John Hopcroft is the IBM Professor of Engineering and Applied Mathematics. He received his Ph.D. (1964) in EE from Stanford University. He chaired the Computer Science Department and was Dean of the College of Engineering. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, of the National Academy of Engineering, and a foreign member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In 1992, he was appointed by President George H. W. Bush to the National Science Board, which oversees the National Science Foundation, and served through May 1998. He has received numerous awards and honorary degrees. In 2016, Premier Li Keqiang presented him with the Friendship Award for his work in China.

I believe in shared governance to advocate for the university's mission and to pursue academic excellence. I've taught Computer Science at Cornell for 50 years, have been Department Chair and Dean of Engineering and so have had the academic and administrative experience to represent the interests and concerns of the faculty to the Board. The educational world is changing and it is important that the trustees be kept informed of faculty concerns and how they view the future of Cornell. My knowledge and experience at Cornell will help bring new perspectives to board discussions and help focus them on what it takes to keep the scholarly environment world class.