



Biography (300-500 words)

I did my undergraduate studies at Cornell, beginning as a Chemical Engineering major, before transferring to Arts & Sciences, where I completed an AB in Biology in 1979. I did research with Andre Jagendorf (Plant Biology) and Bill Jewell (Agricultural Engineering) as an undergraduate, and remained at Cornell for two years in Bill Jewell's lab as a lab technician. I had a great time when I was at Cornell before, and I still am now. When I went to graduate school, I rekindled my affair with Chemical Engineering, before again returning to Biology, earning a PhD in Molecular Biology from Princeton. After post-doctoral work at MIT and the Whitehead Institute, studying immunology, and mouse molecular genetics, I started my independent work at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY. I remained there for eight years, before being recruited to the Division of Nutritional Sciences in CALS in 2002. My research is in the field of epigenetics, and my teaching – Epigenetics NS6080, and Manipulating the Mouse Genome NS4900 – aligns closely with my research interests. In addition to my undergraduate, lab technician, and faculty roles at Cornell, I am parent of two Cornell students. Because I owe much to Cornell, I rarely turn down requests to serve, which is why I accepted the nomination for DoF. My past service has included Chair of the CALS Faculty Senate; Director of Graduate Studies for the field of Genetics, Genomics and Development; Co-Chair of the University Hearing Board; member of FACTA; member of the General Committee of the Graduate School; Faculty Fellow for Clara Dickson Freshman Residence Hall; membership on 15 faculty search and mentoring committees; and membership on dozens of other various committees. There are also several external scientific advisory, editorial and grant review boards where I serve my discipline and community. I feel privileged to have all these opportunities, and for your consideration to serve as DoF.

Statement (150-250 words)

We face a crisis of confidence among university administrators, trustees, faculty and alumni over the College of Business. Our most generous alumnus voiced “deep concern” for it¹. Our Provost and President have chosen not to fully engage the faculty in this matter of educational policy. Our Senate unanimously resolved (when did that last happen?) that the trustees should table the CCB², which they did not³. Regardless of the merits of merging our accredited business programs, the adversarial climate that has emerged is increasingly toxic. Left unchecked, this can cause lasting harm for Cornell in many ways. As a faculty member, it seems that the Provost, President and trustees lack confidence that we can provide effective, appropriate and prompt input. We should prove them wrong; and if we can't, then Cornell has bigger problems than anyone realizes. In considering the CCB, any interested administrators, trustees, and faculty members must acknowledge the opportunities and risks the CCB presents; identify strategies and tactics that maximize opportunities and minimize risks; define the criteria for success; and specify how we'll know whether we've achieved it. Though information will be incomplete, and there will be disagreements about details, this consideration is best done collectively. It need not be difficult or prolonged. I am confident we can do it creatively, cooperatively and without prejudice, for Cornell's benefit. Similar approaches are fundamental to my work as a scientist and teacher, and I'll implement them for this and other matters, if chosen to serve as DoF.

¹ <http://cornellsun.com/2016/01/29/influential-donor-charles-feeney-56-says-college-of-business-not-appropriate-at-this-time/>

¹ <http://theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/resolutions/COBRES121615.pdf>

¹ <http://theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/resolutions/RSHRESPONSE2916.pdf>

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² <http://theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/resolutions/COBRES121615.pdf>

³ <http://theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/resolutions/RSHRESPONSE2916.pdf>