

WHY IS THE ISSUE OF CONTINUATION OF THE WARD CENTER FOR NUCLEAR SCIENCES BEING REVISITED

**1. ALL OF THE ARGUMENTS PREVIOUSLY
MADE FOR CONTINUATION ARE STILL VALID
AND NONE HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY
DISCOUNTED**

**2. THERE ARE IMPENDING CHANGES IN
UNIVERSITY AND BOARD OF TRUSTEE
ADMINISTRATION WHICH SUGGEST THE
APPROPRIATENESS OF PROVIDING THE NEW
ADMINISTRATION THE OPPORTUNITY TO
REVIEW THE ISSUE BEFORE AN IRREVERSIBLE
ACTION IS TAKEN, PARTICULARLY SINCE
THERE IS NO DISADVANTAGE TO KEEPING THE
WCNS OPERATING UNTIL THAT OPPORTUNITY
IS PROVIDED.**

**3. THE SITUATION IN THE NATION REGARDING
THE IMPORTANCE OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE HAS
IMPROVED DURING THE LAST YEAR, THE
CURRENT SITUATION PROVIDING INCENTIVES
FOR CONTINUING THE OPERATION OF THE
WCNS.**

4. THESE CHANGES INCLUDE:

A. ANNOUNCEMENT OF A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY WHICH INCLUDES ANTICIPATED EXPANSION OF NUCLEAR POWER IN THE UNITED STATES TO A MINIMUM OF 20% OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION FOR THE LONG TERM.

B. INITIATION OF THE DOE PROGRAM “INNOVATIONS IN NUCLEAR INFRASTRUCTURE AND EDUCATION (INIE)” TO REVITALIZE THE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CAPACITY OF UNIVERSITY BASED RESEARCH REACTORS IN THE UNITED STATES.

C. RECOGNITION OF THE WCNS, BECAUSE OF THE DIVERSITY OF IT’S PROGRAMS, BY A HIGH LEVEL REVIEW TEAM FROM DOE, AS THE TOP UNIVERSITY RESEARCH REACTOR COMPARING THOSE AT CORNELL, MICHIGAN AND MIT.

D. AVAILABILITY OF INCREASED PEER REVIEWED FEDERAL FUNDING OF UNIVERSITY RESEARCH REACTORS BY INIE (\$13.6M FOR EACH OF THE NEXT FOUR FISCAL YEARS 03-06 BEGINNING 10/01/02)

OUR APPEAL TO THE SENATE, HOWEVER, IS NOT SO MUCH BASED ON NATIONAL NEEDS AND TRENDS AS IT IS TO THE BEST INTEREST OF CORNELL

CLOSING THEWARD CENTER WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF A FIRST CLASS NUCLEAR RESEARCH (NOT FISSION ENGINEERING) FACILITY AND WILL TERMINATE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES THROUGOUT A BROAD SEGMENT OF CORNELL STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF INCLUDING THOSE IN ENGINEERING, ARTS (INCLUDING THE HUMANITIES) AND SCIENCES, AGRICULTURE AND VETERINARY MEDICINE.

IN THE WORDS OF PROF. NEIL ASHCROFT IN A LETTER YOU RECEIVED ON THIS ISSUE, “OUR REACTOR IS A REMARKABLE BUT RARE AND IRREPLACEABLE RESEARCH TOOL FOR CORNELL”. WE URGE YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS RESOLUTION.