

EZRA

CORNELL
UNIVERSITY'S
MAGAZINE
EXTRA

This special section, a bonus issue of the university's Ezra magazine, highlights ways Cornell initiatives intersect with philanthropy and engagement of Cornell alumni, parents and friends.

DUTTA: BUSINESS COLLEGE WILL BE 'MORE THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS'

In January, Cornell established a College of Business and has named as the college's dean Soumitra Dutta, the Anne and Elmer Lindseth Dean of the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management. The college, with an anticipated launch during the 2016-17 school year, will comprise the university's three accredited business schools: Johnson, the School of Hotel Administration and the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management. The full conversation is available at www.news.cornell.edu/ccb-dean-QA.

What is your vision for business education at Cornell?

We have the opportunity to create a unique business school drawing from the strengths, resources and assets of each well-defined school. We will be able to combine a distinctive focus on hospitality and real estate in the Hotel School, on food, agriculture and sustainable development in Dyson, and on finance, accounting and other core business disciplines in Johnson. Additionally, we have a strong focus on technology via Johnson's presence at Cornell Tech in New York City.

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“THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS WILL RESPECT EACH SCHOOL’S INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC CONNECTIONS, BECAUSE THOSE ARE VALUABLE ASSETS.”

How does the outside world currently perceive business education at Cornell?

Today business education is fragmented across Cornell, and the world typically perceives only a piece of that puzzle. The general public doesn’t think about looking for a great undergraduate business program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, which is home to Dyson, or they don’t necessarily perceive the School of Hotel Administration as being a business school. That will be corrected by the College of Business, because the world will see the entirety of our strengths in business education and research.

How will the College of Business affect corporate and alumni relations?

The college will help us to have a broader, deeper network of executives and alumni in companies who feel part of the same college. It’s much better for a company to manage one strong relationship with one college as opposed to three relationships of varying degrees with three schools. I recently spoke to the global CEOs of two large companies – EY and A.T. Kearney – and asked, from their perspective, whether the college will be a good thing. Their answer was a definite yes, because they will have a clearer frame of reference for business education at Cornell.

We have a tremendous network of alumni in each school – the Hotel School has a strong connection to the hospitality industry, the Dyson School has a robust connection to the agriculture sector, and Johnson has a very close connection to the finance and technology sectors – but each will benefit from the additional networks to which it will have access through the College of Business.

Some Hotelies have expressed concern that the college will dilute their school’s unique brand. How will the three schools maintain and build on their distinctive identities?

I have spoken to many students and alumni leaders as they have had concerns, which have often been the result of a lack of information. Once you sit down with them and explain the goal is to really help ensure that

the Hotel School remains the most dominant hotel school in the future, they are supportive.

The goal is to retain the uniqueness of the Hotel School and the other schools as well. If anything, we’re looking to enhance what they offer.

How will you reconcile the school’s different philosophical approaches to business?

The College of Business will respect each school’s industry-specific connections, because those are valuable assets. Research often happens at the boundaries of disciplines and sectors. For example, think about bringing together faculty in such disparate areas as finance and sustainability or entrepreneurship and agriculture economics. College of Business faculty members will maintain their areas of expertise, but I predict their interactions will also invigorate their individual and collective research agendas.

You’ve said the college will facilitate expansion of global initiatives. Can you tell us more?

Johnson has an MBA program with Tsinghua University in Beijing, the leading technology university in China, and with the College of Business, we can enhance that relationship. We have tremendous potential there, thanks to Tsinghua’s location in the heart of China’s Silicon Valley. Sustainability, agriculture, technology, innovation – those are our areas of expertise and some of the top priorities in China right now.

What strengths from your background and as Johnson dean have been helpful in your new role?

I come from a computer science background but spent my whole career in a business school. In a sense, the notion of spanning boundaries has been a natural part of my career for the last 30 years. This respect for different disciplines is what I hope I can bring, and I hope it becomes part of the college’s identity and DNA. We will have different elements that will work together and create a union that is more than the sum of its parts.

Stay involved with the College of Business at business.cornell.edu.



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1,600

The number of miles away from Houston – his home with his wife and children – that Rahul Krishnan has been while completing his medical education at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York City. In March, on national Match Day, he joined his fellow classmates in finding out where they were matched for internships and residency training. Griffis Faculty Lounge erupted in cheers, applause and the clinking of champagne flutes as the students toasted the next three to seven years of their medical careers.

