

Dear Cornellians,

I am writing to provide an update on my [e-mail](#) from earlier this spring regarding the comprehensive mental health review.

As I mentioned in my prior communication, there will be both an internal and external group working on the comprehensive review. The internal Mental Health Review Committee (MHRC) is tasked with examining the Cornell campus context, including issues pertaining to the academic and social environment, climate, and culture related to mental health. The MHRC will share its findings with the External Review Team, which is charged with a comprehensive review of clinical services and campus-based strategies.

The committees expect to begin preliminary work and research this summer, reviewing previous self-studies, external reviews, surveys, and other existing data. In the fall, the MHRC will begin listening tours and focus groups to engage the Cornell community and provide data to the External Review Team, which will produce and submit its findings via a final report in spring 2020. The work of the MHRC and External Review Team will complement ongoing initiatives to advance wellness and mental health support as well as several [new commitments](#) that Cornell Health will make in the fall to strengthen our efforts in the area of access to mental health services.

As a working group, the MHRC is purposefully lean, and not meant to represent every constituency directly; but the committee will be intentional about connecting across faculty, staff, and student groups to engage a diverse number of voices and perspectives. The co-chairs plan to provide ongoing and continued communication through the [Mental Health Review website](#). View the MHRC membership [here](#), and the External Review Team membership [here](#).

We are eager for the work that both the internal MHRC and External Review Team will conduct over the next academic year. I look forward to the recommendations that will aim to make us the stronger, healthier, and wellness-minded community that we aspire to be, knowing that changing our campus culture will take engagement from all Cornell community members.

Sincerely,
Ryan

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Ryan Lombardi
Vice President for Student & Campus Life
Cornell University