Among his many contributions in the field of research was his discovery of synergistic responses among herbicidal chemicals and the development of combinations that increased their effectiveness at greatly reduced rates. The research that he conducted with atrazine, fruit oil, and 2,4-D in sweet corn dramatically reduced atrazine rates and was rapidly and widely adopted by the industry.

Bob and his graduate students studied the growing habits of many weed species, developing their life cycle patterns with special attention to points or events that made them especially vulnerable to control by chemical or biological means. His studies on yellow nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus* L.) were classical.

Bob was an early proponent of the IPM (Integrated Pest Management) concept, especially biological control methods. Among his accomplishments in the area was the identification of potato cultivars that were especially competitive with many weed species including quackgrass, nutsedge, pigweed, lambsquarters and ragweed. Additionally, his research in IPM led to the concept of using living mulches, e.g. white clover or similar legumes for both sweet corn weed control and nutrition. Grass mulches were also identified for improving soil health.

Bob was a popular and skilled advisor to undergraduates as well as graduate students. His door was always open to them and he was
generous with his time and sage in his council. He took very much of a team approach with his graduate students. They would all help one another with planning, planting, and harvesting field experiments. Technicians would be included in these discussions and were an important part of the team. Bob was astute in hiring good helpers, and he treated them so fairly and respectfully that they were extremely loyal to him. Thus they grew in their job skills to the point where they helped break in new graduate students. Because of his reputation, Bob’s graduate students seldom had a problem finding good employment when they completed their degrees, and they tended to maintain strong, affectionate relationships with him long after they left Cornell. Attesting to his long career in research, 26 Masters theses and 19 Doctoral dissertations were awarded under his direction, and many prominent researchers in the field of weed research were his students. He has been author or co-author of some 80 scientific publications as well as numerous popular articles.

Bob was one of the founding members of the regional Northeastern Weed Science Society (NEWSS) and a true legend in the field of Weed Science. He served as the first Secretary/Treasurer of the NEWSS and was the second President of the society from 1949 to 1950. He received the Award of Merit from the society in 1975 and became a Fellow of the society in 1979. His name became so synonymous with NEWSS service and student education that the NEWSS graduate student award was named for him. Bob was also very active in WSSA (Weed Science Society of America) as he was the first Business Manager of the national society and served as the first editor of the journal *Weeds*. He was named a Fellow of the WSSA in 1974. Bob was the NEWSS Representative to the Board of the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) from 1978 and was a continuing Board Member of CAST until
2009. CAST is a nonprofit organization composed of scientific societies and many individual, student, company, nonprofit, and associate society members. CAST provides timely, objective, science-based information without motive or agenda to inform agricultural decision makers at all levels.

To all who knew him, Bob will be remembered as a great scientist, teacher, and friend. He was intelligent, engaging, kind, respectful, and thoughtful of others. He was not afraid to champion causes and did so with great passion and respect. He was, in short, a true gentleman and pioneer in the field of Weed Science and he will be missed by all who knew him.

Robin R. Bellinder; Elmer E. Ewing; Russell R. Hahn

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