Krishnan was matched to the University of Virginia for a residency in obstetrics and gynecology; he now is planning the next stage of his life – together with his family – in the mid-Atlantic.

2065

The year that the time capsule set to be buried in Klarman Hall during its formal dedication May 26 will be opened. The College of Arts and Sciences captured important writings, programs, music compilations and posters from Cornell in 2016, concentrating on highlighting the role of the humanities in the lives of Cornellians today, for inclusion in the time capsule; they also asked faculty, students, staff and alumni to tell students nearly five decades from now what music, movies, shows, books and art they love today and why they are important.

Also in the time capsule: photos of Klarman Hall construction, samples of 2016 technology, and short stories from creative writing students in 2016 with endings that will be revealed when the capsule is opened.

RAWLINGS RETURNS AS INTERIM PRESIDENT



Hunter R. Rawlings III, Cornell president emeritus and professor emeritus of classics, became interim president April 25 following the March 6 death of President Elizabeth Garrett. Provost Michael Kotlikoff had served as acting president since Feb. 19, when Garrett underwent surgery. Visit www.cornell.edu/elizabethgarrett/ to see the university's tributes and remembrances.

Rawlings served as Cornell's 10th president from 1995 to 2003. This is the second time he has accepted the position of interim president; he previously took the helm in 2005-06 following the resignation of Jeffrey Lehman. Rawlings served as president of the Association of American Universities from 2011-16.

An international search for the university's 14th president will begin in the coming months.

Multiethnic student group Mixed receives 2016 Perkins Prize

In 2015 members of the student club Mixed at Cornell created the print and digital Cornell Hapa Book Facebook page, featuring photographs and stories of 60 self-identified multiracial students, staff and faculty who answered the question, "What does being mixed mean to you?" The book received more than 8,000 views.

In March, Mixed was awarded the recently renamed James A. Perkins Prize for Interracial and Intercultural Peace and Harmony by Michael Kotlikoff, provost and acting president, "for its role in supporting and exploring the experience of multiracial/multiethnic individuals."

The Perkins Prize is given annually to the individual or program making the most significant contribution to furthering the ideal of university community while respecting the values of racial and cultural diversity. The award, administered through Cornell's Office of the Dean of Students, was created and endowed by Cornell Trustee Emeritus Thomas W. Jones '69 in 1994 to honor Cornell President Emeritus James A. Perkins, the university's seventh president (1963-69), who significantly increased the enrollment of minority students during the civil rights era.

BENCHES WITH A VIEW



"We love the university – there's a special place in the Stein psyche for Cornell."

Danny Stein '92.

A couple's love for Cornell is now a permanent part of the Ithaca campus. In 2015, the three children of Steven J. Stein '61 and the late Susan Volpert-Stein '62, two of whom are Cornell graduates themselves, gave a gift dedicating a bench overlooking Libe Slope to their parents, "whose life paths crossed on this hill," the bench dedication states.

The family also has founded a scholarship in memory of Susan Volpert-Stein, for a female student in statistics.

Highlights from Ezra magazine and Ezra Update: _____

Alumni key to building Shoah archive, adding access

Beginning this semester, Cornellians can access 53,000 video interviews with survivors of the Holocaust and other genocides through the USC Shoah Foundation: The Institute for Visual History and Education.

The cataloguing and searchability of the videos was carried out under the leadership of executive director Douglas Greenberg, M.A. '71, Ph.D. '74.

Access to the archive through Cornell was secured thanks to Robert J. Katz '69, chairman of the foundation's board.



6½

The age Angelica Gangemi '16 was when she saw a fencing scene in the movie "The Parent Trap" and decided that she wanted to fence; she began competing at age 9, and today is one of the Big Red's most proficient foil fencers.

"I would just talk to the camera exactly how you would talk to a single person instead of an audience. Pretend that you're in that person's home."

– Katharine "Kit" Sigety '44, describing the advice her mother gave her when she got her first job hosting a cooking show as "Sally Smart" in 1951.

STAY INVOLVED



REUNION

Register for Reunion 2016, June 9-12. It's a weekend to remember with your Cornell friends and family.



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